FOSS Annual General Meeting Report: February 2026

(For the financial year ending 12/2025)

Welcome to 2026! After lots of changes in 2025, FOSS are ready to embark on the year ahead with a new FOSS team and some new events up our sleeve. It's taken some time to find our feet, but we are excited to get stuck in and uphold our constitution of 'advancing the education of pupils in Steep School'. Despite all the changes and with the help of a large grant, FOSS raised a whopping £32,000! Not bad for a year's work.

2025: The Year in Review

Last year was defined by a massive mountain to climb: matching a grant for the **Early Years Outdoor area revamp**. To hit our target, we needed to raise £12,000 by August. Not only did we meet it, but—thanks to this incredible community—we smashed it.

The Bottom Line: We raised a staggering **£32,000**!

Because of your generosity, Reception and Year 1 started the school year with a stunning new outdoor space. We are currently using the remaining grant funds to on resources and much-needed storage.

The 2025 Stats at a Glance:

- **11** One-off events (including 3 biggies averaging £2,500 each!)
- **3** Family favorites (Movies, Frozen Fridays and Cake Raffles)
- **6** Ongoing initiatives (Uniform, Lottery, Recycling, party pack hire, etc.)
- **£5,000** Received in pure donations.

Musical Chairs: Team Updates

We've had a few bittersweet goodbyes and some very warm hellos.

- **Huge Thanks:** To **Jo Slater** (Secretary) and **Helen Gage** (Chair), who poured tireless energy into FOSS before stepping down in 2025.
- **Treasured Support:** A massive thank you to **Dawn Strong**, who kept our books balanced as Treasurer for the year and stepped down in January 2026.
- **The New Guard: Simone** has taken the reins as Chair and **Triona** has stepped in as Secretary. They join our "ever-faithful" committee member, **Sarah Rowden**.
- **FOSS regeneration:** we are aware that many of the amazing volunteers who helped with FOSS over the last few years have stepped back. 2026, will be about finding new volunteers and energy to keep the essential work of FOSS going and those FOSS funds flowing.
- **Help Wanted:** We are currently hunting for a **new Treasurer** to keep our charity status humming. If you enjoy a spreadsheet (or just want to help!), please let us know!

We are also thrilled to officially welcome **Vicki Mason** as our permanent Headteacher. After a fantastic Autumn term as Acting Head, we are excited to align our goals with her vision for the school.

Looking Ahead: The 2026 Wishlist

While we continue to fund essentials like **Listen2Me music, PSHE, and spelling programmes**, our sights are set on some exciting new targets:

- **Tech & Literacy:** Refreshing reading books and aiming for a 1:1 iPad ratio per class.
- **The Great Outdoors:** Focusing funds on the Astro turf, playground flooring, and the woodland area.
- **School TLC:** Mrs. Mason has identified redecoration needs. While we hope the Council handles the heavy lifting, she will be looking for a "volunteer workforce" (that's you!) to help with some weekend DIY.

Thank you for making Steep School such a vibrant community. Here's to making 2026 just as excellent as the last!

Friends of Steep School

Activities for generating funds - Breakdown for the year ending 31st December 2025

Opening bank balance 30th December 2024:					**13,230.19**
Fundraising events:		**Receipts**	**Payments**	**Profit**	
	Commission	95.10	0.00	95.10	1.00
	Steep Movies	548.92	-224.98	323.94	0.59
	Marvellous Mums	170.10	0.00	170.10	1.00
	Break the Rules for April Fools	183.92	0.00	183.92	1.00
	FOSS Logs	30.00	0.00	30.00	1.00
	SteepFest	3,866.90	-979.20	2,887.70	0.75
	Doughnuts for Dads	151.04	0.00	151.04	1.00
	Sports Day	153.40	-44.00	109.40	0.71
	School production refreshments	407.67	-16.67	391.00	0.96
	FOSS Frozen Friday	346.37	-154.00	192.37	0.56
	Welcome Fair	260.30	0.00	260.30	1.00
	disco	526.00	-65.30	460.70	0.88
	Bonfire Night	3,361.15	-1,565.12	1,796.03	0.53
	Xmas Fair	4,139.30	-1,329.87	2,809.43	0.68
	Wreath Making	1,762.00	-793.61	968.39	0.55
	Astra Recycling	109.35	0.00	109.35	1.00
	Cake Raffle	655.26	0.00	655.26	1.00
	SEN Tesco tokens	1,125.00	-1,084.45	40.55	0.04
	School Lottery	662.85	0.00	662.85	1.00
	Party Pack Hire	29.75	0.00	29.75	1.00
	Uniform Donations	92.34	0.00	92.34	1.00
	Early Years Space	13,451.57	-27,980.57	-14,529.00	-1.08
	General Donations	5,999.39	-325.59	5,673.80	0.95
	Sub-total	38,127.68 #	-34,563.36 #	3,564.32	
Grants:					
	Tesco tokens		0.00	0.00	
	Early years space				
	Sub-total	**-**	**0.00**	**-**	
Annual Licences and Insurance					
10/10/2025	Small Society Lottery Licence (Gambling Act 2005)		-20.00		
02/01/2025	Parent Kind 2nd		-115.00		
	Sub-total		**-135.00**		
	GRAND TOTAL	**38,127.68**	**-34,698.36**	**3,429.32**	
Donations to school:					
23/01/2025	Listen2Me Spring 2025		-1100.00		
06/05/2025	Listen2Me Summer 2025		-1100.00		
29/09/2025	Listen2Me Autumn 2025		-1300.00		
29/09/2025	Jigsaw PHSE		-480.00		
			-3980.00		
FOSS assets purchased:					
	Steel drinks tubs		-53.98	reimbursed Helen	
			-53.98		
Misc Transactions:					
04/01/2025	Xmas Fair 2024 gingerbread ingredients - reimbursed Amy 4/1/25		-28.86		
04/01/2025	Xmas Fair 2024 Jesse dahl and flatbreads ingredients - reimbursed Amy 4/1/25		-27.81		
04/01/2025	Xmas Fair 2024 hamper baskets and craft - reimbursed Thea 4/1/25		-38.10		
23/01/2025	Xmas Fair 2024 expenses correction - reimbursed Jo 23/1/25		-24.00		
17/01/2025	2023/2024 Stikins commission	86.78			
10/01/2025	Wreath Making 2024 moss return - Katie 10/1/25	55.80			
17/01/2025	Outstanding cash deposit (from FY 2024)	6,526.43			
27/01/2025	Compensation from Natwest	200.00			
	Bank Interest	0.00			
		6,869.01	**-118.77**		
Expected closing bank balance:					**19,375.77**
Actual closing bank balance 31 December 2025:					**19,375.77**
				Discrepancy	**0.00**
Committed spend for 2026					
			0.00		
FOSS TOTAL FUNDS REMAINING					**19,375.77**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 1206677

Independent Examiners Ltd
The Grain Store
Hills Barns
Appledram Lane South
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7EG

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

CONTENTS

Page 3	Legal & Administrative Information
Pages 4 to 5	Report of the Trustees
Page 6	Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees
Page 7	Receipts and Payments Account
Page 8	Statement of Assets and Liabilities
Pages 9 to 10	Notes to the Accounts

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NAME	Friends of Steep School
WORKING NAME	FOSS
CHARITY NUMBER	1206677
DATE OF REGISTRATION	23rd January 2024
START OF FINANCIAL YEAR	1st January 2025
END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	31st December 2025
TRUSTEES WHO SERVED DURING THE YEAR	Simone Do Nascimento (Chair) Triona Benton (Secretary) Sarah Rowden Nienke Marthe Willemijn van Deursen Dawn Strong (Treasurer - resigned January 2026) Helen Gage (Chair - resigned 2025) Joanna Slater (Secretary - resigned 2025)
LEGAL STATUS	Unincorporated association
GOVERNING DOCUMENT	Constitution (Parentkind model constitution) adopted on 8th December 2023
OBJECTS	To advance the education of pupils in the school, in particular by: (2.1) developing effective relationships between the staff, parents and others associated with the school; and (2.2) engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.
PRINCIPAL OFFICE	Steep Church of England VC Primary School 95-97 Church Road Steep Petersfield Hampshire GU32 2DE
BANKERS	NatWest Bank plc
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER	Independent Examiners Ltd The Grain Store Hills Barns Appledram Lane South Chichester West Sussex PO20 7EG

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Friends of Steep School (FOSS) is an unincorporated association governed by its constitution, which is based on the Parentkind model constitution for parent teacher associations and was adopted on 8th December 2023. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 23rd January 2024 (charity number 1206677).

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

The charity is run by a committee whose members are its trustees. Committee members are elected by the members of the association at the Annual General Meeting, and the committee may co-opt further members in accordance with the constitution. The members of the association are the parents and carers of pupils at Steep Church of England VC Primary School and the school's staff.

There were a number of changes to the committee during the year. Helen Gage (Chair) and Joanna Slater (Secretary) stepped down in 2025, and Dawn Strong, who acted as Treasurer for the year, stepped down in January 2026. Simone de Nascimento has taken on the role of Chair and Triona Benton that of Secretary, alongside Sarah Rowden. The committee is currently seeking a new Treasurer.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the main risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to its fundraising events and the handling of cash, and are satisfied that procedures are in place to manage them. As a member of Parentkind, the charity's events are covered by the public and products liability insurance arranged through Parentkind, and the charity holds a small society lottery licence for its school lottery.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Mission: To enrich the education and school experience of every child at Steep Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School by bringing our school community together, raising funds and supporting opportunities that help our children learn, grow and thrive.
Objective:
To advance the education of pupils at Steep Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, in particular by engaging in activities that bring the school community together, and helping to fund additional resources, facilities and equipment that enrich pupils' learning and school experience.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have had due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The charity's activities benefit all pupils at the school by funding equipment, facilities and activities which the school's own budget would not otherwise provide.

Achievements and performance

The year was dominated by the revamp of the Early Years outdoor area. The charity received a grant of £12,000 from East Hampshire District Council towards the project and set itself the challenge of raising matching funds by August. Thanks to the support of the school community this target was exceeded, the equipment was purchased from Playsafe for £27,152, and Reception and Year 1 started the new school year with a new outdoor space.

During the year FOSS ran 11 one-off events, including three large events - SteepFest, Bonfire Night and the Christmas Fair - alongside three regular family favourites (Steep Movies, Frozen Fridays and the weekly Cake Raffle) and six ongoing initiatives, including second-hand uniform sales, the school lottery, recycling and party pack hire. The charity also received around £6,000 in donations.

FOSS continued to fund essentials for the school, including the Listen2Me music programme and the Jigsaw PSHE programme, and passed on a grant of £1,125 from Groundwork UK (Tesco Stronger Starts) for resources for pupils with special educational needs.

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

Financial review

Total receipts for the year were £44,997 and total payments were £38,851, giving net receipts of £6,146 for the year. Cash funds at 31st December 2025 were £19,376 (1st January 2025: £13,230), all held in the charity's NatWest current account and all unrestricted.

Receipts for the year include the grant of £12,000 from East Hampshire District Council and £6,526 of cash takings from events held in late 2024 which were banked in January 2025. The main payment in the year was £27,152 for the Early Years outdoor area equipment.

Reserves policy

The charity aims to spend the funds it raises for the benefit of the pupils within a reasonable time, while holding enough to meet the up-front costs of its events and any spending already committed to the school. The funds held at the year end will be applied to the plans described below.

Plans for the future

FOSS will continue to fund essentials such as the Listen2Me music programme, PSHE and spelling programmes. Its targets for 2026 include refreshing the school's reading books and working towards one iPad per pupil in each class, improvements to the Astro turf, playground flooring and woodland area, and supporting the redecoration of the school. A key priority for 2026 is recruiting new volunteers, and a new Treasurer, to keep FOSS's work going.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' annual report and the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. As the charity's gross income is below £250,000, the Trustees have chosen to prepare receipts and payments accounts, as permitted by section 133 of the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and for safeguarding the assets of the charity, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on ...27 October 2026... and signed on its behalf by:

SRowden

Trustee

Name: Sarah Rowden

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of Steep School (the charity) for the year ended 31st December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity Trustees of Friends of Steep School 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 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 Friends of Steep School 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.

.....

Name: James Pavey
Independent Examiners Ltd
The Grain Store
Hills Barns
Appledram Lane South
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 7EG

Date: 28/10/26

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	TOTAL 2025 £
RECEIPTS			
Grants, donations and fundraising activities	**2**	38,128	38,128
Other receipts	**2**	6,869	6,869
TOTAL RECEIPTS		**44,997**	**44,997**
PAYMENTS			
Raising funds	**3**	6,327	6,327
Charitable activities	**3**	32,524	32,524
TOTAL PAYMENTS		**38,851**	**38,851**
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)		**6,146**	**6,146**
Cash funds brought forward		13,230	13,230
CASH FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**19,376**	**19,376**

All of the charity's operations are classed as continuing.

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Unrestricted Funds £	**Total 31-Dec-25 £**
Cash funds		
NatWest business current account	19,376	19,376
Total cash funds	**19,376**	**19,376**
(agrees to cash funds carried forward in the Receipts and Payments Account)		

Assets retained for the charity's own use

	Acquired	**Cost** £
Gazebo (3m x 6m, with walls)	2023	894
Catering urns (three 15 litre)	2022	245
Catering urn (30 litre)	2024	95
Candy floss machine	2022	141
Steel drinks tubs	2025	54

These assets are used in running the charity's events and are stated at cost. They are not included in the cash funds above.

Liabilities		
Independent examination fee	816	816
Trustee expenses incurred in 2025, reimbursed in January 2026	137	137
	953	**953**

The accounts were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

SRowden

Trustee

Name: Sarah Rowden

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. They show the cash received and paid during the year and the cash funds held at the year end, rather than income and expenditure.

Funds

The grant of £12,000 received from East Hampshire District Council in February 2025 was given towards the Early Years outdoor area, and the grant of £1,125 received from Groundwork UK was given for resources for pupils with special educational needs. Both grants were spent in full on those purposes during the year (note 3), so no restricted funds were held at 31st December 2025. All other funds are unrestricted general funds, available for use at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of the charity's objects.

2. RECEIPTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	**TOTAL 2025 £**
Grants		
East Hampshire District Council - Early Years outdoor area	12,000	12,000
Groundwork UK (Tesco Stronger Starts) - SEN resources	1,125	1,125
Donations	5,999	5,999
Fundraising events and activities	19,003	19,003
Grants, donations and fundraising activities	**38,128**	**38,128**
Cash takings from 2024 events banked in January 2025	6,526	6,526
Commission, refunds and compensation	343	343
Other receipts	**6,869**	**6,869**
Total receipts	**44,997**	**44,997**

3. PAYMENTS

	Unrestricted Funds £	**TOTAL 2025 £**
a) Raising funds		
Costs of fundraising events and activities	6,327	6,327
	6,327	**6,327**
b) Charitable activities		
Early Years outdoor area equipment	27,152	27,152
SEN resources (Groundwork UK grant)	1,084	1,084
Listen2Me music programme	3,500	3,500
Jigsaw PSHE programme	480	480
Parentkind membership and lottery licence	135	135
Equipment and sundry costs	173	173
	32,524	**32,524**
Total payments	**38,851**	**38,851**

FRIENDS OF STEEP SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

4. TRUSTEE REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No trustee received any remuneration or other benefit from the charity during the year.

Five trustees were reimbursed a total of £2,662 for expenses incurred on behalf of the charity, mainly the purchase of food, drink and materials for fundraising events.

No other trustee, or person connected with a trustee, received any payment from the charity during the year.

5. INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION

The fee for the independent examination of these accounts had not been paid at the year end and is shown as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.