

Annual Trustees Report for The Marie Skłodowska- Curie Polish Saturday School
Wimbledon Putney

Registration number 1179554

Governing Document: CIO Association

Registered 14 August 2018

Report of Trustees for the year ending 31.08.2024

The Governors of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Polish Saturday School Wimbledon Putney present their annual report for the year ended 31.08.2024

Our Aims

The School operates since 1960, teaching Polish language, history, culture and heritage to children between the ages of 3 and 18. On 18th August 2018 the School was formally registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales as Association.

We are members of the Polish Educational Society (registered in England and Wales - charity no 1159980) which supports Polish education in Great Britain. In February 2019 we received confirmation of registration with HMRC, which allows us to receive Gift Aid donations, with effect from 14.08.2018. We are a relatively new charity; however, we have a 60-year history as a supplementary School.

We promote and teach Polish language, culture, and traditions through a specially designed curriculum for Polish Schools outside of Poland, preparing our students to take GCSE and A level exams under the AQA examination board.

Through cultural events and activities, we broaden the students' knowledge of Poland and its heritage. We aim to create an ethos of being a community in which all students and their families feel at home, respected and involved. Many extracurricular activities are designed to bring Polish history, culture and heritage closer to our students so that, when they leave our School, they feel truly enriched.

Our objectives

Our objectives for the year were to reflect our academic aims in our work, as well as our ethos as stated by objectives of a charitable organisation.

We aimed to:

- Offer a broad, relevant curriculum, helping our students to learn Polish language, history and traditions alongside achieving excellent end of year, GCSE and A level results
- Broaden the curriculum through well planned and prepared extracurricular activities - Form good relationships and play a part in our community through organising charitable events aimed to help both local and national charities

- Provide bursaries to families with financial difficulties to help with the payment of School fees
- Provide relevant training for our staff
- Strengthen our School community through events aimed to involve our parents in the life of our School, while fundraising for its needs.
- The Summer Fair and cake sales are some examples of these events, and they very strongly rely on parental involvement and turn out.

Pupil numbers

During 2023-24 our School had 546 pupils in 27 classes (forms).

The number of pupils per class varied between 15 and 23. All our forms were full. In 2023-24 we observed the following number of students in the examination classes:

- GSCE year 1 – 38 students
- GSCE year 2 – 46 students
- A1 – 46 students
- A2 – 35 students

36 teachers and 8 teaching assistants were working in the School. This included a history teacher and RE teachers.

Fees

Our fees in 2023-24 remained unchanged once again and were as follows: 1st child £330 per academic year

2nd child £290 per academic year

3rd child £ 140 per academic year

4th and above child- exempt from fees

During 2023-24, we offered help in the form of bursaries to the amount of £855.

Finances

The total cash receipts in the year were £188,947 and the payments were £203,635.

The accounts are presented to parents at the Annual General Meeting which usually takes place in November and are prepared on an accrual's basis.

The budget for the next academic year is also presented and discussed giving the parents and carers a chance to have their voice on such matters.

The School's main income comes from School fees £156,304.

We also received support from The Polish Government, represented by "Instytut Rozwoju Języka Polskiego im. Świętego Maksymiliana Marii Kolbego", through direct support from its partners: "Stowarzyszenie Wspólnota Polska" and Fundacja Wolność I Demokracja and also from Lloyds Bank, to the total value of £26,476. In addition, we obtained funds from Easy Fund of £290 and savings interest of £734. The cake sales and School fairs organised by the PTA brought in £9,401 net funding. Charitable fundraising brought £2,330.

The main expenses of the School are teachers' salaries £136,853 and rent for using the premises of Ursuline High School in Wimbledon £31,081. The School also provided School books for the students and paid for teachers training.

To emphasise the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than one child in our School. To attract and retain high quality staff we offer a discount scheme for children of those employed by the School.

The Governing Body aims to keep the accounts with a healthy surplus to provide additional funding in case of unexpected events such as the need to find new premises and redundancy payments if the School were to close down. For this reason a reserve facility of £50,000 has been agreed by the board.

More detailed information on the accounts are available in the Accounts Report.

Academic achievements

During 2023-24 academic year our students gained the following results:

GCSE:

- 32 students achieved grade 9
- 2 students – grade 8

A-Level:

- 11 students achieved grade A*
- 14 – grade A
- 8 – grade B

These are results we are immensely proud of.

Review of activities and achievements:

In the School year 2023-24 we took part in various competitions.

- Christmas Card competition – internal competition, 10 main prizes and 5 distinctions were given and the projects printed out
- Qualifying event for the XIII edition of the Polish Poetry Festival "Wierszowisko". The final of the festival took place in June 24 and our students won 2 prizes: 3rd place in the 4-6 years old category
2nd place in the 10-13 category

- Spelling competition – 4 of our students took part
- Great Competition of Historical Knowledge – 4 of our students took part
- Super talent competition – our student came 3rd and received a bronze statue of Super talent as well as a special distinction from one of the jurors.
- A group of our students took part in a theatre performance at POSK Theatre for Children. One of our graduates (and now a music teacher at the School) was also a part of the cast

We have very close links with the Polish Scouts association. Many of our pupils are able to join the Polish Rainbows/Brownies and Scouts. Their activities normally take place immediately after School hours. We invite the leaders at the beginning of the School year to encourage new members to join.

Close links with the Polish Scout movement in the UK reflects our ethos of cultivating our Polish heritage and Christian values.

We are also supported and have close links with St John Evangelist Polish Catholic Church in Putney. The priests and nuns are employed by our School to provide RE lessons for our pupils, which form part of the curriculum.

The School year starts and ends with a Holy Mass dedicated to our School community.

The School Structure

The School is led by the Head Teacher, Mrs Maja Brodzinska.

The Head Teacher led a team of 36 teachers and 8 teaching assistants in the academic year 2022-23.

The Governing Body consisted of 9 trustees (among them was the Head Teacher) and 3 observers.

The names of the Trustees in 2023-24 were as follows:

Maria Brodzinska - Head Teacher

Dorota Lewis - Chair of Governors

Katarzyna Stelmach Postigo – Deputy Chairman (resigned 23rd November 2024)

Monika Zasadzinska – Treasurer

Lucyna Rogowska – Secretary

Karolina Cisek-Ndlovu (resigned 23rd November 2024)

Grzegorz Dragula

Monika Gasiecka

Radoslaw Gotkiewicz (resigned 23rd November 2024)

Dorota Trawinska (resigned 23rd November 2024)

Rafal Borek (appointed 23rd November 2024)
Daria Mroczek (appointed 23rd November 2024)
Angelika Damasik (appointed 23rd November 2024)
Agnieszka Szumlak (appointed 23rd November 2024)

Apart from the teaching staff the School also employs an administrator and 3 duty officers. All but two trustees (Head Teacher and the Treasurer) are volunteers. We give employment opportunities to our A level graduates, who can work as teacher's assistants in our lower School. This is on a yearly contract basis.

The Marie Sklodowska- Curie Polish Saturday School rents its premises from Ursuline High School in Wimbledon, London.

Lessons take place during Saturday mornings, 35 Saturdays a year. The School year is divided into 3 terms. The lessons take place between 9:00-12:30.

During breaks parents on duty help to provide a secure environment for the pupils. All School staff has undergone DBS checks.

Charitable actions

Our School prides itself in offering support to charitable organisations. During 2023-24 our School organised events to support the following charities and organisations:

- Macmillan Coffee morning
- Great Orchestra of Festive Support - Wielka Orkiestra Swiatecznej Pomocy - this is a Polish Charity providing help in funding lifesaving equipment for hospitals in Poland
- Christmas Jumper Day - raised money to support one family in need from our School community

In total we donated £2,030.

Governors' recruitment

The Governors/Trustees are elected by the parents during the Annual General Meeting or by the Body of Governors if a vacancy arises later in the academic year. The Governors/Trustees hold their position for 3 years and can be re-elected if they wish to stand again, in accordance with our Constitution. The positions are advertised to the School community and any parent can apply. Each applicant must be endorsed by 2 current Governors/Trustees. The Governors work for the School wholly on a voluntary basis. The Headteacher, appointed by the Body of Governors, is remunerated.

Plans and aspirations

Our School will celebrate 65th anniversary in 2025. Our plan for 2024/25 was to carry out preparation for the celebration as well as to continue with the charitable events we have organised this year. Since they were such a great success, we would like them to become

a fixed components of our School event calendar.

Professional advisors:

Bank: Lloyds Bank

Sort code: 30-94-77

Account: 04231031

Insurers: Aviva Insurance Ltd

Auditors: Mrs Aleksanda Zakrzewska

Contact details: Mrs Maria Brodzinska

Address:

Marie Sklodowska-Curie Polish Saturday School

Ursuline High School The Downs Wimbledon SW20 8HG

Website: www.msccpolishschool.org

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Maria Brodzinska', written in a cursive style.

24/05/2025



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Polish Saturday
School Wimbledon-Putney

1179554

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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/09/2023	To	31/08/2024
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
School fees receivable	152,753	-	-	152,753	159,424
Fundraising	9,691	-	-	9,691	10,594
Grants and donations	-	23,440	-	23,440	29,359
Other charitable activities	2,330	-	-	2,330	3,604
Interest received	734	-	-	734	313
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	165,507	23,440	-	188,947	203,294
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	165,507	23,440	-	188,947	203,294
A3 Payments					
Rent	31,081	-	-	31,081	25,330
Salaries	136,853	-	-	136,853	134,336
Educational expenditure	28,083	-	-	28,083	24,164
Other charitable activities	2,885	-	-	2,885	4,038
Administrative expenses	4,732	-	-	4,732	6,531
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	203,635	-	-	203,635	194,399
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	203,635	-	-	203,635	194,399
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 38,127	23,440	-	- 14,688	8,895
A5 Transfers between funds	23,440	- 23,440	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	175,632	-	-	175,632	166,737
Cash funds this year end	160,944	-	-	160,944	175,632

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Balance of bank accounts	160,944	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	160,944	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

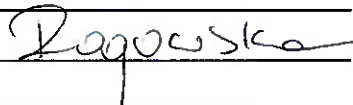
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Prepaid expenses 2024/25	9,150	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		-92,166	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	2024/25 fees & grant	-77,928	-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Lucyna Rogowska	24.05.2025

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Marie Sklodowska-Curie Polish Saturday School Wimbledon-Putney

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Marie Sklodowska-Curie Polish Saturday School Wimbledon-Putney (The Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Aleksandra Zakrzewska

Qualification: FCA

Address: 16 Avondale Avenue, Worcester Park, Surrey KT47PD

Date: 24 May 2025