

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024



ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

THE TRUST BOARD

Trustees

Dominic John Gorton, Chair of Trustees
Fr. Jonathan Michael How, Vice Chair of Trustees
Richard Boyle
Martin Hill (appointed 23 May 2024)
Kathryn Sarama (resigned 14 May 2024)
Simon Charleton (resigned 24 October 2024)

Governors

Richard Boyle, Chair of Governors
Melissa Longmire, Foundation Governor
Tim O'Dwyer, Governor
Leonie Collingwood-Johnson, Local Authority Governor
Monica Whitehead, Foundation Governor
Annie Sutton, Executive Principal
Simon Jaggard, Head Teacher & Director of Education
Maria Gavrili (resigned 31 August 2024)
Jean Keane, Governor (resigned 31 December 2024)

Registered charity number	1177680
Registered Office	Amlets Lane, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 7DH
Website	www.st-josephs Cranleigh.surrey.sch.uk
Bankers:	HSBC UK Bank plc 1 Centenary Square Birmingham B1 1HQ Barclays Bank plc 1 Churchill Place London E14 5HP
Auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP R+ Building 2 Blagrove Street Reading, Berkshire RG1 1AZ

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REVIEW

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

No limits... ..just possibilities", is the mission statement of St Joseph's seen every day in our caring community where actions speak louder than words.

This year, our community of approximately 219 staff have supported 69 young people from the age of 5 – 19 and 13 adults with complex and severe learning disabilities, many of whom are on the autistic spectrum, and have other associated difficulties. We are trusted by Local Authorities, not just locally but also nationally, to provide education and care for some of the most challenging young people who have reached a point of complexity and often of crisis, whereby they can no longer be supported safely or adequately within mainstream settings. We provide fully committed care supported by exceptional expertise and experience in this complex and often physically and emotionally challenging field. To uphold the trust placed in us by Local Authorities, we continue to provide a financially secure and stable environment. We invest all surplus funds into securing and ensuring the continued development and support of our beneficiaries. We are fully focused on the pursuit of securing for our young people a stable future quality of life that represents the highest levels of personal autonomy, self-respect and contentment as is possible for each individual.

We are a Catholic provision with Christian principles at our core; welcoming students, residents and staff of all faiths and of none. We are blessed to know that we can count on such guidance, on His wishes and to follow the wisdom that He has wished for us all.

This year has been challenging, not uniquely to our setting, but by withstanding the cost-of-living crisis and national shortages of skilled staff, St Joseph's has been unswerving in its dedication to the children and adults never compromising their needs. We have continued to work with a wider community of family, guardians and providers.

Once more this year we have sought to improve and excel in our specialist provision for students. Ofsted inspections in both Education and Care support our specialist provision and, in their observations, they highlight;

- ❖ Having a rich curriculum that is sharply focused on meeting pupils' needs and aspirations. Pupils' learning and wider development is catered for extremely well.
- ❖ Teaching and closely working with therapists is sharply attuned to pupils' learning and development needs and is even more strongly rooted in a holistic understanding of pupils' progress and learning needs. This supports outstanding progress over time.
- ❖ There is a heightened focus on preparing pupils for adulthood increasing and broadening pupils' opportunities to experience the world of work. The school provides a rich range of opportunities for all pupils which is highly bespoke to each pupil's interests and aspirations. Links with colleges and local employers are utilised very effectively.
- ❖ Safeguarding arrangements are fit for purpose and records are of high quality.
- ❖ There is clear evidence that the children who live in our Children's Home are achieving life-changing outcomes. Staff don't let their children's needs slow them down, they ensure that children are able to grow and learn in a fun environment and are supported to spend time in the community participating in activities and creating special memories, building their confidence and independence. Staff are fond of the children knowing their likes and dislikes well and with such a personal investment this has helped children communicate when once they could not, to undertake simple chores even at their home. Managers and staff seek children's views and incorporate these into their care planning so their voice is evident and understood by all working with them.
- ❖ Senior managers in Children's Homes support careful planning for children's futures and closely link with Adult Supported Living to assess and provide the best opportunities.
- ❖ We continue to invest significantly in plans to provide improvements in facilities.
- ❖ St Joseph's Specialist Trust is a happy and caring place.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REVIEW

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The educational highlights of the year include several notable achievements and initiatives:

- ❖ The progress made by St. Joseph's and its students in academic, social, and emotional development.
- ❖ Retaining the prestigious Gold Award, being named overall winner of Guildford in Bloom Schools Category.
- ❖ The partnership with The Forge on The Green Café in Shamley Green which selected one of our students to participate in their Barista-supported internship pilot as part of the Forging Futures charity initiative.
- ❖ Ongoing support for Teaching Assistants (TAs) transitioning to Teachers, with successful completion of Initial Teacher Training (ITT) and Early Career Framework (ECF) programs this year and plans to include Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills (QTLS) alongside ITT and ECF next year.
- ❖ The Creative Arts program reaffirmed St. Joseph's Art Mark Gold Award, which recognises excellence in arts education and commitment to integrating creative arts into the curriculum. Additionally, the program benefited from active support from the Cranleigh Lions, a local charitable organisation known for its contributions to community development and support for educational initiatives.
- ❖ Educational leadership demonstrated flexibility by absorbing the responsibilities of the Deputy Head role for half the academic year.
- ❖ Achieving recognition as an Oscar Romero Accredited School, a status that celebrates a commitment to social justice, inclusivity, and Catholic values within education. This was complemented by the School Chaplain attaining status as a Catholic Schools Inspector (CSI).
- ❖ As an Autism Education Trust (AET) license holder for Surrey, the school has made significant progress by developing specialised training programs and initiating outreach activities. In the coming years, senior leaders are set to gain hands-on experience as consultants, further enhancing their expertise in supporting students with autism.
- ❖ Enriching staff induction and continuous professional development (CPD) with AET-certified training.
- ❖ Deepening understanding of autism through the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families Leader Training Programme, which focuses on promoting mental health and emotional well-being in children and families, as well as advancing the expertise of education professionals.
- ❖ The Headteacher's ongoing contributions as a National Association of Independent Schools and Non-Maintained Special Schools (NASS) School Improvement Partner.

The sterling work and commitment by the Adult Supported Living staff in the year have led to residents who use the service and their relatives, who speak highly of the service, feeling that they are supported in a kind and caring way. Residents with individual goals are able to live independent lives with maximum control that includes dignity, privacy and respect for human rights. Above all, the right culture, ethos, values, attitudes and behaviours of leaders and care staff ensure residents lead confident, inclusive and empowered lives. In addition, St Joseph's has always ensured that Adult Supported Living accommodation, which is situated in residential areas, has no outward signs to differentiate it from other houses in the street, so that the residents are able to be a part of the community.

Our unique setting for children is in a 23-acre site situated on the outskirts of Cranleigh nestled in the scenic Surrey Hills. Cranleigh is England's largest village, providing not only a supportive community but also many vibrant opportunities for the children and adults in our care; being just on our doorstep, we are most fortunate to benefit from its patronage in many ways. The site is surrounded with fields, woodland, local flora and fauna. A world that offers grace and guidance, a time for insight, renewal and healing, to listen and learn, and surmount the challenges the young people and adults face daily.

Such high standards highlight our greatest asset, our dedicated and committed staff who directly contribute towards the overall wellbeing, future happiness and quality of life of our young people and vulnerable adults. In turn, this also impacts directly on the quality of life and the happiness of siblings and family members. They do so by collectively providing innovative leadership, teaching in classes, therapeutic support, safeguarding and protecting, being custodians of care in our children's home and having vital support staff who, together with all staff ensure that St Joseph's runs successfully and smoothly. As a 52-week, 24-hour, 7 day a week organisation, St Joseph's never really sleeps or stops.

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The current residential Children's Homes have been updated to a very high level of comfort, practicality and homeliness. We also intend to relocate the education facilities contained in the building referred to as a 'School' into the main College Building to enable us to safely remove this ageing and cost inefficient asset with the plan to replace with a purpose built, high efficiency provision that will fully meet the needs of our Explorers Pathway students.

Mindful of our duties towards the prudent use of public funds, we continue to provide a highly specialist provision that represents excellent value for our Local Authority Placement Partners. The provision at St Joseph's continues to produce tangible and measurable results that support life changing improvements for the quality of life and prospects for independence to the extremely challenging and complex young people that we support regionally. The benefits of a placement at St Joseph's extends further beyond the significant impact on the young person who attends St Joseph's, and the opportunities to access education effectively and better-quality family life are seen in siblings, as well as affording parents the opportunity to return to employment and embrace a new, safer and fulfilling family life.

St Joseph's strives every day to make positive futures from despair, conjuring happiness from sadness, creating the best possible quality of life right now for everyone at St Joseph's and providing a lasting legacy of hope and security for the lives of the students, the supported adults and their families. As we go forward into the unknown elements of 2024-25, the support, love and compassion of our community is a given, the impossible becomes possible.

There are *"no limits.....just possibilities"*,

Annie Sutton
Executive Principal

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 August 2024, together with the audited financial statements.

About the Trust

St Joseph's Specialist Trust comprises a non-maintained, co-educational school / college and registered children's home for students aged 5-19 with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) & complex needs and supported living accommodation houses for vulnerable adults. St. Joseph's was originally founded by the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and, whilst a Catholic setting, welcomes those of all denominations or none.

At the heart of St Joseph's, and reflecting its Catholic foundation, is a commitment to furthering the coming of God's kingdom through ensuring that young people with ASD and complex learning needs are enabled to grow as children of God and members of the human family and to share as fully as possible in its life. St Joseph's welcomes all those, like its staff, supporters, residents, students and their families all those who share this aim, irrespective of their own faith or beliefs.

Established as an independent Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1st September 2018, the assets and liabilities of St Joseph's Specialist School and College, an operation of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, were transferred to the Trust from the Diocese under a 999-year lease with peppercorn rent.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the CIO are for the public benefit, and are given in its constitution as:

- (a) the advancement of the Roman Catholic religion;
- and, in accordance with the tenets, teaching and practices of the Roman Catholic religion:
- (b) the advancement of education and training; and
- (c) the provision of residential accommodation and support to those in need,

This is achieved, particularly but not exclusively within Surrey and Sussex by:

- (a) the management, maintenance and development of St. Joseph's Specialist School and College for children and young people with complex learning and behavioural difficulties and ancillary charitable activities; and
- (b) the provision of residential accommodation to children and young people, and supported housing to adults, both of these with complex learning and behavioural difficulties.

The St Joseph's campus sits on the former Wyphurst Estate in the Surrey Hills. The main house, surrounding buildings, some historical, some purpose developed, provide the secure and tranquil setting for some of the most complex and challenging young people in the UK allowing them to benefit from highly specialist education, care and therapy.

St Joseph's School and College

St Joseph's School and College offers a fully integrated approach that enables it to meet the needs of young people with complex learning needs, who additionally have often experienced crisis, rejection or exclusion leading to a fear of school. Learning and teaching at St Joseph's is fully integrated with a broad range of therapies and opportunities, including speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, art, drama and music therapies, an arts centre with artist in residence, sports facilities, a swimming pool, horticulture provision, outdoor classrooms, a nature reserve and enterprise ventures including a student run café.

Each of the small classes is run by a trio of teacher, occupational therapist plus a speech and language therapist supported by a team of teaching assistants and designated therapy assistants who work to remove the obstacles to learning, which traditional educational approaches have failed to achieve.

Mental health and well-being are supported through daily therapy led group sessions. The availability of a clinical psychologist and a psychiatrist in-house gives students fast and effective access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) as required.

St Joseph's School and College continued

In place of the usual Key Stages, students at St Joseph's follow one of three educational pathways:

- **Adventurer Pathway:** for students identified as having the ability and disposition to follow a more academic route through the school, who on leaving St Joseph's are likely to go into Further Education and then employment. Although the academic side of the Adventurer Pathway is important, there is also an equally important emphasis on developing social and life skills, and internal and external work experience placements at an appropriate age.
- **Discoverer Pathway:** enables students to follow a curriculum that prepares them for a future that is likely to be in a specialist residential Further Education college, or in supported living, with part-time working and as great a degree of autonomy as possible being long-term goals.
- **Explorer Pathway:** nurtures students characterised as having higher levels of dependency in the areas of communication, social interaction and relationships, flexibility of thought (activities and interests) and sensory issues. They may have high levels of need in personal care and health. It is anticipated that students in this Pathway will continue to require high levels of support into adult life and that some will continue to be non-verbal, relying on augmentative and alternative communication systems. The curriculum for these students aims to develop their communication and independence.

St Joseph's engages in research through the National SENCO Award with research assignments being carried out by the Pathway Leaders. The Director of Care is currently engaged in a research project exploring the impact of transitions for young people with complex needs and ASD in the residential care setting.

Children's Home

St Joseph's Specialist Trust is registered with Ofsted as a Children's Home. There are 4 homes that encourage and support young people to maximise their full potential. Young people have the benefit of the waking day curriculum where they develop and achieve in many aspects of their lives and maximise key skills towards independent living. They can spend time pursuing their various hobbies and interests whilst achieving their objectives within their Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Staff encourage and support young people in all areas of independence and the development of skills to enable interaction out in the community. The links to education and therapies ensure a cohesive and consistent approach in all areas of their home.

Adult Supported Living

Supported Living for vulnerable adults is provided at Springvale. This was opened as an adult supported living in 2012. Standing on the edge of Cranleigh village, it enables tenants to be a part of the local community with the social and training opportunities, retail and leisure facilities this offers.

St Joseph's is at the heart of the Cranleigh community. Goodwill towards the operation has attracted local patronage for various ventures. St Joseph's works hard to continue to attract the significant donations necessary for the continuation and improvement of its aims.

The Trust had restructured Adult Supported Living arrangements in 2023/24, following a review of the costs incurred, and has terminated the provision of services at Long Barn in October 2023.

Achievement and Performance

In 2023/24 St Joseph's provided quality education to 69 children and young people (2023: 73), and supported living for 13 adults (2023: 13). Student progress is monitored using CASPA (Comparison and Analysis of Special Pupil Attainment) scores. Considering overall progress against expectations, of a cohort of 69 students in KS1-5:

- 7 students exceeded expectations.
- 59 students met expectations.
- 3 students were cause for concern

The data further suggests that many students make significant progress above previous expectations when they move into the St Joseph's setting.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Achievement and Performance (continued)

This provision is highly rated. The School and College was given overall grade 1 for effectiveness by the inspectors of the Catholic Schools Inspectorate in December 2019 and then confirmed, in March 2020 and October 2022, by inspections from West Sussex Local Authority and Surrey Local Authority respectively, on behalf of the CCRAAG, a joint commissioning group of local authorities. In February 2023 OFSTED maintained their assessment that the education provision is Outstanding in all areas.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspect adult supported living provision. The last report on Springvale was following an inspection in January 2022 and which assessed "Good" across all aspects of provision. The CQC reviewed the information to date in July 2023 and confirmed that the service performed well and met the expectations. In June 2023, Ofsted Care confirmed the Trust provides effective care services that meet the requirements for Good.

Financial Review

The Trust generated a surplus £172,071 for the year (2023: £299,270). The Trust's work with Children and Young People generated a loss of £132,901 (2023: a surplus of £95,638). Adult supported living generated a surplus of £233,181 (2023: £203,632). Key Performance Indicators show a net surplus margin of 1.56%, working capital of £3.15m and a current ratio of approximately 6:1. This reflects the reserves policy established by the Trustees as set out below.

The principal source of income this year has been the fees and bursaries received from Local Authorities and the Education and Skills Funding Agency, to secure an appropriate and effective education and care that meets the significant additional needs of the children who are placed at St Joseph's. The largest part of this relates to the funding provided by Local Authorities.

Despite a lengthy waiting list of potential applicants, the Trust is unable to increase intake to capacity because of severe staff recruitment challenges experienced across the sector. The Trust makes use of contractor/agency staff to fill some gaps but the costs of these remain significant and account for some of the underlying volatility in overall staffing costs. The Trust has measures in place to alleviate this position and to retain directly employed staff. The Trust continues to apply robust cost controls to general overheads at the point of planning as well as delivery.

Capital expenditure in the year has been spent on improving facilities principally on accommodation for children in care as part of a long-term strategy to ensure that higher standards are met. The Trust retains the use of the land and premises at the school and college and at Springvale for a peppercorn rent for a period of 999 years donated by the RC Diocese of Arundel & Brighton in 2018.

All funds raised in connection with operating activities are solely expended for the benefit of the Trust and its beneficiaries who are the Children & Young People and adults in Supported Living.

Reserves policy

The Trustees recognise the need for the Trust to maintain sufficient reserves to:

- i. provide for future maintenance and development of the infrastructure;
- ii. provide for managed closure, possibly without much income but with a responsibility to ensure the wellbeing of its children, young people and adults;
- iii. provide for variations of cash flow;
- iv. cover its duties for staff pensions' liabilities.

The Trustees have established an initial target for free reserves, in net current assets, of 6 months operating costs. They plan to build this up over the coming years by generating a small operating surplus while meeting their duties to provide Value for Money for public funds. At year end free reserves stand at £3,136,232 (2023: £3,209,052) against a target of £5.5 million. At 31st August 2024 the Trust has a restricted fund of £14,741 (2023: £7,966) in relation to general donations.

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Future Plans

Café "Caritas", from Latin "charity" or "love for all", has opened its doors in the Work Skills & Enterprise Centre. The café provides lunches served by students to staff members, entailing an integral part of a program designed to develop essential work-life skills. It is planned for the Work Skills & Enterprise Centre to also serve as an outreach amenity for the local community.

The Trust is excited to announce that the reconstruction of the swimming pool, which sustained damage from a fire in 2022, has been completed and is now ready to provide valuable services to the students.

Plans are in place, subject to placement in 2025/26 to extend the Adult Supported Living accommodation to include the Lodge which currently serves as a Children's Home. It is expected to house three residents who are currently college students at St Joseph's.

Plans are underway to enhance the educational facilities within the main building, transforming it into a dedicated space exclusively for school and college activities. This initiative seeks to replace the deteriorating school building, which demands substantial financial investment to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for the students.

The past few years, with respect to the quality of education, have been spent focusing on driving the quality of teaching delivery and developing the pathway curriculum. Through this, we have seen a significant drop in negative pupil behaviour as an indicator of improved engagement, alongside other initiatives such as more ongoing and developmental Behaviour Support training for all staff and improved induction of new staff. We are now turning our heads towards the Cognitive Science, which underpins the curriculum; the repetition and spacing of information to optimise on the long-term retention of knowledge and development of skills. By lengthening the time between recalling information, a student will improve their long-term memory and hopefully their understanding. Teachers are also using evidence-based practice to support existing processes and explain why we use certain ASD friendly approaches, which provide them with both the credibility and the confidence in developing their practice.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Board of Trustees was originally appointed on the date of incorporation (23 March 2018). The Board of Governors of the School and College became a sub-committee of the Trust (Education Governing Committee), supporting the Trustees in the governance of the educational activities of the school and college. Members of the Education Governing Committee are still known as governors, though the usual responsibilities of a Governing Board now sit with the Board of Trustees. The current Trustees and Governors are listed on page 1.

The Board of Trustees, as the accountable body for the major decisions of St Joseph's, ensures clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; it holds the executive leaders to account for the performance of the organisation and its management, and oversees the financial performance of the charity. The Board meets at least four times a year. Day to day management of the charity is delegated to the Executive Principal who reports regularly to the Board of Trustees on the progress of key matters.

The Board of Trustees has delegated to the Education Governing Committee, responsibility for overseeing the management of the School and College including policies, staffing and use of resources. The Governance arrangements for the School and College fall under the Non-Maintained Special School Regulations and mirror school governance within the Local Authority maintained sector.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

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Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

The Constitution provides for up to eleven Trustees. Eight appointed by members of the CIO, two by the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton and one by the Bishop of Arundel and Brighton. The consent of both the Trustees and the Bishop of Arundel and Brighton is needed to amend the objects of the Trust. The Trustees have taken steps to ensure that they have the breadth and depth of experience and understanding to carry out their duties effectively and efficiently particularly as regards education, SEND, care and therapy, financial, audit and legal, health and safety, HR and remuneration. The recruitment of suitable and available individuals remains a challenge in common with many charities.

New Trustees receive an introduction to the work of the Trust from the Core Senior Leadership Team. Trustee training is accessed through Strictly 4 Education and other training services. Most Trustees bring significant skills from other settings. The Trustees and the Governors understand their roles in relation to equality and diversity, and comply with legislative requirements including those relating to disability, safeguarding, and health and safety.

Management

The operational management of the Trust is delegated to its Core Senior Leadership Team, which comprises:

Annie Sutton	Executive Principal
Alan Day	Director Residential Care
Cedric de Souza	Director of Finance
Elizabeth Hurst	Director of Business
Simon Jaggard	Director of Education (Head Teacher)
Adrian Maxey	Director of Estates & Facilities
Karen May	Director of Therapies
Elizabeth Sanders	Director of Human Resources

Employee involvement

St Joseph's policy is to work collaboratively with employees on matters likely to affect employees' interests through organised forums such as the anonymous "Ask the Boss" online facility and regular staff updates via weekly meetings and email circulars. Each half term welcomes all staff with an update on the current state of affairs led by the Executive Principal and supported by all Core and Senior Leaders. This may be information regarding matters of personal, local or national concern; we seek to achieve a common awareness on matters relating to strategic, operational and financial factors affecting St Joseph's performance. In matters that significantly change policies or terms, full and extensive consultation processes are followed, to ensure that all staff are able to offer their opinions, suggestions and concerns. There is sound evidence that demonstrates that the consultation process at the Trust takes this on board and has adapted new proposals in line with suggestions offered by the wider staff. In some cases where there have been significant concerns raised by staff, new initiatives or changes have been abandoned. There is sound evidence that the Executive Principal leads the Core Senior Leadership Team and wider management team in giving serious consideration to all staff queries and gives respectful and full comprehensive feedback to staff.

Equality and Diversity

St Joseph's has a robust Equality Policy and Safer Recruitment process and is committed to ensuring equality of education, care and opportunity for students, residents and staff irrespective of race, gender, faith, sexuality, disability, or socio-economic background. We aim to encourage inclusion and diversity in which all those connected to the Trust feel equally valued and are able to participate fully.

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Gender Pay Gap

In 2024, our strong, diverse and engaged network of 219 employees indicates a pay gap of 3% in favour of the male gender based on an hourly rate of pay. Further analysis is as follows:

Gender	Staff	Staff%	Rate/Hour
Male	77	35%	16.68
Female	142	65%	16.13

The proportions of male and female employees in respective pay bands are as follows:

Quartile	Female	Male
Lower	65.2%	34.8%
Lower Middle	66.7%	33.3%
Middle	66.7%	33.3%
Upper	50%	50%

The Core Senior Leadership Team is comprised of 4 males and 4 females, with a pay gap of 5% in favour of the female gender and it is to be noted that this includes the Executive Principal of the organisation who is of the female gender.

Our strategy is to continue to create a culture of inclusion and development for everyone and we will continue to shape a more diverse and inclusive culture at the Trust.

Pupil Data

The school participates in the Department for Education (DfE) annual census in January each year. The school reported the following pupil numbers:

Key Stage	2024 Pupils	<i>of which</i> Boarding	2024 Boarders	Key Stage	2023 Pupils	<i>of which</i> Boarding	2023 Boarders
KS 1	2	Weekly	4	KS 1	0	Weekly	4
KS 2	8	Termly	1	KS 2	13	Termly	1
KS 3	21	52 week	5	KS 3	23	52 week	11
KS 4	16			KS 4	18		
KS 5	22			KS 5	19		
Total	69		10	Total	73		16

Supported Living Tenancies at August 2024: Springvale: 7 tenancies (2023: 7 tenancies), Long Barn: 0 tenancies (2023: 6 tenancies).

Admissions and Funding

Admissions criteria for the school and college require potential students to have an Education, Health and Care Plan that specifies a disability. Residential placements are only available to students either already in or taking up an academic placement. Adults accessing supported living accommodation must initially meet assessment criteria of Local Authority Adult Social Care or Continuing Health Care in order to apply for the provision. St Joseph's specialises in provision designed to meet the needs of those with complex and significant learning difficulties. All education, care and adult supported living services are fully funded by public bodies. The majority of students are placed and funded by Local Authorities and tenants are charged rent capped at Housing Benefit maximum.

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Fundraising

The Trust does not engage any third-party fundraisers, the fundraising team ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to protect vulnerable people from inappropriate or unwelcomed fundraising approaches. The Trust has not received any complaints about any aspect of its fundraising. The Trust registered with the Fundraising Regulator and follow the Code of Fundraising Practice which sets out the responsibilities that apply to fundraising carried out by charitable institutions in the UK.

Our donors take us above and beyond the core funding we receive from Local Authorities and enable us to provide new facilities and equipment for the young people at the Trust. This would not be possible without the support of so many organisations that have helped the Trust to secure the funds it needs to address our ambition for the children and young people we serve.

Compliance with Charity Commission Guidance and Public Benefit

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake. The Trustees have considered the question of public benefit and are satisfied that the Charity's activities are as defined by charity law and Charity Commission regulations.

St. Joseph’s is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools & Non-Maintained Special Schools (NASS) a membership organisation working with and for special schools in the independent, voluntary and private sectors within the UK. The Executive Principal is a Trustee of NASS ensuring that St Joseph’s is fully involved at a national level within the special educational sector. In addition, the Head Teacher ensures that St Joseph’s works collaboratively with the local maintained sector, and is an active member of the Cranfold Confederation, an informal confederation of schools in the South Guildford area.

Risk Assessment and Risk Management

During the period, the Trustees continued their oversight of the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and have put in place a comprehensive Risk Register. Major risks have not changed significantly during the course of the year and include the following major risks:

MAJOR RISKS	MITIGATION
Poor safeguarding leading to injury, death, negligence or abuse	Dedicated Designated Safeguarding Lead assisted by a Head of Safeguarding and Inclusion and a Safeguarding Team manage referrals and compliance requirements, ensure risk assessments are pertinent and up to date and monitor potential risks as well as conducting in-depth training and providing regular updates for staff.
Reputational damage	Business Continuity Plan including crisis media management, validity of insurance and comprehensive cover for entirety of operation, protecting interests and managing concerns and expectations of local authorities, Ofsted, CQC, parents/guardians and other stakeholders.
Reliance on local authority commissioning	Maintenance of Ofsted, CQC, statutory and regulatory standards. Application of rigorous admissions procedure. Management of contractual relationships and attendant financial arrangements.
Cyber security	Ensuring up to date protection for all equipment, systems and software across the operation.
Insufficient staff to deliver services	Proactive HR Department with strong recruitment strategies and expert knowledge of sector. Staffing adherence to EHCPs, Risk Assessments and Behaviour Support Plans. Dynamic use of staff, timetabling and class structure.

Trustees have directed the Core Senior Leadership Team to continue to focus on risk reduction in 2024/25 in order to ensure the continued high-quality provision that has been maintained over recent years.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Trustees are required to prepare a financial statement for each financial year that gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable UK Accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and have taken steps to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Trustees on 5th March 2025 and signed as authorised on their behalf by:



Dominic Goyton
Chair of Trustees

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St Joseph's Specialist Trust for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF
ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 12 the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charity for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were Children's Home Regulations 2015, Non- Maintained Special Schools (England) Regulations 2015, Safeguarding regulations, Health & Safety legislation, General Data Protection Regulations, Food Hygiene Standards, OFSTED and Care Quality Commission regulations.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management, and the Finance Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would be to identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Reading

Date: 7 March 2025

Crowe U.K. LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £ Children & Young People Restricted	2024 £ Children & Young People Unrestricted	2024 £ Adult Supported Living Unrestricted	2024 £ Total	2023 £ Total
INCOME						
Charitable activities						
Fees Local Authorities		-	8,862,669	953,748	9,816,417	10,676,147
Fees ESFA		-	738,647	-	738,647	835,973
Sundry income		-	103,343	-	103,343	5,687
Voluntary income						
Grants to meet expenditure		101,539	95,571	-	197,110	228,113
Donations		9,711	6,268	-	15,979	64,561
Other trading activities						
Rental income		-	-	154,127	154,127	154,127
Total income		<u>111,250</u>	<u>9,806,498</u>	<u>1,107,875</u>	<u>11,025,623</u>	<u>11,964,608</u>
EXPENDITURE						
Raising funds	3	-	(13,766)	-	(13,766)	(32,766)
Charitable activities	3	(39,459)	(9,925,633)	(874,694)	(10,839,786)	(11,632,572)
Total expenditure		<u>(39,459)</u>	<u>(9,939,399)</u>	<u>(874,694)</u>	<u>(10,853,552)</u>	<u>(11,665,338)</u>
Net movement in funds		71,791	(132,901)	233,181	172,071	299,270
Fund balances brought forward						
at 1 September 2023		7,966	18,022,145	1,129,769	19,159,880	18,860,610
Transfers between funds		(65,016)	65,016	-	-	-
Fund balances carried forward		<u>14,741</u>	<u>17,954,260</u>	<u>1,362,950</u>	<u>19,331,951</u>	<u>19,159,880</u>

There were no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 19 to 25 form part of these financial statements.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	5	16,166,247	15,942,862
Intangible Assets	6	14,731	-
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	152,859	106,457
Cash at bank and in hand		3,903,298	4,408,952
		4,056,157	4,515,409
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	8	(628,184)	(859,807)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		3,427,973	3,655,602
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		19,608,951	19,598,464
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after one year	8	(277,000)	(438,584)
NET ASSETS		<u>19,331,951</u>	<u>19,159,880</u>
FUNDS			
Children & Young People		17,954,260	18,022,145
Adult Supported Living		1,362,950	1,129,769
Unrestricted funds	9	19,317,210	19,151,914
Restricted funds – Children & Young People	9	14,741	7,966
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>19,331,951</u>	<u>19,159,880</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 5th March 2025 and were signed below on its behalf by:



Dominic Gorton
Trustee

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash provided by operations	A	150,574	1,224,571
Cash flows from Investing Activities			
Purchase of fixed & intangible assets		(656,228)	(932,187)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		<u>(656,228)</u>	<u>(932,187)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	B	<u>(505,654)</u>	<u>292,384</u>
Net cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period		4,408,952	4,116,568
Net cash and cash equivalents at end of period		<u><u>3,903,298</u></u>	<u><u>4,408,952</u></u>

A. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATIONS

	2024 £	2023 £
Net movement in funds	172,071	299,270
Depreciation	418,112	406,284
(Increase) / Decrease in debtors	(46,403)	396,415
(Decrease) / Increase in creditors	(393,206)	122,602
Net cash provided by operations	<u><u>150,574</u></u>	<u><u>1,224,571</u></u>

B. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND NET DEBT

	At 31-Aug-2023 £	Cash Flows £	Other Changes £	At 31-Aug-2024 £
Cash and cash equivalents	4,408,952	(505,654)	-	3,903,298
Net cash provided by operations	<u><u>4,408,952</u></u>	<u><u>(505,654)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>3,903,298</u></u>

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) - effective 1 January 2019. The Trust is a charitable incorporated organisation (charity number: 1177680) registered in England and Wales. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern

The financial position and future prospects of the Trust have been assessed, taking into account the funding facilities available, the anticipated ongoing demand for services, and future projected cash flows. Based on this evaluation, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, as the Trustees have not identified any material uncertainties that would cast significant doubt on the Trust's financial viability.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the accounting policies, Trustees are required to make judgement, estimates, and assumptions about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affected current and future periods.

Judgements made by the Trustees, in the application of these accounting policies that have significant effect on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustment in the next year are deemed to be in relation to the depreciation rates of tangible fixed assets and are discussed below. In the view of the Trustees, no assumptions concerning the future or estimation uncertainty affecting assets or liabilities at the balance sheet date are likely to result in a material adjustment to their carrying amounts in the next financial year.

Income

Fees receivable and other fees are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided. Fundraising and other income are accounted for when entitlement arises, the amount can be reliably quantified and the economic benefit to the Trust is considered probable.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. All costs have been attributed to the functional categories of resources expended in the Statement of Financial Activities. The Trust is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure is included gross of irrecoverable VAT.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible assets, except the freehold property, are stated at cost less depreciation.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost less their estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Buildings 20 - 50 years (2 - 5% per annum)

Premises adaptations 10 years (10% per annum)

Furniture and fittings 8 years (12 ½ % per annum)

ICT equipment 5 years (20% per annum)

Vehicles 5 years (20 % per annum)

Individual items costing less than £5,000 are normally written off as an expense on acquisition. Freehold land is not depreciated. Computer and IT costs of less than £5,000 per item are expensed through the Income and Expenditure account.

Depreciation of fixed assets starts in the year following the acquisition of an asset, and it is calculated over the expected useful life of the asset.

Intangible assets

The Trust capitalises the cost of third-party software that meets the criteria for recognition as an intangible asset. The software is amortised over its estimated useful life of 3 years. Impairment reviews are conducted annually or when indicators of impairment arise.

Amortisation of intangible assets starts in the year following the acquisition of an asset, and it is calculated over the expected useful life of the asset.

Financial instruments

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at amortised with the exception of investments which are held at fair value. Financial assets held amortised cost comprise cash at bank and in hand, together with trade and other debtors. A specific provision is made for debts for which recoverability is in doubt. Cash at bank and in hand is defined as all cash held in instant access bank accounts and used as working capital. Financial liabilities held at amortised cost comprise all creditors except social security and other taxes and provisions.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the Trust has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Taxation

The Trust is constituted as a registered charity, and therefore is exempt from direct taxation on its charitable activities. There were no tax reclaims in the year on gifts and donations received.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Pensions

The Teachers' Pension Scheme - This scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme. It is not possible to identify the Trust's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the Teachers' Pension Scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis and therefore, as required by FRS102, accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Trust's contributions, which are in accordance with the recommendations of the Government Actuary, are charged in the period in which the salaries to which they relate are payable.

The charity also operates defined contributory group personal pension schemes for non-teaching staff.

Operating lease commitments

The rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Fund accounting

Funds held by the charity are:

- *Unrestricted funds* – these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees. They are divided between Children and Young People and Adult Supported Living.
- *Restricted funds* – these are funds that can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

2. NET INCOME	2024 £	2023 £
Net income is stated after charging		
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	418,112	406,284
Auditors' remuneration – non-audit services	-	-
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	21,907	19,915

3. ANALYSIS OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE

	2024 Staff Costs £	2024 Other Costs £	2024 Depreciation £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Raising funds	13,716	-	-	13,716	32,766
Charitable activities					
Teaching	3,738,016	106,715	-	3,844,731	3,591,328
Welfare	3,006,080	142,271	-	3,148,351	4,294,396
Premises	691,099	394,445	418,112	1,503,656	1,790,107
Support costs	1,304,615	999,024	-	2,303,639	1,829,532
Grants	-	39,459	-	39,459	127,209
	<u>8,753,526</u>	<u>1,681,914</u>	<u>418,112</u>	<u>10,853,552</u>	<u>11,665,338</u>

Restricted expenditure in the period in relation to grants received amounted to £39,459 (2023: £127,209).

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4. PARTICULARS OF EMPLOYEES	2024	2023
	No.	No.
The average persons employed by the Trust during the period was:		
	219	240
<i>Their total remuneration was:</i>	£	£
Wages and salaries	6,396,304	6,701,930
Social security costs	612,886	674,698
Other pension costs	527,929	491,008
Other staff costs	208,725	281,320
	7,745,844	8,148,956
Agency staff	1,007,682	1,492,583
	8,753,526	9,641,539

The total remuneration of key management personnel during the period was £932,656 (2023: £876,299). Key management are considered to be the Core Senior Leadership Team and their total remuneration – gross pay, taxable benefits, employer's pension and National Insurance contributions.

The number of staff with emoluments within the following ranges were:	2024 No.	2023 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	8	3
£70,001 - £80,000	3	3
£80,001 - £90,000	1	3
£90,001 - £100,000	3	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	1

Other pension costs include liability provisions for the period of £Nil (2023: £Nil).

The Trust made £121,047 (2023: £121,661) contributions to defined contribution and benefit pension schemes in the period in respect of the higher paid employees.

Termination payments made in the year were £7,083 (2023: £Nil).

During the year, close family members of key management personnel received remuneration of £4,427 (2023: £1,628).

Trustees and Advisers' remuneration and reimbursed expenses

Trustees do not receive remuneration from the Charity. No trustee had any beneficial interest in any contract with the company during the year.

Three Trustees were reimbursed expenses totalling £39 (2023: five trustees £65) in the period.

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Leasehold premises

The premises were acquired from the Trustees of Sacred Heart Sisters of Chigwell Convent on 1 September 1981 at a cost of £425,000 plus furniture and fittings £50,000 (part was sold in 1988 for £69,453). In addition, a house, Springvale, was purchased from the Sisters in September 1986 at a cost of £155,000. The use of the properties which are still owned by the RC Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, has been gifted through a 999-year lease with only peppercorn rent payable.

	School Leasehold premises	Springvale Leasehold premises	Assets in Construc- tion	Motor vehicles	Computers	Fixture and fittings	Total
At cost or valuation	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Beginning of period	16,827,634	789,637	34,405	52,070	9,716	45,358	17,758,820
Additions	47,585	-	506,467	-	-	87,445	641,497
Transfers	178,045	-	(178,045)	-	-	-	-
End of year	17,053,264	789,637	362,827	52,070	9,716	132,803	18,400,317
Depreciation							
Beginning of period	1,731,543	76,802	-	-	1,943	5,670	1,815,958
Charge for the period	384,245	15,841	-	10,414	1,943	5,669	418,112
Released on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
End of year	2,115,788	92,643	-	10,414	3,886	11,339	2,234,070
Net Book Value							
As at 31 August 2024	14,937,476	696,994	362,827	41,656	5,830	121,464	16,166,247
As at 31 August 2023	15,096,091	712,835	34,405	52,070	7,773	39,688	15,942,862

6. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Opening Balance	Additions	Disposals	Amorti- sation	Work In Progress	Transfers	Closing Balance
At costs	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Third-party Software	-	14,731	-	-	-	-	14,731
IRIS Payrite							

7. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Fee debtors	20,670	55,792
Other debtors	132,188	50,665
	<u>152,859</u>	<u>106,457</u>

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8. CREDITORS:

Amounts falling due within one year	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	192,180	187,805
Accruals	146,365	180,932
Staff costs provision	62,566	4,251
Payroll creditors	201,340	281,746
Other creditors	25,733	205,073
	<u>628,184</u>	<u>859,807</u>
 Amounts falling due after one year	 2024 £	 2023 £
Staff costs provision	<u>277,000</u>	<u>438,584</u>

Pension liabilities

The Trust was notified by the Teachers' Pension Scheme in 2019 that they were to challenge the eligibility of two members of staff from the inception date of the scheme in 2010. This was accepted with one member who has since retired and a liability provision based on a settlement agreement between the Trust and the member is now in place and included in the accounts. The final decision by the TPS for the other member of staff who remains in employment has been referred to the Pensions Ombudsman. Pending this decision and following an independent valuation, a further liability provision of £42,000 has been included in the accounts. The Trust has an unregistered Employer-financed Retirement Benefits Scheme for a former employee whose pension is being administered directly by the Trust.

9. STATEMENT OF FUNDS – CURRENT PERIOD

	Brought forward at 01 September 2023 £	Income 2024 £	Expenditure 2024 £	Transfers 2024 £	Carried forward at 31 August 2024 £
Children and Young People	18,022,145	9,806,498	(9,939,399)	65,016	17,954,260
Adult Supported Living	1,129,769	1,107,875	(874,694)	-	1,362,950
Unrestricted funds	19,151,914	10,914,373	(10,814,093)	65,016	19,317,210
Restricted funds	7,966	111,250	(39,459)	(65,016)	14,741
Total funds	<u>19,159,880</u>	<u>11,025,623</u>	<u>(10,853,552)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,331,951</u>

ST. JOSEPH'S SPECIALIST TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS – CURRENT PERIOD**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Tangible Fixed & Intangible Assets	16,180,978	-	16,180,978	15,942,862
Current assets	4,041,416	14,741	4,056,157	4,515,409
Current liabilities	(628,184)	-	(628,184)	(859,807)
Non-current liabilities	(277,000)	-	(277,000)	(438,584)
	<u>19,317,210</u>	<u>14,741</u>	<u>19,331,951</u>	<u>19,159,880</u>

11. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2024, there were operating lease commitments of an insignificant amount.

12. PENSION COSTS**(a) Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Trust participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £277,463 (2023: £235,017) and at the year-end £2,976 (2023: £nil) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended) and The Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set by the Secretary of State following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary's Department. The most recent actuarial valuation of the TPS was prepared as at 31 March 2020 and the Valuation Report was published in October 2023.

Following the McCloud judgement, the remedy proposed that when benefits become payable, eligible members can select to receive them from either the reformed or legacy schemes for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022. The actuaries have assumed that members are likely to choose the option that provides them with the greater benefits, and in preparing the 2020 valuation have valued the 'greater value' benefits for groups of relevant members.

The valuation confirmed that the employer contribution rate for the TPS would increase from 23.6% to 28.6% from 1 April 2024. Employers are also required to pay a scheme administration levy of 0.08% giving a total employer contribution rate of 28.68%.

(b) Group Personal Pension

The Trust participates in defined contribution schemes for its teaching and non-teaching staff who are not in a final salary scheme. The cost for the year of the Trust's contributions was £269,498 (2023: £288,265).