DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 273586

Details

Other names	ABBEY GATE COLLEGE
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	01269507
Registered	1977-06-13
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Saighton Grange Saighton Chester CH3 6EN
Phone	01244332077
Email	sarah.handley@abbeygatecollege.co.uk
Website	www.abbeygatecollege.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE AND PROVIDE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND IN CONNECTION THEREWITH TO CONDUCT CARRY ON ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ANY BOARDING OR DAY COLLEGE OR COLLEGES SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS FOR THE EDUCATION OF STUDENTS AND CHILDREN OF EITHER SEX OF BOTH SEXES.

Activities: Private school for children 4 to 18

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

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Geography

- **Area of benefit:** UNITED KINGDOM
- Cheshire West & Chester

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£7,839,150	£7,689,914	£6,643,552	111
2024-08-31	£7,729,555	£7,605,792	£6,494,316	110
2023-08-31	£7,378,718	£7,202,124	£6,370,553	113
2022-08-31	£6,739,324	£6,589,695	£6,193,959	109
2021-08-31	£6,360,757	£5,951,688	£6,044,330	107
2020-08-31	£6,024,491	£5,745,305	£5,635,261	112

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Gareth Lee	Chair	2024-11-13
ANDREW FREDERICK GRIME		2012-12-31
Brian Desmond Wake		2018-11-28
Canon Rosie Woodall		2023-12-07
Damian Stenhouse		2020-11-26
Dr Simon Timothy Stanley		2016-11-30
Emma Alleyn Bunting		2016-11-30
James Brown		2021-12-02
James Goddard		2023-06-29
John Andrew Chadwick		2025-10-09
Lynne Horner		2024-07-10
Paul Carter		2019-11-21
Valerie Bounds		2025-10-09
Vanessa Nathalie Mary Brodie		2023-06-29

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DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 273586

Accounts

Registered number: 01269507
Charity number: 273586

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025



DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

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DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Directors	Andrew Grime, Chair of Governors[1,2,3,4,5] Vanessa Brodie, Chair of the Wellbeing Committee, Safeguarding Governor, EYFS Governor[4] James Brown, Chair of Finance Committee, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Governor and GDPR Governor[1,4] Emma Bunting[1] Paul Carter, Deputy Chair of Governors[2] Valarie Bounds (appointed 9 October 2025)[5] Andrew Chadwick (appointed 9 October 2025)[2] Gareth Lee, Chair of Promotions Committee (appointed 13 November 2024)[5] James Goddard[5] Lynne Horner[5] Roger Hoyle, Chair of Promotions Committee (resigned 3 March 2025)[5] Tim Stanley, PSHE & RSE Governor[1,5] Damian Stenhouse, Chair of Education Committe, EYFS Governor[2] Brian Wake, Company Secretary[3] Rosie Woodall[4]

[1] Finance Committee
[2] Education Committee
[3] Estates Committee
[4] Wellbeing Committee
[5] Promotions Committee

Derek Bunting, Noel Dutton and Jane Robinson are Foundation Governors who are entitled to atttend Directors' meetings but not to vote. Derek Bunting serves on the Finance Committee, Noel Dutton and Jane Robinson serve on the Estates Committee.

Company registered number	01269507
Charity registered number	273586
Principal and Registered office	Saighton Grange Saighton Chester CH3 6EN

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Company secretary	Brian Wake
Independent Auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Eastgate Street Chester CH1 1LG
Insurance Brokers	Assured Partners 2 Brunswick Square Birmingham B1 2LP
Senior management team	C Jenkinson, Headteacher - Senior School M Hickey, Headteacher - Infants & Juniors A Austin, Senior Deputy Headteacher M Booth, Deputy Headteacher - Academic C Houghton, Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Deeside House Educational Trust Limited for the 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The charitable company is established to promote and provide for the advancement of education. It has established Abbey Gate College, Chester (the College) to provide a first class education of high academic standard, with individual attention being given to each child. All pupils are encouraged to extend themselves to their full potential both academically and personally.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

Trustees, Governors, Senior Leaders, Staff, Parents and Pupils respectively and appropriately contribute to the on going review and implementation of the College's Strategic Plan, which includes a dynamic Development Plan and a new Self- Evaluation form for ISI inspection.

Our vision is to be the school of first choice in the area for families who seek a personalised, caring, and safe educational environment, with excellent curricular and co curricular provision, and a commitment to preserve, protect, and progress the world we all share.

In support of the College's vision, our mission is, within our safe and caring community, that each one of our pupils will become the best that they can be, and have the self belief to go forward into this changeable world with courage and with compassion.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Since foundation, the College has always aimed to develop and nurture each individual pupil's character, personal skills, and attitude around a robust core of academic excellence. This is clearly defined by our three, aspirational pillars:



All aspects of our curricular and co curricular programmes, as well as our continuing development and evolution as a school, aim to establish a strong foundation of life long resilience, compassion, and creativity, so that each pupil will become an adult with the self worth, purpose, and courage to thrive in a future world, which they will help to shape for the good of themselves and others.

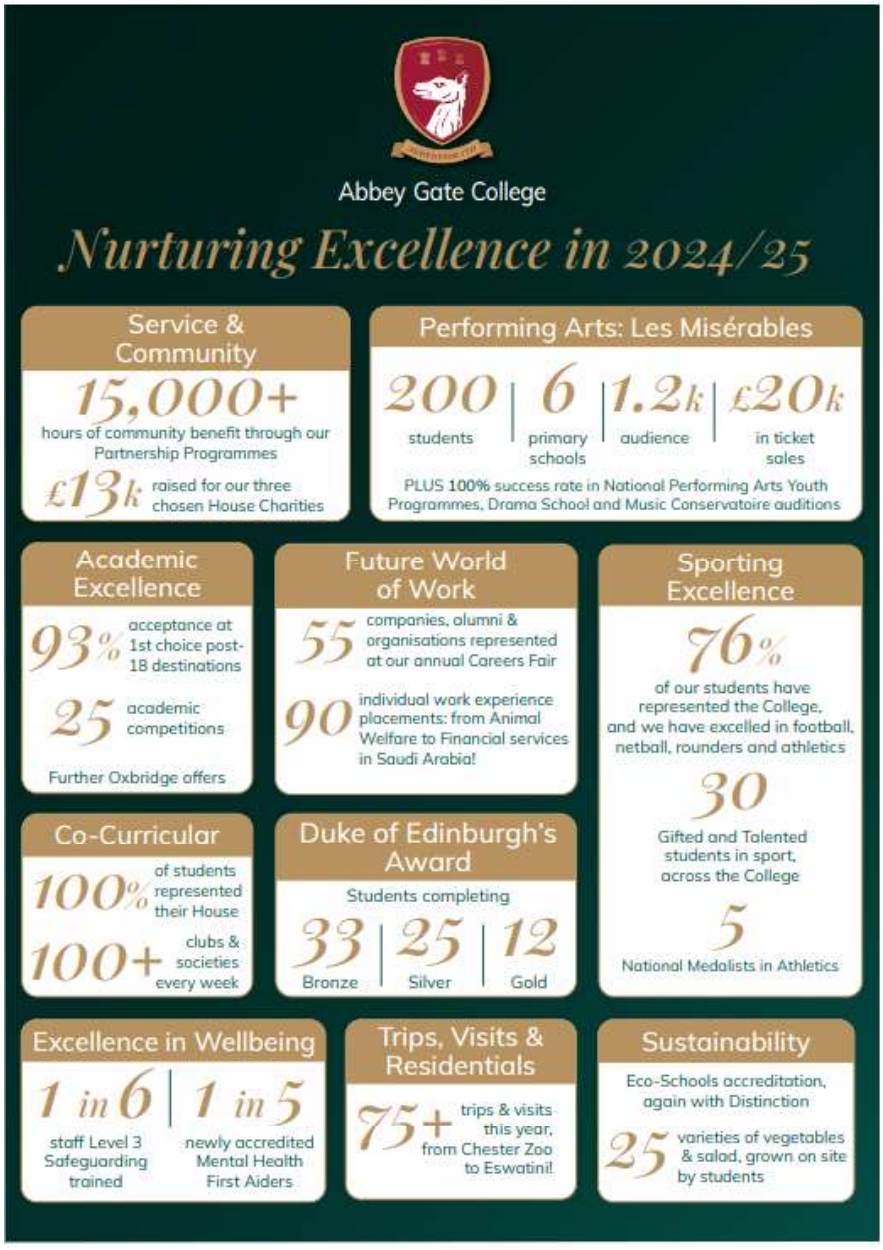
The College's motto of "Audentior Ito" was adopted for the school at its outset in 1977, when it was discovered as part of a longer quote painted on a beam in the ceiling of the Tower Room. It can still be seen there, and a replica is now proudly displayed in the main reception area of the Senior School building. Meaning "strive on boldly", it is part of the full quote taken from the Latin writer Virgil's book VI of the Aeneid from about 30 BC. The full quote is "Tu ne cede malis, sed contra, audentior ito", meaning "Do not give way to adversity/misfortune/evil, but rather strive more boldly against it".

Educationally, the College's strapline of "Nurturing Personal Excellence" aptly captures the essence of our ethos and approach.

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

In the academic year of 2024-2025, headline developments included:



Objectives and activities (continued)

1) Further strengthening and evolving the whole College's work with the core values of Self, Service, and Sustainability; aiming to ensure that each student engages purposefully with the three pillars.
2) Improved monitoring and interventions at student level for academic progress; with continuing positive 'value-added' and further improvements at GCSE.
3) Hosting our second, student-led Sustainability Conference for Chester schools, and continued annual accreditation as an 'Eco-School', awarded "with distinction".
4) Planning and organising, at student level, a full-scale Ball at Chester Racecourse, in aid of the College's three chosen charities for the year; this raised in excess of £5,000.
5) Establishing the end-of-Spring-term Cathedral service as a "Founders Service", going forward, in order to celebrate our approaching half-century.
6) Continued re-decoration, re-furnishing, and upgrades of our historical facilities, across the whole College, for students and staff.
7) Improvements to road safety by Saighton Grange and the Council's commitment to move to 20mph speed limit in the coming year.

d. Main activities undertaken to further the charitable company's purposes for the public benefit

The Directors maintain due regard to the Charity Commission's revised guidance on public benefit.

The College provided a much valued education to 465 pupils during the year at no cost to the UK Treasury. Pupils are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life. Fees are set at as low a level as possible, whilst ensuring the financial viability of and the ongoing investment in the College, and are consistent with our vision, mission, and aims.

1) The following local organisations or groups regularly benefited from the College's grounds and facilities:
- AJ Dodgeball
- AJ Tennis Camp
- Andrew Whitton Football
- Boughton Belles (Netball)
- Chester FC (Football)
- Chester Hockey Club
- Chester Music Society
- Chester Nomads (Junior Football)
- Christleton Youth Football U13's & U16's
- Eaton Estate (Football)
- Elite Netball
- Go Kids Go (Wheelchair Basketball)
- MPH Football
- Rake and Pikel (Football)
- Tattenhall Cricket
- Trinity Music (Exams)
- Willo Hockey

Objectives and activities (continued)

2) Direct service in the local community also included:

- Continued full-fee bursarial support of a Ukrainian refugee.
- Regular Drama and Music performances at three local care homes: Deewater Grange, Grosvenor Manor, Oakland.
- Home-grown produce from our Polytunnel donated to local businesses.
- Minibus loan to Saighton Primary for transport.
- Weekly minibus transportation for Saighton Primary pupils to swimming lessons.
- Chester Music Society use of the College Theatre by Chester Young Musician Competition.
- The Aldford village defibrillator is now located at our Infant & Junior School, for community access and use.
- Aldford village fete – the College provided children's fun races/games on the day (staff and equipment) and our PTA had a stall at the fete.
- VE Day Afternoon tea – residents from three local care homes joined Year 9 for a traditional tea and to talk about their war-time experience and memories.
- Love spoon workshop – a member of AGC staff spent two half days working on a D&T project with a local primary school, using our equipment to create love spoons, which was part of their history topic.
- World Bee Day – intergenerational planting project with J3 visiting Deewater Grange Care Home and installing A-Bee Gate College in the Care Home gardens.

3) Direct service in the wider, global community included:

- Service project with ‘Sense Africa’ and our link village in Eswatini – the student and staff expedition to Mlindzini High School took place in July ’24 and will return in July '26.

4) Indirect service through charitable fund raising included:

- £5,633 was raised for Stick ‘N’ Step
- £4,622 was raised for Seashell Trust
- £4,160 was raised for North Clwyd Animal Rescue
- £509 was raised for Aldford Village Hall
- £603 benefiting a further 5 charities

Objectives and activities (continued)

5) Educational partnership/benefit in the local community included:

- Performing Arts outreach teaching and support for several local primary schools, on a regular basis.
- Sports outreach competitions for local primary schools, including Chester Schoolboys Football Tournament – organised and hosted by AGC.
- Second 'Sustainability Conference' for Chester Schools, with 100 students from 10 local primary and secondary schools.
- STEM Day for 50 primary students from local schools.
- Chess Tournament for local secondary schools.

Opportunities for the education of pupils whose parents cannot afford to pay full fees are provided through the bursary scheme. Parents benefited to the extent of £148,012 in respect of 18 pupils in the year. The College engaged the services of an external, specialist company to review and advise on all bursarial applications and help to ensure that the College's practice and decisions are appropriately monitored and managed, with on going consideration of equality, diversity, and inclusion perspectives.

In the year, other fee awards, including scholarships, sibling and staff discounts (none of which are means-tested), amounted to £233,964.

Overall, this represents 36% of our students, who received some form of financial support and, thereby, a widening of access to our College.

The availability of bursary and other means tested awards are, and will continue to be, publicised on the College website and by other means. In assessing means a number of factors are taken into consideration including family income, investments, savings and family circumstances. However, as there are no endowment funds in making awards, the Board must be mindful to ensure a balance between fee paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards. One important part of the work of the Promotions & Communities Committee has been to help raise non fee income to provide an enhanced and equitable bursary provision.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Financial achievements of the College

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2025, which forms part of the financial statements that follows this report, shows a surplus of £149,236. The corresponding surplus for the previous year was £123,763. The inflationary increase in fees as from 1 September 2024 was 5.5% resulting in gross fees for the year of £6,889,887 (2024: £7,024,688).

The net cash outflow from operating activities was £87,258 (2024: £339,424 inflow). The net outflow, which is fully explained in the Statement of Cash Flows on page 27, is principally the result of lower additional fees received in advance relating to the following academic year. Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets were £113,410 (2024: £249,772). Cash at bank decreased from £3,550,270 at 31 August 2024 to £3,445,226 at 31 August 2025, primarily due to a decrease in advance fee payments received compared to the previous year.

Due to a legislative change, VAT has been charged on academic fees from 1st January 2025. Consequently Autumn term 2025 invoices were issued in the current financial year, increasing both debtors and creditors at the year end compared to previous years.

Net current assets at 31 August 2024 of £1,390,633 increased to £1,500,930 at 31 August 2025.

To be satisfied that the charitable company has adequate finance facilities to meet its obligations as they fall due and particularly when considering a project involving substantial expenditure, the Directors review detailed budgets and cash flow forecasts and regularly monitor progress against these forecasts. Forecasts are based on the number of pupils and staff in the College at commencement of the current academic year adjusted, when appropriate, to take account of significant changes as and when they happen.

As a charity, the College ensures that all income is applied for educational purposes, there is a corporation tax exemption, on educational activities and on investment income and gains provided these are applied for charitable purposes. The financial benefits received from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help to reduce fees and provide bursaries.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Review of activities

Pupil Numbers & Fees

Educational activities across a broad range of areas were carried out at the Infant and Junior School at Aldford and at the Senior School at Saighton from ages 4 to 18. The average pupil roll for the year was 465. Year 7 intake for September 2024 was around 60 and 35 in the Lower Sixth/Year 12.

The Board considers detailed budgets at their meeting in March of each year and set the fees for the forthcoming academic year at the lowest level they consider necessary to meet the running costs of the College and provide a modest surplus to enable the continued development of the facilities. In addition, parents are encouraged to contribute, by way of annual donations of £250 towards the Bursary Fund.

Inspection

A Regulatory Compliance Inspection was carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in February 2018.

An Educational Quality Inspection, including a Focused Compliance Inspection, was also carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in April 2022.

Copies of the respective reports are in the public domain and also available on the College's website at https://abbeygatecollege.co.uk.

In the most recent report, inspectors agreed that: "The school is successful in meeting its aim to enable pupils to have the self confidence to go forward into the changeable world with courage and compassion."

Academic & Other Achievements

Value-added at GCSE and A level remains positive and strong, evidencing excellent progress for students at an individual level.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

A2 Headline Results (Percentage of Entries)

	A*	A	B	C	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C
2025	7%	20%	26%	24%	**26%**	**53%**	**76%**
2024	11%	19%	28%	18%	30%	59%	77%
2023	5%	18%	31%	25%	23%	54%	79%
2022	19%	30%	29%	12%	49%	78%	90%
2021	25%	22%	28%	18%	47%	75%	94%
2020	11%	28%	34%	24%	40%	74%	97%
2019	10%	14%	32%	28%	24%	56%	84%
2018	6%	20%	30%	24%	25%	55%	79%

Post-18 Further Detail 2025

- First choice acceptance for Higher Education institutions is 91%

A2 Further Detail 2025

Of the 40 students who were entered for A2 Levels in 2025:

- 7 students achieved at least AAA
- 12 students achieved at least ABB
- A Level Average Point Score per Entry is 34.64
- A Level Average Point Score per Pupil is 109.03

	9-8	9-7	9-5	9-4
2025	**12%**	**30%**	73%	91%
2024	19%	35%	79%	92%
2023	18%	34%	76%	91%
2022	27%	47%	85%	96%
2021	21%	43%	87%	97%
2020	18%	41%	86%	99%
2019	14%	34%	81%	94%
2018	10%	21%	71%	93%

GCSE Further Detail 2025

- North West 9-7 is 18.8%
- North West 9-4 is 64.2%

Of the 58 pupils who were entered for GCSEs in 2025:

- 5 pupils achieve at least 8 GCSEs at Grade 7/8/9
- 19 pupils achieved at least 8 GCSEs at Grade 6/7/8/9
- 28 pupils achieve 5 Strong Passes including English and Maths
- 50 pupils achieved 5 Standard Passes including English and Maths

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Additionally, a small selection (among many) of other highlights included:

- Educational Visits to the following overseas countries:
  - Eswatini
  - Iceland
  - France
  - Belgium
  - Poland
- KS3 Drama Club performed 'Three Tall Tales – A Garden Gala', with an afternoon of family activities such as a PTA mini-fete, garden games and a vintage car display.
- Our alumni choristers performed Evensong in Liverpool Cathedral again, and the College Chapel Choir visited St. Paul's, London, by specific invitation, as well as the Summer term tour, this time in Hereford.

A selection of headlines in relation to sport include:

- Football runners-up in U18 Cheshire Small Schools Cup
- Y13 400m Hurdles Commonweath Youth Games - silver medallist
- Y13 Neston 1st team cricketer
- Y12 Connahs Quay football scholar and Academy player
- Y12 Cheshire Schoolboys U18 captain
- Y12 Tensworth hockey and Deeside Ladies 1st team
- Y10 Crewe Alexandra - Academy footballer
- Y10 Tranmere Rovers - Academy footballer
- Y10 Tennis nationally ranked
- Y9 Chester Schoolboys & Chester FC footballer
- Y9 Tensworh hockey and Deeside 2nd team
- Y9 Judo national level
- Y8 Chester FC
- Y8 Cheshire cricketer
- Y7 Tennis U12 North Wales champion

ISA North Athletics:

- Y10 x 2 1st in Javelin
- Y10 1st in Shot Putt
- Y10 1st in Long Jump
- Y9 1st in Hurdles
- Y9 1st in Triple Jump
- Y9 1st in Javelin
- Y7 1st in Hurdles
- Y7 x 2 1st in 100m

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Factors relevant to achieve objectives

Additional to activities undertaken to achieve objectives, parental surveys included the following areas for appreciation:

- "The College is enabling my child to thrive."
- "The caring and nurturing environment."
- "Opportunities in sport, music and extra-curricular activities."
- "Surroundings and location."
- "That my child is happy."
- "Inspiring learning environment."
- "The College cares about wellbeing."
- "Enthusiastic teaching staff."
- "Abbey Gate provides a happy place for learning."
- "The College is a broad church and doesn't overly focus on academia, whilst also allowing the academic performers to do well."
- "Dedicated teaching staff that nurture and provide an enriching experience for my children to learn and evolve."
- "The fantastic teacher/student relationships."
- "Children are kind and caring."
- "Nurturing our child's love for learning in a safe and supportive environment."
- "Each child has a voice and feels heard and not just a number."
- "The surroundings and facilities are kept so well."
- "I love the warm and nurturing environment that Abbey Gate College provides for my child. My daughter is extremely happy here, and I truly appreciate how inclusive the school is."
- "Abbey Gate as a whole has so far proved to be truly wonderful. My daughter is thriving there and is proud to be part of the community. The standards throughout the school and expectations are high which I appreciate. The ethos of the school is different to that of others and makes it stand apart."
- "The caring and professional team are second to none."
- "My child's confidence because they are comfortable to be who they are."
- "The food is great, my child is happy and contented and seems to love most classes and enjoys being part of the school."
- "Strong arts programme."
- "Pastoral care."
- "The Infant and Junior is particularly nurturing and exceptionally well managed."
- "The care given to each individual child and how they are made to feel special for their individual talents."
- "The nurturing environment enables children to be happy, expressive and achieve the best they can academically."
- "Friendly, approachable teachers and staff."

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Similarly, student surveys included the following areas of appreciation:

- "All the teachers treat pupils with respect and honesty and encourage us to do our best." (Y5)
- "The College does well, because all the trips are fun, teachers are kind, the College is great, food is awesome." (Y5)
- "Making students included and safe." (Y5)
- "The College has a kind and caring community, and good food." (Y6)
- "The College does good food, trips, sports, kind, caring. It's the first school that I feel like at home." (Y6)
- "Lots of trips and fixtures." (Y6)
- "Makes you feel safe and challenges you to do your best. They also give you great sporting fixtures where they support you lots!" (Y7)
- "The College does learning seriously and does not tolerate bad behaviour, which is good." (Y7)
- "Everything! From fixtures right the way through to lessons, I enjoy spending time at this school." (Y7)
- "College makes sure each form and person has someone they can speak to individually: eg teachers and staff. The school also makes sure that everyone's voices are heard: eg form representatives and their meetings." (Y7)
- "Food, learning, sports." (Y7)
- "The College is a safe environment where I can learn and experience new opportunities and my teachers understand each person's individual needs in order to help them to learn in the best way possible. The teachers are fair and deal with people that may break any rules." (Y7)
- "It supports me as an individual. I feel safe and happy. I am in a good work environment and the teachers are fabulous and kind. I enjoy class and doing projects. I love the amount of opportunities that we are offered, even in my first year." (Y7)
- "All the sporting events and opportunities also with singing and drama." (Y7)
- "Teachers are always friendly and know me." (Y7)
- "The College is good at helping us learn while not stressing us out and has a good amount of homework." (Y8)
- "Building a community and making you feel welcomed." (Y8)
- "They are good at making sure everyone feels included." (Y9)
- "I think the College assemblies are always on really good, positive topics. I feel safe at the College, and I feel I have made some good friends. I think teachers at the College are really understanding and supportive." (Y9)
- "Lesson times and movement are the right amount, most staff are friendly and make it easy to talk about problems, the gardens are beautiful." (Y10)
- "Teachers are good at getting to know pupils and understanding what each pupil needs to learn effectively." (Y10)
- "I like that the teachers treat students as equals, rather than inferior to themselves. Most staff members can make a connection with students, allowing the student to enjoy their learning experience more." (Y10)
- "The College makes you feel safe and secure and I always feel there is someone to tell if I'm feeling unsafe." (Y10)
- "Providing school trips, clubs, and organising sport matches and competitions." (Y11)
- "Organising events and opportunities for pupils to take part in. Making the school feel like a safe and enjoyable environment. School lunches are good." (Y12)
- "I think the College is able to emphasise the importance of pastoral-based activities and does a good job in making Sixth Form a good environment. It is a school that emphasises on the community feel and does a good job at it. They also have good cookies so it's a bonus." (Y12)
- "Makes everyone feel like an individual person and not just a number." (Y12)
- "Extracurricular activities such as the Choir and other activities in the Performing Arts department." (Y13)
- "There is a strong sense of community that makes everyone feel safe and welcome." (Y13)

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

d. Investment policy and performance

The Charity has no endowment funds and, as the Board policy is to invest all surplus financial resources in improvements to the infrastructure of the College, there are no significant amounts available for investment. Surplus cash is placed with deposit taking institutions for short periods to maximise interest income.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The charitable company has total funds at 31 August 2025 of £6,643,552 (2024: £6,494,316) of which unrestricted funds are £6,568,462 (2024: £6,410,461) and restricted funds £75,090 (2024: £83,855). Of the unrestricted funds, £150,000 (2024: £150,000) have been designated to a Capital Fund. Tangible fixed assets are £5,441,332 (2024: £5,497,741) thereby resulting in positive free reserves of £977,130 (2024: £762,720).

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Directors are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the charitable company. They identify risks and assess the impact and establish controls to minimise the effect of major risks. A formal process of review of the risks is undertaken on an on going and no less than annual basis, with a full Risk Register maintained by the College and the Board of Governors.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee with charity number 273586 and was set up by a Memorandum of Association dated 29 February 2012.

The principal objects of the charitable company as set out in its Articles are to promote and provide for the advancement of education and, in connection therewith, to carry on any school for the education of children of either sex. The charitable company carries on its activities through Abbey Gate College.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the charitable company appoint the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is the Governing Body of the College and the Trustee Board of the charitable company. Board members receive no remuneration for their services as Trustees, Directors or Governors. They are legally responsible as charity Trustees, and as Directors and Governors, for the overall management and control of the charitable company and its educational establishment Abbey Gate College. The Board operates under agreed Terms of Reference and are required to confirm at each Board meeting whether or not they have any conflict of interest.

The Board meets at least once each academic term to review and approve the management affairs of the College and the Head Teacher and Finance Manager are invited to, and report at, these meetings. In addition, the Board meets as necessary without the Head Teacher and Finance Manager being present to review the affairs of the charity that do not impact directly on the College. Such matters relate principally to the succession of Board members and members of the charitable company.

The Board strives to maintain a broad range of skills within its membership and anyone expressing an interest in joining may be invited to do so by the Board. Recruitment to the Board is from within the membership of the charitable company and often follows an invitation to serve on one of the committees of the Board which enables individuals to offer advice in their particular field.

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

An induction programme operates which involves familiarisation of new members with the organisation of the College and its affairs, clarifying their individual responsibilities, safeguarding induction and training, and ongoing attendance at appropriate external training sessions and conferences dependent on the needs identified.

d. Pay policy for key management personnel

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Directors and the Head Teacher. The Directors meet once a year to review salary benchmarking information relating to this position and set salary and benefit packages accordingly.

e. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board appoints a Head Teacher who is responsible for the overall leadership, management and day to day running of the College and is supported by Leadership Teams of senior and middle leaders.

5 sub committees operate within the governing structure:

1) Education Committee
2) Wellbeing Committee
3) Finance Committee
4) Promotions Committee
5) Estates Committee

Specific Terms of Reference exist for each sub committee along with a regular routine of reporting to the Board each term.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

The Directors are mindful of the prevailing economic conditions and have set a revenue budget and capital expenditure plans for the year to 31 August 2026 based on tight financial management with associated fees at as low a level that is considered prudent after considering the needs of the College. Significant investment in new facilities will only be undertaken when resources permit.

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report including the Strategic report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Auditors

The auditors, WR Partners, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



James Brown
Director

Date: 4th December 2025.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Deeside House Educational Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2025 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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 course of 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The audit team obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are those which relate to the reporting framework (The Charity SORP 2019), the relevant tax compliance regulations and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We understood how the charitable company complies with these frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We also reviewed board minutes to identify any recorded instances of irregularity or non-compliance that might have a material impact on the financial statements.

We reviewed the susceptibility of the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud may occur by meeting with key management to understand where they considered there was a susceptibly to fraud. Based on our understanding our procedures involved enquiries of management and those charged with governance, manual journal entry testing, cashbook reviews for large and unusual items and the challenge of significant estimates used in preparing the financial statements.

We reviewed the charitable company's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the charitable company and its environment and identify and instances of non-compliance. We also assessed the charitable company's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.

The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and charity awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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 Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Chris Speakman FCCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
WR Partners

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Date: 5/12/2025

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	**3,835**	**-**	**3,835**	*7,713*
Charitable activities	5	**-**	**7,739,691**	**7,739,691**	*7,619,202*
Investments	7	**-**	**95,624**	**95,624**	*102,640*
Total income		**3,835**	**7,835,315**	**7,839,150**	*7,729,555*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	**12,600**	**7,677,314**	**7,689,914**	*7,605,792*
Total expenditure		**12,600**	**7,677,314**	**7,689,914**	*7,605,792*
Net movement in funds		**(8,765)**	**158,001**	**149,236**	*123,763*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**83,855**	**6,410,461**	**6,494,316**	*6,370,553*
Net movement in funds		**(8,765)**	**158,001**	**149,236**	*123,763*
Total funds carried forward		**75,090**	**6,568,462**	**6,643,552**	*6,494,316*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 28 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01269507

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note		2025 £		*2024 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**5,441,332**		*5,497,741*
			5,441,332		*5,497,741*
Current assets					
Stocks	13	**6,443**		*13,712*	
Debtors	14	**2,057,461**		*206,506*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**3,445,226**		*3,550,270*	
		5,509,130		*3,770,488*	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	**(4,008,200)**		*(2,379,855)*	
Net current assets			**1,500,930**		*1,390,633*
Total assets less current liabilities			**6,942,262**		*6,888,374*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		**(298,710)**		*(394,058)*
Total net assets			**6,643,552**		*6,494,316*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	*2024 £*
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	**75,090**	*83,855*
Unrestricted funds	18	**6,568,462**	*6,410,461*
Total funds		**6,643,552**	*6,494,316*

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

James Brown
Director

Date: 12th December 2025.

The notes on pages 28 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	**(87,258)**	*339,424*
Cash flows from investing activities		
Capital expenditure	**(113,410)**	*(249,772)*
Net cash used in investing activities	**(113,410)**	**(249,772)**
Cash flows from financing activities		
Bank investment interest received	**95,624**	*102,640*
Net cash provided by financing activities	**95,624**	**102,640**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**(105,044)**	**192,292**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**3,550,270**	*3,357,978*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**3,445,226**	*3,550,270*

The notes on pages 28 to 46 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. General information

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the charity are the trustees named on page 1 of these accounts. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £20 per member of the charitable company.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charitable company's accounting policies.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charitable company which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

Fees receivable and charges for services and use of the premises, less any allowances, scholarships, bursaries granted by the School against those fees, but including contributions received from restricted funds, are accounted for in the period in which the services are provided.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charitable company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure (continued)

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, on both a straight line and reducing balance basis.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% - 7% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% written down value
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% - 25% straight line

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2.14 Pensions

The charitable company contributes to personal pension plans for non-teaching and teaching staff. Contributions to pension schemes are charged to expenditure as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.16 Prepaid Fees Scheme

The College operates a prepaid fees scheme and parents may, subject to contractual terms and conditions, pay to the College tuition fees in advance. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charitable company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

- Depreciation rates are determined based on the estimated useful life of the asset.
- Residual value estimates are based on the estimated value at the end of the useful economic life of the asset.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Donations	3,835	**3,835**	*7,713*
Total 2024	*7,713*	*7,713*	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Teaching	7,739,691	**7,739,691**	*7,619,202*
Total 2024	*7,619,202*	*7,619,202*	

6. Analysis of income from charitable activities by type of income

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Gross fees receivable	-	6,889,887	**6,889,887**	*7,024,688*
Less: scholarships, bursaries and other discounts	-	(261,062)	**(261,062)**	*(326,967)*
Other income from charitable activity	-	1,110,866	**1,110,866**	*921,481*
Donations	3,835	-	**3,835**	*7,713*
	3,835	7,739,691	**7,743,526**	*7,626,915*
Total 2024	*7,713*	*7,619,202*	*7,626,915*	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	*Total funds 2024 £*
Other investment income	95,624	**95,624**	*102,640*
Total 2024	*102,640*	*102,640*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	*Total 2024 £*
Teaching	-	4,417,972	**4,417,972**	*4,441,612*
Catering Costs	-	483,864	**483,864**	*497,881*
Bus costs	-	361,229	**361,229**	*344,633*
Premises	-	911,062	**911,062**	*947,185*
Support costs of schooling	12,600	1,479,087	**1,491,687**	*1,353,181*
Governance	-	24,100	**24,100**	*21,300*
	12,600	7,677,314	**7,689,914**	*7,605,792*
Total 2024	*16,478*	*7,589,314*	*7,605,792*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2025 £	Depreciation 2025 £	Other costs 2025 £	**Total 2025 £**	*Total 2024 £*
Teaching	4,280,889	30,852	106,231	**4,417,972**	*4,441,612*
Catering Costs	-	12,760	471,104	**483,864**	*497,881*
Bus costs	-	13,641	347,588	**361,229**	*344,633*
Premises	268,828	102,177	540,057	**911,062**	*947,185*
Support costs of schooling	593,878	10,388	887,421	**1,491,687**	*1,353,181*
Governance	-	-	24,100	**24,100**	*21,300*
	5,143,595	169,818	2,376,501	**7,689,914**	*7,605,792*
Total 2024	*5,111,401*	*196,123*	*2,298,268*	*7,605,792*	

9. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Depreciation	**169,819**	*196,123*
Operating lease charges	**192,237**	*184,073*
Auditors remuneration	**14,900**	*13,700*
	376,956	*393,896*

10. Staff costs

	2025 £	*2024* *£*
Wages and salaries	**3,987,360**	*3,939,308*
Social security costs	**415,753**	*404,733*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**740,482**	*767,360*
	5,143,595	*5,111,401*

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2025 No.	*2024* *No.*
Teaching Staff	**85**	*84*
Support Staff	**26**	*26*
	111	*110*

While the average headcount increased marginally during the year, the total full-time equivalent (FTE) staffing level declined, attributable to a higher proportion of part-time roles within the College.

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2025 No.	*2024* *No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	**4**	*4*
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	**-**	*1*
In the band £100,001 - £200,000	**1**	-

During the year key management personnel received remuneration totalling £498,619 (2024: £495,669).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2024 - £NIL)*.

During the year, no Trustee expenses have been incurred *(2024 - £NIL)*.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2024	**5,346,310**	**203,344**	**2,282,115**	**7,831,769**
Additions	**54,976**	**-**	**58,434**	**113,410**
At 31 August 2025	**5,401,286**	**203,344**	**2,340,549**	**7,945,179**
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2024	**372,836**	**107,648**	**1,853,544**	**2,334,028**
Charge for the year	**40,402**	**16,831**	**112,586**	**169,819**
At 31 August 2025	**413,238**	**124,479**	**1,966,130**	**2,503,847**
Net book value				
At 31 August 2025	**4,988,048**	**78,865**	**374,419**	**5,441,332**
At 31 August 2024	*4,973,474*	*95,696*	*428,571*	*5,497,741*

13. Stocks

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Finished goods and goods for resale	**6,443**	*13,712*

14. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**1,876,653**	*21,503*
Other debtors	**5,826**	*5,334*
Prepayments and accrued income	**174,982**	*179,669*
	2,057,461	*206,506*

In the current year, 2025 Autumn term fee invoices were dated in the 2025 financial year. The income has been appropriately deferred, however this has resulted in a large increase to trade debtors, deferred income and VAT payable. The net assets remain unaffected.

15. Cash at bank

Various society, sports and similar clubs maintain bank accounts which are administered by the College.

The balance on these various bank accounts is included within cash in bank at 31 August 2025, and within creditors; amounts falling due within one year, is £30,156 (2024: £25,001). The income paid into these accounts in the year to 31 August 2025 of £11,501 (2024: £10,538) is not income of the College and is therefore not included in incoming resources within the Statement of Financial Activities. The expenditure from these accounts was £6,345 (2024: £8,632) in the year.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Fees in advance	**1,019,690**	*1,537,603*
Trade creditors	**207,844**	*175,003*
Advance fee contracts	**150,033**	*144,555*
Repayable deposits	**160,210**	*162,635*
Other taxation and social security	**536,700**	*90,207*
Other creditors	**208,763**	*154,080*
Accruals and deferred income	**1,724,960**	*115,772*
	4,008,200	*2,379,855*

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Repayable deposits	**246,260**	*220,585*
Advance fee contracts	**52,450**	*173,473*
	298,710	*394,058*

Advance Fee Contracts

Certain parents have entered into contracts to discharge, under certain conditions, the equivalent of up to seven years' tuition fees in advance. Amounts received from advanced fee contracts are included in cash at bank and are dealt with as unrestricted funds. Assuming the pupils concerned remain in College for the expected academic years, advance fees will be applied to fee income as follows:

Movements in the year were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Balance at 1 September 2023	**318,029**	*87,029*
Amounts received in the year	**29,010**	*265,718*
Amounts utilised in the period in settlement of fees	**(144,555)**	*(34,718)*
	202,484	*318,029*

Repayable Deposits

Deposits are taken when pupils commence their education at the College and are repaid when the pupils leave. Hence, the College recognises the asset and the liability in the balance sheet. Assuming the pupils remain in the College for the expected academic years the deposits will be repaid as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts repayable within one year	**160,210**	*162,635*
Amounts repayable between 1 to 5 years	**100,675**	*91,250*
Amounts repayable after 5 years	**145,585**	*129,335*
	406,470	*383,220*

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	-	-	(144,177)	144,177	-
Capital fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
	150,000	-	(144,177)	144,177	150,000
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	6,260,461	7,835,315	(7,533,137)	(144,177)	6,418,462
Total Unrestricted funds	6,410,461	7,835,315	(7,677,314)	-	6,568,462
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	13,733	3,835	(3,835)	-	13,733
Capital Expenditure	70,122	-	(8,765)	-	61,357
	83,855	3,835	(12,600)	-	75,090
Total of funds	6,494,316	7,839,150	(7,689,914)	-	6,643,552

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated funds
Bursary fund - Over the last 40 years the provision of bursary places has transformed lives, enabling pupils from all backgrounds to follow their dreams and become the person they want to be. The Abbey Gate College Bursary Fund provides children with the opportunity to realise their individual potential through an outstanding education, regardless of financial circumstances.

Capital fund - The Capital Fund was established in 2021 and has been set up to fund capital purchases and developments over the next 5 years. The college are looking to improve the school facilities in order to enhance the learning of pupils. Proposed projects include enhancing the refectory at the senior school, improving the sixth form provision and extending the science laboratories.

During the year £144,177 (2024: £139,677) was expended in relation to the Bursary Fund.

Restricted funds
Restricted income includes donations received during the year of £3,835 (2024: £7,713) for the development of teaching facilities and bursaries. £3,835 (2024: £7,713) was utilised during the year to support pupils through the bursary scheme. The restricted fund balance for teaching facilities and bursaries is £nil (2024: £nil).

£nil (2024: £nil) of the restricted donation received in 2014/15 for visits to the Royal Philharmonic was expended, with £3,800 remaining of the original £10,000 donation. The restricted fund also includes £9,933 for a variety of purposes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Balance at 31 August 2024* £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	-	-	*(139,677)*	*139,677*	-
Capital fund	*150,000*	-	-	-	*150,000*
	150,000	-	*(139,677)*	*139,677*	*150,000*
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	*6,127,933*	*7,721,842*	*(7,449,637)*	*(139,677)*	*6,260,461*
Total Unrestricted funds	*6,277,933*	*7,721,842*	*(7,589,314)*	-	*6,410,461*
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	*13,733*	*7,713*	*(7,713)*	-	*13,733*
Capital Expenditure	*78,887*	-	*(8,765)*	-	*70,122*
	92,620	*7,713*	*(16,478)*	-	*83,855*
Total of funds	*6,370,553*	*7,729,555*	*(7,605,792)*	-	*6,494,316*

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,441,332	**5,441,332**
Current assets	75,090	5,425,455	**5,500,545**
Creditors due within one year	-	(3,999,615)	**(3,999,615)**
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(298,710)	**(298,710)**
Total	75,090	6,568,462	**6,643,552**

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2024 £	*Unrestricted funds 2024 £*	*Total funds 2024 £*
Tangible fixed assets	-	*5,497,741*	*5,497,741*
Current assets	*83,855*	*3,686,633*	*3,770,488*
Creditors due within one year	-	*(2,379,855)*	*(2,379,855)*
Creditors due in more than one year	-	*(394,058)*	*(394,058)*
Total	*83,855*	*6,410,461*	*6,494,316*

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**149,236**	*123,763*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**169,819**	*196,040*
Interest income	**(95,624)**	*(102,640)*
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	**7,269**	*(1,253)*
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(2,568,416)**	*18,747*
Increase in creditors	**2,250,458**	*104,767*
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	**(87,258)**	*339,424*

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	*2024 £*
Cash in hand	**3,445,226**	*3,550,270*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**3,445,226**	*3,550,270*

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**3,550,270**	**(105,044)**	**3,445,226**
Debt due within 1 year	**(144,555)**	**(5,478)**	**(150,033)**
Debt due after 1 year	**(220,585)**	**(25,675)**	**(246,260)**
	3,185,130	**(136,197)**	**3,048,933**

23. Pension commitments

Pension Arrangements

During the year, the College began a phased withdrawal from the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS), with no new joiners permitted to join this scheme. A new defined contribution pension scheme was introduced for existing teacher staff and new starters, in line with the College's pension strategy.

The College offers a defined contribution "Stakeholder" schemes to both teaching and non-teaching staff. Total contributions to these schemes for the year ended 31 August 2025 were £268,231 (2024: £43,354), of which £203,226 (2024: £nil) related to teaching staff moving from TPS and joining the new scheme. Contributions outstanding at the year-end were £35,018 (2024: £9,850). The increase in contributions reflects the introduction of the new scheme for teachers and increased staff participation.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

From 31 August 2024 the TPS is closed to new members and existing teachers have the option whether to remain in the TPS or move to the defined contribution scheme.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy).This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.

- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million. The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £472,430 (2024: £725,716) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2025 was £50,977 (2024: £88,703).

23. Pension commitments (continued)

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the College has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The College has set out above, the information available on the scheme.

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2025 the charitable company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025	*2024*
	£	*£*
Not later than 1 year	**137,054**	*155,068*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**488,668**	*444,836*
Later than 5 years	**852,616**	*959,193*
	1,478,338	*1,559,097*

25. Related party transactions

During the year, reimbursement of Directors expenses amounted to £nil relating to 0 Director (2024: £25 relating to 1 Director) in relation to travel and subsistence.

During the year six children of three Directors and two grandchildren of one other director (2024: Eight family relatives of four Directors) attended the college. Fee discounts are awarded on the same basis as available to other parents.

26. Controlling party

The College, having no share capital, is under the control of the Board of Directors, who are also the Trustees of the College.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 273586

Accounts

Registered number: 01269507
Charity number: 273586

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

WR Partners
Protecting your future.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

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DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Directors	Andrew Grime, Chair of Governors[1,2,3,4,5] Vanessa Brodie, Chair of the Wellbeing Committee, Safeguarding Governor[4] James Brown, Chair of Finance Committee, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Governor and GDPR Governor[1,4] Emma Bunting[1] Paul Carter, Deputy Chair of Governors, Deputy Chair of Education Committee & EYFS Governor[2] Fraser Crewe, Chair of Estates Committee (resigned 29 April 2024)[3] James Goddard[5] Lynne Horner (appointed 10 July 2024)[5] Roger Hoyle, Chair of Promotions Committee[5] Tim Stanley, PSHE & RSE Governor[1,5] Damian Stenhouse, Chair of Education Committee, ECT, SEND and MAGaT Governor[2] Brian Wake, Company Secretary[3] Rosie Woodall (appointed 5 June 2024)[4]

[1] Finance Committee
[2] Education Committee
[3] Estates Committee
[4] Wellbeing Committee
[5] Promotions Committee

Derek Bunting, Noel Dutton and Jane Robinson are Foundation Governors who are entitled to atttend Directors' meetings but not to vote. Derek Bunting serves on the Finance Committee, Noel Dutton and Jane Robinson serve on the Estates Committee.

Company registered number	01269507
Charity registered number	273586
Principal and Registered office	Saighton Grange Saighton Chester CH3 6EN

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITABLE COMPANY, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Company secretary	Brian Wake
Independent Auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Union Street Chester CH1 1UA
Solicitors	Jolliffe & Co Exchange House White Friars Chester CH1 1DP
Insurance Brokers	Hettle Andrews 2 Brunswick Square Birmingham B1 2LP
Senior management team	C Jenkinson, Headteacher - Senior School M Hickey, Headteacher - Infants & Juniors A Austin, Senior Deputy Headteacher M Booth, Deputy Headteacher - Academic C Houghton, Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The charitable company is established to promote and provide for the advancement of education. It has established Abbey Gate College, Chester (the College) to provide a first class education of high academic standard, with individual attention being given to each child. All pupils are encouraged to extend themselves to their full potential both academically and personally.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

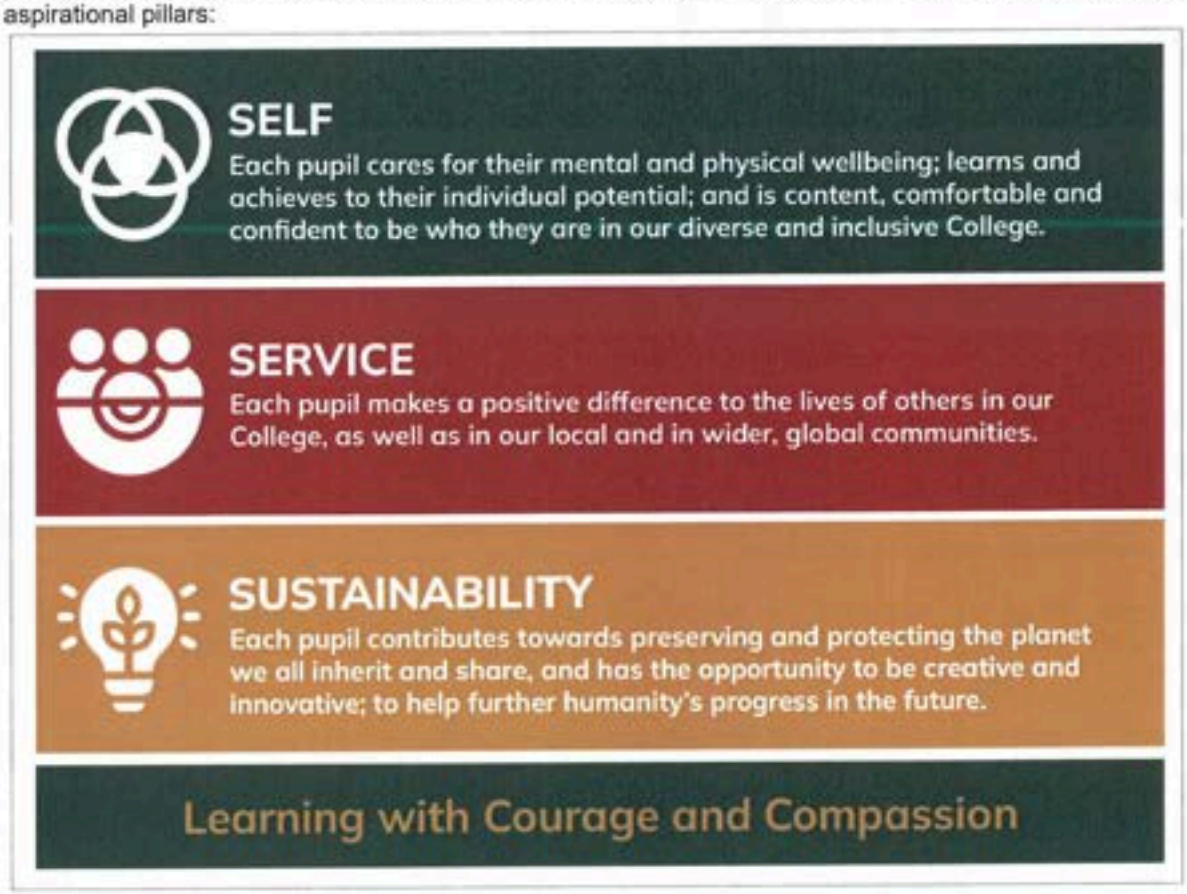
Trustees, Governors, Senior Leaders, Staff, Parents and Pupils respectively and appropriately contribute to the on going review and implementation of the College's Strategic Plan, which includes a dynamic Development Plan.

Our vision is to be the school of first choice in the area for families who seek a personalised, caring, and safe educational environment, with excellent curricular and co curricular provision, and a commitment to preserve, protect, and progress the world we all share.

In support of the College's vision, our mission is, within our safe and caring community, that each one of our pupils will become the best that they can be, and have the self belief to go forward into this changeable world with courage and with compassion.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Since foundation, the College has always aimed to develop and nurture each individual pupil's character, personal skills, and attitude around a robust core of academic excellence. This is clearly defined by our three, aspirational pillars:



All aspects of our curricular and co curricular programmes, as well as our continuing development and evolution as a school, aim to establish a strong foundation of life long resilience, compassion, and creativity, so that each pupil will become an adult with the self worth, purpose, and courage to thrive in a future world, which they will help to shape for the good of themselves and others.

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

In the academic year of 2023-2024, headline developments included:

1) Further strengthening and evolving the whole College's work with the core values of Self, Service, and Sustainability;
2) Improved monitoring and interventions at student level for academic progress;
3) Establishing and hosting our first, student-led Sustainability Conference for Chester schools;
4) Continued re-decoration, re-furnishing, and upgrades of our historical facilities, across the whole College, or students and staff;
5) New music practice rooms in our Junior School;
6) Establishment of a Swing Band;
7) New Wellbeing rooms in our Senior School;
8) Further development and impact of our House system, with increased student leadership and relationship with chosen charities;
9) Further development of the College's professional development programme and practices, including specific coaching approaches and training;
10) Enhancement of our Duke of Edinburgh staffing team, covering Bronze, Silver & Gold;
11) Establishment of a Teaching Staff Committee with formal ToRs;
12) Introduction of a new Handwriting scheme in our Infant & Junior School;
13) Further review and development of the College's digital strategy, with in-house action research, student and staff voice;
14) Improvements to road safety by Saighton Grange and the Council's commitment to move to 20mph speed limit in the coming year;
15) Continued annual accreditation as an 'Eco-School', awarded "with distinction".

Objectives and activities (continued)

d. Main activities undertaken to further the charitable company's purposes for the public benefit

The Directors maintain due regard to the Charity Commission's revised guidance on public benefit.

The College provided a much valued education to 496 pupils during the year at no cost to the UK Treasury. Pupils are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life. Fees are set at as low a level as possible, whilst ensuring the financial viability of and the ongoing investment in the College, and are consistent with our vision, mission, and aims.

1) The following local organisations or groups regularly benefited from the College's grounds and facilities:

- AJ Dodgeball
- AJ Tennis Camp
- Andrew Whitton Football
- Boughton Belles (Netball)
- Chester FC (Football)
- Chester Hockey Club
- Chester Music Society
- Chester Nomads (Junior Football)
- Christleton Youth Football U13's & U16's
- Eaton Estate (Football)
- Elite Netball
- Farndon Netball
- Go Kids Go (Wheelchair Basketball)
- MPH Football
- North West Panthers (Netball)
- Rake and Pikel (Football)
- Tattenhall Cricket
- Trinity Music (Exams)
- Willo Hockey
- Worknest (Football)

2) Direct service in the local community also included:

- Continued full-fee bursarial support of a Ukrainian refugee.
- Regular Drama and Music performances at three local care homes: Deewater Grange, Grosvenor Manor, Oakland.
- Home-grown produce from our Polytunnel donated to local businesses.
- Minibus loan to Saighton Primary for transport.
- Weekly minibus transportation for Saighton Primary pupils to swimming lessons.
- Chester Music Society use of the College Theatre by Chester Young Musician Competition.
- College defibrillator used by a member of science staff to build confidence and competence within the community in how to administer CPR and use a defibrillator. Local scout groups involved. Over 100 people now know how to administer CPR and use a defibrillator since 2021. The Aldford village defibrillator is now located at our Infant & Junior School, for community access and use.
- Aldford village fete – the College provided children's fun races/games on the day (staff and equipment) and our PTA had a stall at the fete.

3) Direct service in the wider, global community included:

- Service project with 'Sense Africa' and our link village in Eswatini – the student and staff expedition to Mlindzini High School took place in July '24.

Objectives and activities (continued)

4) Indirect service through charitable fund raising included:

- £2,410 was raised for Cancer Research UK
- £2,111 was raised for Clatterbridge Cancer Charity
- £2,004 was raised for Hope House Children's Hospices
- £888 was raised for Comic Relief
- £498 was raised for MacMillan Cancer Support
- £523 benefiting a further 3 charities

5) Educational partnership/benefit in the local community included:

- Performing Arts outreach teaching and support for several local primary schools, on a regular basis.
- Sports outreach competitions for local primary schools.
- First 'Sustainability Conference' for Chester Schools, with 50 students.
- Dr Emily Hauser visiting academic/lecturer/author talk - two schools joined us, including Christleton High School for whom transportation was provided, to enable them to attend.
- 'Academy Learning' event where four other schools joined us. Gifted and talented students were exposed to higher order thinking and met peers in other schools, involving 80-100 students.
- Head Gardener donated several mornings to help clear up the gardens for the children at Eccleston Primary.
- Minibus provided with driver to take Eccleston primary children to the flower show where they were entering a competition.

Opportunities for the education of pupils whose parents cannot afford to pay full fees are provided through the bursary scheme. Parents benefited to the extent of £147,390 in respect of 19 pupils in the year. The College engaged the services of an external, specialist company to review and advise on all bursarial applications and help to ensure that the College's practice and decisions are appropriately monitored and managed, with on going consideration of equality, diversity, and inclusion perspectives.

In the year, other fee awards, including scholarships, sibling and staff discounts (none of which are means-tested), amounted to £304,708.

Overall, this represents 36% of our students, who received some form of financial support and, thereby, a widening of access to our College.

The availability of bursary and other means tested awards are, and will continue to be, publicised on the College website and by other means. In assessing means a number of factors are taken into consideration including family income, investments, savings and family circumstances. However, as there are no endowment funds in making awards, the Board must be mindful to ensure a balance between fee paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards. One important part of the work of the Promotions & Communities Committee has been to help raise non fee income to provide an enhanced and equitable bursary provision.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Financial achievements of the College

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024, which forms part of the financial statements that follows this report, shows a surplus of £123,763. The corresponding surplus for the previous year was £176,594. The inflationary increase in fees as from 1 September 2023 was 7.5% resulting in gross fees for the year of £7,024,688 (2023: £6,647,105).

The net cash inflow from operating activities was £339,424 (2023: £330,477). The net inflow, which is fully explained in the Statement of Cash Flows on page 41, is principally the result of the surplus for the year and additional fees received in advance. Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets were £249,772 (2023: £119,835). Cash at bank increased from £3,357,978 at 31 August 2023 to £3,550,270 at 31 August 2024, primarily due to an increase in advance fee payments received.

Net current assets at 31 August 2023 of £1,210,789 increased slightly to £1,390,633 at 31 August 2024 as a result of movement in Cash at bank.

To be satisfied that the charitable company has adequate finance facilities to meet its obligations as they fall due and particularly when considering a project involving substantial expenditure, the Directors review detailed budgets and cash flow forecasts and regularly monitor progress against these forecasts. Forecasts are based on the number of pupils and staff in the College at commencement of the current academic year adjusted, when appropriate, to take account of significant changes as and when they happen.

As a charity, parents have the assurance that all the income of the College must be applied for educational purposes. Tax exemption, but not exemption from VAT, is available on educational activities and on investment income and gains provided these are applied for charitable purposes. In addition, a reduction in business rates on property occupied for charitable purposes is available. The financial benefits received from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help to reduce fees and provide bursaries.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Review of activities

Pupil Numbers & Fees

Educational activities across a broad range of areas were carried out at the Infant and Junior School at Aldford and at the Senior School at Saighton from ages 4 to 18. The average pupil roll for the year was 496. Year 7 intake for September 2023 was around 60 and 40 in the Lower Sixth/Year 12.

The Board considers detailed budgets at their meeting in March of each year and set the fees for the forthcoming academic year at the lowest level they consider necessary to meet the running costs of the College and provide a modest surplus to enable the continued development of the facilities. In addition, parents are encouraged to contribute, by way of annual donations of £250 towards the Bursary Fund.

Inspection

A Regulatory Compliance Inspection was carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in February 2018.

An Educational Quality Inspection, including a Focused Compliance Inspection, was also carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in April 2022.

Copies of the respective reports are in the public domain and also available on the College's website at https://abbeygatecollege.co.uk.

In the most recent report, inspectors agreed that: "The school is successful in meeting its aim to enable pupils to have the self confidence to go forward into the changeable world with courage and compassion."

Academic & Other Achievements

Value-added at GCSE and A level remains positive and strong, evidencing excellent progress for students at an individual level.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

A2 Headline Results (Percentage of Entries)

	A*	A	B	C	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C
2024	11%	19%	28%	18%	30%	59%	77%
2023	5%	18%	31%	25%	23%	54%	79%
2022	19%	30%	29%	12%	49%	78%	90%
2021	25%	22%	28%	18%	47%	75%	94%
2020	11%	28%	34%	24%	40%	74%	97%
2019	10%	14%	32%	28%	24%	56%	84%
2018	6%	20%	30%	24%	25%	55%	79%

A2 Further Detail 2024

- National A*-C is 76.4%

Of the 39 students who were entered for A2 Levels in 2024:

- 6 students achieved at least AAA
- 13 students achieved at least ABB
- A Level Average Point Score per Entry is 36.22
- A Level Average Point Score per Pupil is 115.64

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Post-18 Further Detail 2024

- First choice acceptance for Higher Education institutions is 94%.

GCSE Results (Percentage of Entries)

	9-8	9-7	9-5	9-4
2024	19%	35%	79%	92%
2023	18%	34%	76%	91%
2022	27%	47%	85%	96%
2021	21%	43%	87%	97%
2020	18%	41%	86%	99%
2019	14%	34%	81%	94%
2018	10%	21%	71%	93%

GCSE Further Detail 2024

- National 9-7 is 21.8%
- National 9-4 is 67.6%

Of the 68 pupils who were entered for GCSEs in 2024:

- 9 pupils achieve at least 8 GCSEs at Grade 7/8/9
- 28 pupils achieved at least 8 GCSEs at Grade 6/7/8/9
- 44 pupils achieve 5 Strong Passes including English and Maths
- 60 pupils achieved 5 Standard Passes including English and Maths

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Additionally, a small selection (among many) of other highlights included:

- Educational Visits to the following overseas countries:
  - Eswatini
  - Switzerland
  - Spain
  - France
  - Belgium
  - Poland
- The Performing Arts departments performed 'Blood Brothers'
  - Two casts of performers gave real depth to Willy Russell's play, each with different nuances in their performances, enriching the audiences' experience. 43 years after it was first delivered, the Abbey Gate College production took the play back to its roots and breathed new life into the original version.
- KS3 Drama Club performed 'The Wind in the Willows – A Garden Gala', with an afternoon of family activities such as a PTA mini-fete, garden games and a vintage car display.
- Our alumni choristers performed Evensong in Liverpool Cathedral again, and the College Chapel Choir visited St. Paul's, London, by specific invitation, as well as the Summer term tour, this time in Edinburgh.
- The College renewed its 'Eco-Schools' Green Flag, again with distinction:
  - "...It's wonderful that you have appointed such a representative Eco-Committee, this shows your school's excellent commitment to both the programme and the eco-cause. It's great to see that you had such a group of eager, enthusiastic volunteers. It was also wonderful to see that they were supported by no less than three members of staff. It was wonderful to see how completing your Environmental Review helped to raise the level of awareness in your school and helped your Eco-Committee to identify the issues and spot gaps in your school's existing environmental activity. But equally important is that it helped you to recognise the great work that you were already doing. This helps to keep up the good activity whilst making you feel empowered to do different things. We love this!"
- Our Year 8 and Years 9/10 Handball teams each won the Chester & District tournament.
- A Year 10 student successfully joined the elite National Youth Musical Theatre programme.
- A Year 12 student has been accepted onto the British Film Institute programme.
- A Year 12 student gained a place with the prestigious National Youth Theatre of Great Britain.
- A Year 10 student won gold in the Scottish Judo Open.
- Our Young Enterprise company won the North West Innovation and Technology Award.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Factors relevant to achieve objectives

Additional to activities undertaken to achieve objectives, parental surveys included the following areas for appreciation:

- "It is an incredibly supportive and happy community where children are given many wonderful opportunities."
- "The caring staff ethos, putting a child's emotional care as a high priority. Swift addressing of big issues. The lovely grounds and space to think and relax."
- "The fact that my child is happy to go in and smiling when coming out is wonderful!"
- "It has a distinct atmosphere and attitude that's different to the other private schools in the region."
- "Its location allows my child to feel safe and free within the nature around the school grounds. The smaller class sizes allow my child to thrive."
- "The holistic educational approach, taking into account all aspects of a child's development, learning, and growth." "Rounded approach, allowing children to excel in all areas, not just academic."
- "Approachable and kind teaching staff. Teachers know the children individually and nurture them."
- "A balanced approach to pursuing high standards of academic performance alongside the development of pupils as individuals - allowing each person to be the best they can be, using their own unique personality."
- "A lovely school with teachers that care."
- "The care my children receive and the confidence they are given."
- "Nurturing environment and a "whole child" development approach to education."
- "My child loves going to school and that is testament to AGC." "The positive impact the school has had on the confidence of my child. The effective means by which the school fosters an inclusive and safe environment for my child."
- "The quality of the education and curriculum provided. The incredible teaching staff."
- "My child being treated as an individual. The caring environment. Opportunities for my child to be involved in a range of activities."
- "Providing bespoke, more challenging work for my son in the subject he excels in. Variety of after-school clubs."
- "Excellent communication. Transition from Primary to Secondary is well thought through and executed."
- "The caring atmosphere and the fact that my child enjoys lessons and finds them interesting."
- "Positive environment which enables our child to learn and be happy at school."
- "Support given to my child. Equal importance placed on academic and non-academic achievements."
- "Home from home."
- "How the staff take time to get to know each child and understand them in a way that maximises their potential."
- "A happy, nurturing, educational environment."
- "Safe and nurturing environment. Responds and acts quickly about issues around our children. Good range of clubs."
- "Kind culture, my child is well understood, personal experience - all staff and children know my child well."
- "Feeling my child is in safe hands / cared for. Its ethos is a balance of care, achievement, respect and independence."

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Similarly, student surveys included the following areas of appreciation:

- "It's all round a fabulous environment to work in and an excellent place to build life skills and confidence."
- "I think the College provides an almost personalised experience in each lesson, as each teacher takes into account the quirks in each pupil's learning style."
- "Lunches have improved."
- "Tries their hardest to make sure pupils are the best they can be."
- "Creates a safe and open environment for all students and prioritises, to make their voices heard at all times."
- "The College takes bullying and any violations of the student code of conduct very seriously."
- "Teachers are all supportive of students and encourage visiting them during breaks if you need additional support."
- "I think the school specialises in creating a close connection between students and teachers, which makes support easy to find."
- "They do well on bullying, most teachers are funny and make lessons enjoyable."
- "The College is very good at focusing on lots of different students individually when they have any worries."
- "It is good at helping students when they need help and when they are struggling and if there is something bothering them."
- "The Katsu curry."
- "Abbey Gate is very inclusive and is very academic. It is a special place to be and I feel safe when I am here."
- "Making all of us feel safe and it provides all of us with different opportunities."
- "People feel comfortable and you feel happy."
- "They help with friendships and help you if you don't feel safe or if you feel upset. They make the College feel like a safe and friendly place."
- "The College does well at enrichment and well-being, which can help many students to achieve what they want to achieve."
- "The College makes sure we all feel safe and makes me actually excited to come to school."
- "It lets us learn in a positive environment and also is much kinder than other schools."
- "I think that the College has good teachers, good food, nice children and good grounds."

d. Investment policy and performance

The Charity has no endowment funds and, as the Board policy is to invest all surplus financial resources in improvements to the infrastructure of the College, there are no significant amounts available for investment. Surplus cash is placed with deposit taking institutions for short periods to maximise interest income.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The charitable company has total funds at 31 August 2024 of £6,494,316 (2023: £6,370,553) of which unrestricted funds are £6,410,461 (2023: £6,277,933) and restricted funds £83,855 (2023: £92,620). Of the unrestricted funds, £150,000 (2023: £150,000) have been designated to a Capital Fund. Tangible fixed assets are £5,497,741 (2023: £5,444,009) thereby resulting in positive free reserves of £762,720 (2023: £683,924).

It is the policy of the Board to invest all available resources in the development of the learning and teaching facilities at Abbey Gate College while exercising prudent financial management having regard to the future needs of the College.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Directors are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the charitable company. They identify risks and assess the impact and establish controls to minimise the effect of major risks. A formal process of review of the risks is undertaken on an on going and no less than annual basis, with a full Risk Register maintained by the College and the Board of Governors.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee with charity number 273586 and was set up by a Memorandum of Association dated 29 February 2012.

The principal objects of the charitable company as set out in its Articles are to promote and provide for the advancement of education and, in connection therewith, to carry on any school for the education of children of either sex. The charitable company carries on its activities through Abbey Gate College.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the charitable company appoint the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is the Governing Body of the College and the Trustee Board of the charitable company. Board members receive no remuneration for their services as Trustees, Directors or Governors. They are legally responsible as charity Trustees, and as Directors and Governors, for the overall management and control of the charitable company and its educational establishment Abbey Gate College. The Board operates under agreed Terms of Reference and are required to confirm at each Board meeting whether or not they have any conflict of interest.

The Board meets at least once each academic term to review and approve the management affairs of the College and the Head Teacher and Finance Manager are invited to, and report at, these meetings. In addition, the Board meets as necessary without the Head Teacher and Finance Manager being present to review the affairs of the charity that do not impact directly on the College. Such matters relate principally to the succession of Board members and members of the charitable company.

The Board strives to maintain a broad range of skills within its membership and anyone expressing an interest in joining may be invited to do so by the Board. Recruitment to the Board is from within the membership of the charitable company and often follows an invitation to serve on one of the committees of the Board which enables individuals to offer advice in their particular field.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

An induction programme operates which involves familiarisation of new members with the organisation of the College and its affairs, clarifying their individual responsibilities, safeguarding induction and training, and ongoing attendance at appropriate external training sessions and conferences dependent on the needs identified.

d. Pay policy for key management personnel

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Directors and the Head Teacher. The Directors meet once a year to review salary benchmarking information relating to this position and set salary and benefit packages accordingly.

e. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Board appoints a Head Teacher who is responsible for the overall leadership, management and day to day running of the College and is supported by Leadership Teams of senior and middle leaders.

5 sub committees operate within the governing structure:

1) Education Committee
2) Wellbeing Committee
3) Finance Committee
4) Promotions Committee
5) Estates Committee

Specific Terms of Reference exist for each sub committee along with a regular routine of reporting to the Board each term.

f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

The Directors are mindful of the prevailing economic conditions and have set a revenue budget and capital expenditure plans for the year to 31 August 2025 based on tight financial management with associated fees at as low a level that is considered prudent after considering the needs of the College. Significant investment in new facilities will only be undertaken when resources permit.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report including the Strategic report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

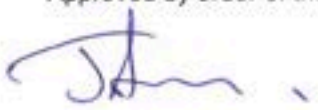
Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, WR Partners, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



James Brown
Director

Date: 5 December 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Deeside House Educational Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of 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 charitable company'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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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 course of 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The audit team obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are those which relate to the reporting framework (The Charity SORP 2019), the relevant tax compliance regulations and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We understood how the charitable company complies with these frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We also reviewed board minutes to identify any recorded instances of irregularity or non-compliance that might have a material impact on the financial statements.

We reviewed the susceptibility of the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud may occur by meeting with key management to understand where they considered there was a susceptibly to fraud. Based on our understanding our procedures involved enquiries of management and those charged with governance, manual journal entry testing, cashbook reviews for large and unusual items and the challenge of significant estimates used in preparing the financial statements.

We reviewed the charitable company's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the charitable company and its environment and identify and instances of non-compliance. We also assessed the charitable company's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and charity awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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 Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Chris Speakman FCCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
WR Partners

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

6 December 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	**7,713**	**-**	**7,713**	*114,390*
Charitable activities	5	**-**	**7,619,202**	**7,619,202**	*7,231,760*
Investments	7	**-**	**102,640**	**102,640**	*32,568*
Total income		**7,713**	**7,721,842**	**7,729,555**	*7,378,718*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	**16,478**	**7,589,314**	**7,605,792**	*7,202,124*
Total expenditure		**16,478**	**7,589,314**	**7,605,792**	*7,202,124*
Net movement in funds		**(8,765)**	**132,528**	**123,763**	*176,594*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**92,620**	**6,277,933**	**6,370,553**	*6,193,959*
Net movement in funds		**(8,765)**	**132,528**	**123,763**	*176,594*
Total funds carried forward		**83,855**	**6,410,461**	**6,494,316**	*6,370,553*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01269507

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note		2024 £		2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**5,497,741**		*5,444,009*
			5,497,741		*5,444,009*
Current assets					
Stocks	13	**13,712**		*12,459*	
Debtors	14	**206,506**		*225,253*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**3,550,270**		*3,357,978*	
		3,770,488		*3,595,690*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	**(2,379,855)**		*(2,384,901)*	
Net current assets			**1,390,633**		*1,210,789*
Total assets less current liabilities			**6,888,374**		*6,654,798*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		**(394,058)**		*(284,245)*
Total net assets			**6,494,316**		*6,370,553*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	18		**83,855**		*92,620*
Unrestricted funds	18		**6,410,461**		*6,277,933*
Total funds			**6,494,316**		*6,370,553*

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

James Brown
Director

Date: 5 December 2024

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	2024 £	*2023* *£*
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash used in operating activities	**339,424**	*330,477*
Cash flows from investing activities		
Capital expenditure	**(249,772)**	*(119,835)*
Net cash used in investing activities	**(249,772)**	**(119,835)**
Cash flows from financing activities		
Repayments of borrowing	**-**	*(525,000)*
Bank investment interest received	**102,640**	*32,568*
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	**102,640**	**(492,432)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	**192,292**	**(281,790)**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	**3,357,978**	*3,639,768*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	**3,550,270**	*3,357,978*

The notes on pages 25 to 43 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1. General information

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the charity are the trustees named on page 1 of these accounts. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £20 per member of the charitable company.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charitable company's accounting policies.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charitable company which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charitable company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Taxation

The charitable company is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charitable company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, on both a straight line and reducing balance basis.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% - 7% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% written down value
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% - 25% straight line

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

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

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charitable company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The charitable company only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2.14 Pensions

The charitable company contributes to personal pension plans for non-teaching staff. Contributions to pension schemes are charged to expenditure as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charitable company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charitable company for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.16 Prepaid Fees Scheme

The College operates a prepaid fees scheme and parents may, subject to contractual terms and conditions, pay to the College tuition fees in advance. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charitable company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

- Depreciation rates are determined based on the estimated useful life of the asset.
- Residual value estimates are based on the estimated value at the end of the useful economic life of the asset.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Donations	7,713	**7,713**	*114,390*
Total 2023	*114,390*	*114,390*	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Teaching	7,619,202	**7,619,202**	*7,231,760*
Total 2023	*7,231,760*	*7,231,760*	

6. Analysis of income from charitable activities by type of income

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Gross fees receivable	-	7,024,688	**7,024,688**	*6,647,105*
Less: scholarships, bursaries and other discounts	-	(326,967)	**(326,967)**	*(274,636)*
Other income from charitable activity	-	921,481	**921,481**	*859,291*
Donations	7,713	-	**7,713**	*114,390*
	7,713	7,619,202	**7,626,915**	*7,346,150*
Total 2023	*114,390*	*7,231,760*	*7,346,150*	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	*Total funds 2023 £*
Other investment income	102,640	**102,640**	*32,568*
Total 2023	*32,568*	*32,568*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	*Total 2023 £*
Teaching	-	4,441,612	**4,441,612**	*4,287,634*
Catering Costs	-	497,881	**497,881**	*488,346*
Bus costs	-	344,633	**344,633**	*305,872*
Premises	-	947,185	**947,185**	*879,520*
Support costs of schooling	16,478	1,336,703	**1,353,181**	*1,221,112*
Governance	-	21,300	**21,300**	*19,640*
	16,478	7,589,314	**7,605,792**	*7,202,124*
Total 2023	*35,503*	*7,166,621*	*7,202,124*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities (continued)

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2024 £	Depreciation 2024 £	Other costs 2024 £	Total 2024 £	*Total 2023 £*
Teaching	4,283,030	39,035	119,547	**4,441,612**	*4,287,634*
Catering Costs	-	14,813	483,068	**497,881**	*488,346*
Bus costs	-	4,926	339,707	**344,633**	*305,872*
Premises	278,893	127,599	540,693	**947,185**	*879,520*
Support costs of schooling	549,478	9,750	793,953	**1,353,181**	*1,221,112*
Governance	-	-	21,300	**21,300**	*19,640*
	5,111,401	196,123	2,298,268	**7,605,792**	*7,202,124*
Total 2023	*4,870,596*	*209,141*	*2,122,387*	*7,202,124*	

9. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Depreciation	**196,123**	*209,141*
Operating lease charges	**184,073**	*122,753*
Auditors remuneration	**13,700**	*13,050*
	393,896	*344,944*

10. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	**3,939,308**	*3,802,310*
Social security costs	**404,733**	*386,840*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**767,360**	*681,446*
	5,111,401	*4,870,596*

The average number of persons employed by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teaching Staff	**84**	*87*
Support Staff	**26**	*26*
	110	*113*

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	**4**	*4*
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	**1**	*1*

During the year key management personnel received remuneration totalling £495,669 (2023: £466,720).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2023 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 August 2024, no Trustee expenses have been incurred *(2023 - £182)*.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2023	**5,288,286**	**105,997**	**2,187,714**	**7,581,997**
Additions	**58,024**	**97,347**	**94,401**	**249,772**
At 31 August 2024	**5,346,310**	**203,344**	**2,282,115**	**7,831,769**
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	**331,720**	**99,618**	**1,706,650**	**2,137,988**
Charge for the year	**41,116**	**8,030**	**146,894**	**196,040**
At 31 August 2024	**372,836**	**107,648**	**1,853,544**	**2,334,028**
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	**4,973,474**	**95,696**	**428,571**	**5,497,741**
At 31 August 2023	*4,956,566*	*6,379*	*481,064*	*5,444,009*

13. Stocks

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Finished goods and goods for resale	**13,712**	*12,459*

14. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**21,503**	*47,647*
Other debtors	**5,334**	*4,344*
Prepayments and accrued income	**179,669**	*173,262*
	206,506	*225,253*

15. Cash at bank

Various society, sports and similar clubs maintain bank accounts which are administered by the College.

The balance on these various bank accounts is included within cash in bank at 31 August 2024, and within creditors; amounts falling due within one year, is £25,001 (2023: £23,094). The income paid into these accounts in the year to 31 August 2024 of £10,538 (2023: £9,771) is not income of the College and is therefore not included in incoming resources within the Statement of Financial Activities. The expenditure from these accounts was £8,632 (2023: £20,738) in the year.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees in advance	**1,537,603**	*1,692,318*
Trade creditors	**175,003**	*155,356*
Advance fee contracts	**144,555**	*34,718*
Repayable deposits	**162,635**	*118,315*
Other taxation and social security	**90,207**	*91,540*
Other creditors	**154,080**	*153,471*
Accruals and deferred income	**115,772**	*139,183*
	2,379,855	*2,384,901*

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Repayable deposits	**220,585**	*231,935*
Advance fee contracts	**173,473**	*52,310*
	394,058	*284,245*

The bank loan is secured against a legal charge held by Natwest over the leasehold property of the charitable company.

Advance Fee Contracts

Certain parents have entered into contracts to discharge, under certain conditions, the equivalent of up to severn years' tuition fees in advance. Amounts received from advanced fee contracts are included in cash at bank and are dealt with as unrestricted funds. Assuming the pupils concerned remain in College for the expected academic years, advance fees will be applied to fee income as follows:

Movements in the year were:

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance at 1 September 2023	**87,029**	*62,465*
Amounts received in the year	**265,718**	*57,711*
Amounts utilised in the period in settlement of fees	**(34,719)**	*(33,147)*
	318,028	*87,029*

Repayable Deposits

Deposits are taken when pupils commence their education at the College and are repaid when the pupils leave. Hence, the College recognises the asset and the liability in the balance sheet. Assuming the pupils remain in the College for the expected academic years the deposits will be repaid as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts repayable within one year	**162,635**	*118,315*
Amounts repayable between 1 to 5 years	**91,250**	*94,100*
Amounts repayable after 5 years	**129,335**	*137,835*
	383,220	*350,250*

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	-	-	(139,677)	139,677	-
Capital fund	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
	150,000	-	(139,677)	139,677	150,000
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	6,127,933	7,721,842	(7,449,637)	(139,677)	6,260,461
Total Unrestricted funds	6,277,933	7,721,842	(7,589,314)	-	6,410,461
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	13,733	7,713	(7,713)	-	13,733
Capital Expenditure	78,887	-	(8,765)	-	70,122
	92,620	7,713	(16,478)	-	83,855
Total of funds	6,370,553	7,729,555	(7,605,792)	-	6,494,316

18. **Statement of funds (continued)**

Designated funds
Bursary fund - Over the last 40 years the provision of bursary places has transformed lives, enabling pupils from all backgrounds to follow their dreams and become the person they want to be. The Abbey Gate College Bursary Fund provides children with the opportunity to realise their individual potential through an outstanding education, regardless of financial circumstances.

Capital fund - The Capital Fund was established in 2021 and has been set up to fund capital purchases and developments over the next 5 years. The college are looking to improve the school facilities in order to enhance the learning of pupils. Proposed projects include enhancing the refectory at the senior school, improving the sixth form provision and extending the science laboratories.

During the year £139,677 (2023: £81,584) was expended in relation to the Bursary Fund.

Restricted funds
Restricted income includes donations received during the year of £7,713 (2023: £26,741) for the development of teaching facilities and bursaries. £7,713 (2023: £26,741) was utilised during the year to support pupils through the bursary scheme. The restricted fund balance for teaching facilities and bursaries is £nil (2023: £nil).

£nil (2023: £nil) of the restricted donation received in 2014/15 for visits to the Royal Philharmonic was expended, with £3,800 remaining of the original £10,000 donation. The restricted fund also includes £9,933 for a variety of purposes.

18. **Statement of funds (continued)**

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Balance at 31 August 2023* £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	*39,915*	-	*(81,584)*	*41,669*	-
Capital fund	*150,000*	-	-	-	*150,000*
	189,915	-	*(81,584)*	*41,669*	*150,000*
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	*5,990,311*	*7,264,328*	*(7,085,037)*	*(41,669)*	*6,127,933*
Total Unrestricted funds	*6,180,226*	*7,264,328*	*(7,166,621)*	-	*6,277,933*
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	*13,733*	*26,741*	*(26,741)*	-	*13,733*
Capital Expenditure	-	*87,649*	*(8,762)*	-	*78,887*
	13,733	*114,390*	*(35,503)*	-	*92,620*
Total of funds	*6,193,959*	*7,378,718*	*(7,202,124)*	-	*6,370,553*

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,497,741	**5,497,741**
Current assets	83,855	3,686,633	**3,770,488**
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,382,010)	**(2,382,010)**
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(391,903)	**(391,903)**
Total	83,855	6,410,461	**6,494,316**

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Restricted funds 2023 £	*Unrestricted funds 2023 £*	*Total funds 2023 £*
Tangible fixed assets	-	*5,444,009*	*5,444,009*
Current assets	*92,620*	*3,503,070*	*3,595,690*
Creditors due within one year	-	*(2,384,901)*	*(2,384,901)*
Creditors due in more than one year	-	*(284,245)*	*(284,245)*
Total	*92,620*	*6,277,933*	*6,370,553*

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**123,763**	*176,594*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**196,040**	*209,141*
Interest income	**(102,640)**	*(32,568)*
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	**(1,253)**	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**18,747**	*(17,247)*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**104,767**	*(5,443)*
Net cash provided by operating activities	**339,424**	*330,477*

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	**3,550,270**	*3,357,978*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**3,550,270**	*3,357,978*

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**3,357,978**	**192,292**	**3,550,270**
Debt due within 1 year	**(34,718)**	**(109,837)**	**(144,555)**
Debt due after 1 year	**(231,935)**	**11,350**	**(220,585)**
	3,091,325	**93,805**	**3,185,130**

23. Pension commitments

Pension Arrangements

The College offers membership of defined contribution "Stakeholder" schemes to non-teaching staff. The contributions to these schemes for the year to 31 August 2024 were £43,354 (2023: £39,065) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2024 was £9,850 (2023: £7,358).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy).This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.

- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million. The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £725,716 (2023: £644,599) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2024 was £88,703 (2023: £74,894).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the College has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The College has set out above, the information available on the scheme.

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the charitable company had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	**155,068**	*149,593*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**444,836**	*384,495*
Later than 5 years	**959,193**	*801,750*
	1,559,097	*1,335,838*

25. Related party transactions

During the year, reimbursement of Directors expenses amounted to £25 relating to 1 Director (2023: £182 relating to 1 Director) in relation to travel and subsistence.

During the year, eight family relatives of four Directors attended the college (2023: two children of two Directors and two grandchildren of one other Director). Fee discounts are awarded on the same basis as available to other parents.

26. Controlling party

The College, having no share capital, is under the control of the Board of Directors, who are also the Trustees of the College.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 273586

Accounts

Registered number: 01269507
Charity number: 273586

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Abbey Gate College

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COLLEGE, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Directors	Andrew Grime, Chair of Governors[1,2,3,4,5] Vanessa Brodie (appointed 29 June 2023)[4] James Brown, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Governor, Chair of the Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee, GDPR Governor and Safeguarding Governor (appointed 13 January 2023)[1,4] Emma Bunting, Chair of Finance & Bursaries Committee[1] Paul Carter, Deputy Chair of Governors, Deputy Chair of Curriculum & Learning Committee & EYFS Governor[2] Fraser Crewe, Chair of Estates & Compliance Committee[3] Jeremy Dussek, Deputy Chair of Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee and Prevent Governor (resigned 1 December 2022)[4] Sean Gardner, Chair of Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee, Safeguarding Governor, Careers Governor and GDPR Governor (resigned 13 January 2023)[2,4] James Goddard (appointed 29 June 2023)[5] Roger Hoyle, Chair of Promotions & Communities Committee[5] Tim Stanley, PSHE & RSE Governor[1,5] Damian Stenhouse, Chair of Curriculum & Learning Committee, ECT, SEND and MAGaT Governor[2] Brian Wake, Company Secretary[3]

[1] Finance & Bursaries Committee
[2] Curriculum & Learning Committee
[3] Estates & Compliance Committee
[4] Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee
[5] Promotions & Communities Committee

Derek Bunting, Noel Dutton and Jane Robinson are Foundation Governors who are entitled to atttend Directors' meetings but not to vote. Derek Bunting serves on the Finance & Bursaries Committee, Noel Dutton and Jane Robinson serve on the Estates & Compliance Committee.

Company registered number	01269507
Charity registered number	273586
Principal and Registered office	Saighton Grange Saighton Chester CH3 6EN

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COLLEGE, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Company secretary	Brian Wake
Independent Auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Union Street Chester CH1 1UA
Solicitors	Jolliffe & Co Exchange House White Friars Chester CH1 1DP
Insurance Brokers	Hettle Andrews 2 Brunswick Square Birmingham B1 2LP
Senior management team	C Jenkinson, Headteacher - Senior School M Hickey, Headteacher - Infants & Juniors A Austin, Senior Deputy Headteacher Michael Booth, Deputy Headteacher - Academic Carole Houghton, Deputy Headteacher - Pastoral

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their Annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Deeside House Educational Trust Limited for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The charitable company is established to promote and provide for the advancement of education. It has established Abbey Gate College, Chester (the College) to provide a first class education of high academic standard, with individual attention being given to each child. All pupils are encouraged to extend themselves to their full potential both academically and personally.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

Trustees, Governors, Senior Leaders, Staff, Parents and Pupils respectively and appropriately contribute to the on going review and implementation of the College’s Strategic Plan, which includes a dynamic Development Plan.

Our vision is to be the school of first choice in the area for families who seek a personalised, caring, and safe educational environment, with excellent curricular and co curricular provision, and a commitment to preserve, protect, and progress the world we all share.

In support of the College’s vision, our mission is, within our safe and caring community, that each one of our pupils will become the best that they can be, and have the self belief to go forward into this changeable world with courage and with compassion.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Since foundation, the College has always aimed to develop and nurture each individual pupil's character, personal skills, and attitude around a robust core of academic excellence. This is clearly defined by our three, aspirational pillars:



All aspects of our curricular and co curricular programmes, as well as our continuing development and evolution as a school, aim to establish a strong foundation of life long resilience, compassion, and creativity, so that each pupil will become an adult with the self worth, purpose, and courage to thrive in a future world, which they will help to shape for the good of themselves and others.

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

In the academic year of 2022-2023, headline developments included:

1) Strengthening and evolving the whole College's work with the core values of Self, Service, and Sustainability; additionally affiliated with Thoughtbox' global network and Triple Wellbeing programme of Self-Care, People-Care, and Earth-Care.
2) Student and staff working groups, to review the College's formative feedback and how we develop agentic learners;
3) Student and staff working groups, to review our Behaviour policy and practice;
4) A new approach to digital integration for staff and students, and Bring Your Own Device practicalities;
5) Continued development of 'Contextual Wellbeing', with a revision of our presentation and awards events;
6) A new way of supporting Continuing Professional Development for all staff;
7) A full Equality, Diversity & Inclusion audit, with additional staff training;
8) Increased coaching and opportunities for our more able students;
9) Specialist EAL provision;
10) A re-vitalised House system, where all points gained at any time by any student directly benefit the year's chosen, local charities;
11) Publication of archive materials online;
12) Sustainability-led initiatives to reduce energy consumption and minimise waste;
13) Use of our new Polytunnel for students to plant, cultivate, and harvest various items for everyone's consumption at lunchtime;
14) A re-decoration and re-furnishing programme; and
15) Celebrating our 45th anniversary as a College.

d. Main activities undertaken to further the College's purposes for the public benefit

The Directors maintain due regard to the Charity Commission's revised guidance on public benefit.

The College provided a much valued education to 510 pupils during the year at no cost to the UK Treasury. Pupils are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life. Fees are set at as low a level as possible, whilst ensuring the financial viability of and the ongoing investment in the College, and are consistent with our vision, mission, and aims.

1) The following local organisations or groups regularly benefited from the College's grounds and facilities:
- Willo Hockey
- Chester Hockey Club
- Rake and Pikel (Football)
- Eaton Estate (Football)
- North West Panthers (Netball)
- Chester Nomads (Junior Football)
- Worknest (Football)
- Boughton Belles (Netball)
- AJ Dodgeball
- AJ Tennis Camp
- Farndon Netball
- Chester Music Society
- Trinity Music (Exams)
- MPH Football
- Tattenhall Cricket

Objectives and activities (continued)

2) Direct service/outreach in the local community also included:
- Continued support of a Ukrainian refugee who arrived in the Chester area, by providing non fee/100% bursarial education for him within our Senior School.
- Drama and Music performances at local care homes Deewater Grange and Grosvenor House.
- Produce from our polytunnel was donated to local businesses.
- 12 chairs donated to a local school in North Wales.
- Sandwich chiller donated to a local cricket club.

3) Direct service/outreach in the wider, global community included:
- Service project with 'Sense Africa' and our link village in Eswatini – the student and staff expedition to Mlindzini High School took place in July '22.

4) Examples of indirect service through charitable fund-raising:
- £2,384 was raised for The Joshua Tree Charity
- £2,941 was raised for Claire House Children's Hospice
- £2,714 was raised for Alder Hey Children's Charity
- £1,312 was raised for Children in Need
- £529 Cancer research UK
- £887 benefiting a further 4 charities

5) Educational partnership/benefit in the local community included:
- Loan of School minibuses and drivers to Saighton Primary School for local, educational trips.
- Relationship established with Chester International School, Neston high School and Christleton High School for shared initiatives; Plan to host a Sustainability conference in the new school year.
- Drama and Music Lessons taught in 5 local primary schools on a weekly basis.
- Matilda: The mammoth musical was staged in the Sports Hall, but the vast space was successfully converted to a full-scale theatre for the duration of final rehearsals and the three-night run of the show itself. Not only were students from across the College (performers from Year 5 through to the Upper 6th) in the cast, six local primary schools were also involved over the three night run. A total of 217 primary aged pupils had the opportunity to experience being involved in a production on such a large scale.

Opportunities for the education of pupils whose parents cannot afford to pay full fees are provided through the bursary scheme. Parents benefited to the extent of £108,325 in respect of 19 pupils in the year. The College engaged the services of an external, specialist company to review and advise on all bursarial applications and help to ensure that the College's practice and decisions are appropriately monitored and managed, with on going consideration of equality, diversity, and inclusion perspectives.

In the year, other fee awards, including scholarships, sibling and staff discounts (none of which are means-tested), amounted to £253,617.

Overall, this represents 35% of our students, who received some form of financial support and, thereby, a widening of access to our College.

The availability of bursary and other means tested awards are, and will continue to be, publicised on the College website and by other means. In assessing means a number of factors are taken into consideration including family income, investments, savings and family circumstances. However, as there are no endowment funds in making awards, the Board have to be mindful to ensure a balance between fee paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards. One important part of the work of the Promotions & Communities Committee has been to help raise non fee income to provide an enhanced and equitable bursary provision.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Financial achievements of the College

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023, which forms part of the financial statements that follows this report, shows a surplus of £176,594. The corresponding surplus for the previous year was £149,629. The inflationary increase in fees as from 1 September 2022 was 3.3% resulting in gross fees for the year of £6,647,105 (2022: £6,344,011).

The net cash inflow from operating activities was £330,477 (2022: £652,497). The net inflow, which is fully explained in the Statement of Cash Flows on page 22, is principally the result of the surplus for the year and additional fees received in advance. Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets were £119,835 (2022: £252,673). Cash at bank decreased from £3,639,768 at 31 August 2022 to £3,357,978 at 31 August 2023, however this includes repayment of £525,000 of a Government backed Covid Interruption Business Loan (CIBL) taken out in 2020/21 which was repaid during the year.

Net current assets at 31 August 2022 of £1,363,534 decreased slightly to £1,210,789 at 31 August 2023 as a result of movement in Cash at bank.

In order to be satisfied that the charitable company has adequate finance facilities to meet its obligations as they fall due and particularly when considering a project involving substantial expenditure, the Directors review detailed budgets and cash flow forecasts and regularly monitor progress against these forecasts. Forecasts are based on the number of pupils and staff in the College at commencement of the current academic year adjusted, when appropriate, to take account of significant changes as and when they happen.

As a charity, parents have the assurance that all the income of the College must be applied for educational purposes. Tax exemption, but not exemption from VAT, is available on educational activities and on investment income and gains provided these are applied for charitable purposes. In addition, a reduction in business rates on property occupied for charitable purposes is available. The financial benefits received from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help to reduce fees and provide bursaries.

b. Review of activities

Pupil Numbers & Fees

Educational activities across a broad range of areas were carried out at the Infant and Junior School at Aldford and at the Senior School at Saighton from ages 4 to 18. The average pupil roll for the year was 510. Year 7 intake for September 2022 was around 60 and 40 in the Lower Sixth/Year 12.

The Board considers detailed budgets at their meeting in March of each year and set the fees for the forthcoming academic year at the lowest level they consider necessary to meet the running costs of the College and provide a modest surplus to enable the continued development of the facilities. In addition, parents are encouraged to contribute, by way of annual donations of £250 towards the Bursary Fund.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Inspection

A Regulatory Compliance Inspection was carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in February 2018.

An Educational Quality Inspection, including a Focused Compliance Inspection, was also carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in April 2022.

Copies of the respective reports are in the public domain and also available on the College's website at https://abbeygatecollege.co.uk.

In the most recent report, inspectors agreed that: "The school is successful in meeting its aim to enable pupils to have the self-confidence to go forward into the changeable world with courage and compassion."

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Academic & Other Achievements

Headline achievements shifted, as they did for all schools nationally with the adjusted grade boundaries. However, value-added at GCSE and A level remains positive and strong, evidencing excellent progress for students at an individual level.

A2 Headline Results (Percentage of Entries)

	A*	A	B	C	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C
2023	5%	18%	31%	25%	23%	54%	79%
2022	19%	30%	29%	12%	49%	78%	90%
2021	25%	22%	28%	18%	47%	75%	94%
2020	11%	28%	34%	24%	40%	74%	97%
2019	10%	14%	32%	28%	24%	56%	84%
2018	6%	20%	30%	24%	25%	55%	79%

A2 Further Detail 2023

- National A*-C is 75.4%

Of the 43 students who were entered for A2 Levels in 2023:

- 3 students achieved at least AAA
- 14 students achieved at least ABB
- A Level Average Point Score per Entry is 34.84
- A Level Average Point Score per Pupil is 112.21

Post-18 Further Detail 2023

- First choice acceptance for Higher Education is 83%
- Students choosing to study at Russell Group universities is 24%

Post-18 Further Detail 2023 - 2019

- First choice acceptance for Higher Education is 90%

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

GCSE Results (Percentage of Entries)

	9-8	9-7	9-5	9-4
2023	18%	34%	76%	91%
2022	27%	47%	85%	96%
2021	21%	43%	87%	97%
2020	18%	41%	86%	99%
2019	14%	34%	81%	94%
2018	10%	21%	71%	93%

GCSE Further Detail 2023

- National 9-7 is 22%
- National 9-4 is 68%

Of the 61 pupils who were entered for GCSEs in 2023:

- 6 pupils achieved 8 or more Grade 8/9s across all subjects
- 12 pupils achieved 8 or more Grade 7/8/9s across all subjects
- 38 pupils achieved 5 Strong Passes including English and Maths

Additionally, a small selection (among many) of other highlights included:

- Educational Visits to the following overseas countries:
  - Eswatini
  - Iceland
  - Spain
  - France
  - Belgium
  - Poland
  - Italy
- Drama & Music performed ‘Matilda’ (see earlier), including six local primary schools as well:
  - “The cast were gleeful, captivating and confident, and they attacked the songs and dance routines with the commitment of professionals, from The Smell of Rebellion to Revolting Children. Huge congratulations to Miss Anger and Mr Andrews for putting such a fantastic show together – what a stunning endorsement of the importance the arts in education.” (L Ingram)
- Our choristers performed in Liverpool Cathedral for the College’s 45th anniversary concert, and in St. Paul’s, London, for Evensong by specific invitation.
- The College achieved ‘Eco-Schools’ Green Flag with distinction:
  - “Thank you so much for submitting such a terrific application. We have loved reading about your journey and are incredibly impressed by all you have achieved. We have no hesitation in awarding you an Eco-Schools Green Flag with Distinction, congratulations!”
- Our Year 10 Rounders team won the Chester & District tournament.
- One of our Sixth Form students achieved Silver at the Commonwealth Youth Games for 400m hurdles.
- One of our Year 9 students came second in the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.
- Another Year 9 student was placed second individually and first in a team (ISA with Princethorpe College) in Stonleigh Riding Club Two Day Inter-Schools Event.
- Our Young Enterprise company won the Cheshire & Warrington Business of the Year award.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Factors relevant to achieve objectives

Additional to activities undertaken to achieve objectives, parental surveys confirmed a 90% overall level of approval, including the following areas for appreciation:

- My child's happiness. Thank you for taking care of her and her education.
- The facilities are excellent.
- The nurturing and respectful environment, and making my child feel valued for all contributions and not just academic achievements.
- Pastoral support has been good at difficult times.
- Extra-curricular opportunities & allowing our child to play in sports teams.
- Small size allows child support.
- Caring ethos.
- Pastoral Care and learning enrichment, opportunities to explore individual strengths holistically (not just academically) and the calm environment.
- A quality teaching environment. I know my children are safe and secure.
- The teachers understand my children's individual needs and character.
- Good manners, well-being and confidence building.
- Dedicated teachers who go the extra to ensure pupils achieve their best.
- Recent changes to uniform – much more up to date and suitable for 2023.
- Inclusivity.
- My child is happy and loves going to school.
- The emphasis on kindness to each other and ourselves.
- (The school) helps prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow.
- A genuinely pupil-focused approach to learning, with emphasis on a nurturing, respectful and inspirational culture.
- The school's ethos. The preparation the school provides in the move to senior school. My child is known as an individual.

Similarly, student surveys confirmed a 90% overall recommendation, with the following areas of appreciation:

- It feels like all the teachers know you and who you are, and teachers and students have a relationship that you wouldn't get at another school.
- The College does well in caring and supporting the students and helping them achieve their ambitions and goals for the future.
- The teachers are friendly and approachable, and I feel able to go to them at break and lunch if I need help.
- The College is very inclusive of everyone and makes us feel safe to tell them anything we need.
- Staff genuinely care about pupils' learning experience and wellbeing. There is a lovely atmosphere between most pupils and staff.
- Teachers are supportive and always willing to go the extra mile to help.
- Providing a positive and safe space for great education and facilitating a wider range of activities for students.
- The College makes sure that if there is any bullying it is sorted quickly and the College makes me feel safe too.
- Teachers do a good job of making sure you understand the work and know how to test you further so it will stay in your head. The College promotes wellbeing and to talk to people about your feelings.
- I like the friendly atmosphere. I feel safe and I feel I learn a lot in my lessons.
- The College helps you be the best you can by bringing out all your strengths.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

d. Investment policy and performance

The Charity has no endowment funds and, as the Board policy is to invest all surplus financial resources in improvements to the infrastructure of the College, there are no significant amounts available for investment. Surplus cash is placed with deposit taking institutions for short periods to maximise interest income.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The charity has total funds at 31 August 2023 of £6,370,553 (2022: £6,193,959) of which unrestricted funds are £6,277,933 (2022: £6,180,226) and restricted funds £92,620 (2022: £13,733). Of the unrestricted funds, £150,000 (2022: £189,915) have been designated to a Capital Fund. Tangible fixed assets are £5,444,009 (2022: £5,533,315) thereby resulting in positive free reserves of £683,924 (2022: £456,996).

It is the policy of the Board to invest all available resources in the development of the learning and teaching facilities at Abbey Gate College while exercising prudent financial management having regard to the future needs of the College.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Directors are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the charitable company. They identify risks and assess the impact and establish controls to minimise the effect of major risks. A formal process of review of the risks is undertaken on an on-going and no less than annual basis, with a full Risk Register maintained by the College and the Board of Governors.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee with charity number 273586 and was set up by a Memorandum of Association dated 29 February 2012.

The principal objects of the charitable company as set out in its Articles are to promote and provide for the advancement of education and, in connection therewith, to carry on any school for the education of children of either sex. The charitable company carries on its activities through Abbey Gate College.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the charitable company appoint the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is the Governing Body of the College and the Trustee Board of the charitable company. Board members receive no remuneration for their services as Trustees, Directors or Governors. They are legally responsible as charity Trustees, and as Directors and Governors, for the overall management and control of the charitable company and its educational establishment Abbey Gate College. The Board operates under agreed Terms of Reference and are required to confirm at each Board meeting whether or not they have any conflict of interest.

The Board meets at least once each academic term to review and approve the management affairs of the College and the Head Teacher and Finance Manager are invited to, and report at, these meetings. In addition, the Board meets as necessary without the Head Teacher and Finance Manager being present to review the affairs of the charity that do not impact directly on the College. Such matters relate principally to the succession of Board members and members of the charitable company.

The Board strives to maintain a broad range of skills within its membership and anyone expressing an interest in joining may be invited to do so by the Board. Recruitment to the Board is from within the membership of the charitable company and often follows an invitation to serve on one of the committees of the Board which enables individuals to offer advice in their particular field.

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

An induction programme operates which involves familiarisation of new members with the organisation of the College and its affairs, clarifying their individual responsibilities, safeguarding induction and training, and ongoing attendance at appropriate external training sessions and conferences dependent on the needs identified.

d. Pay policy for senior staff

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Directors and the Head Teacher. The Directors meet once a year to review salary benchmarking information relating to this position and set salary and benefit packages accordingly.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Organisational structure and decision making

The Board appoints a Head Teacher who is responsible for the overall leadership, management and day to day running of the College and is supported by Leadership Teams of senior and middle leaders.

5 sub-committees operate within the governing structure:
1) Curriculum & Learning
2) Pastoral & Wellbeing
3) Finance & Bursaries
4) Promotions & Communities
5) Estates & Compliance

Specific Terms of Reference exist for each sub-committee along with a regular routine of reporting to the Board each term.

f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

The Directors are mindful of the prevailing economic conditions and have set a revenue budget and capital expenditure plans for the year to 31 August 2024 based on tight financial management with associated fees at as low a level is considered prudent after considering the needs of the College. Significant investment in new facilities will only be undertaken when resources permit.

Funds held as custodian

No assets are held as custodian trustees.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the College for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report including the Strategic report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 College will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the College's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the College and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the College and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

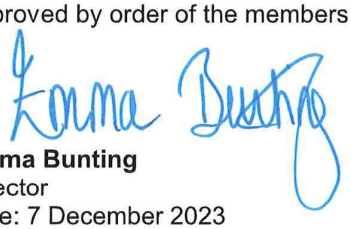
Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, WR Partners, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Emma Bunting
Director
Date: 7 December 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Deeside House Educational Trust Limited (the 'college') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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 course of 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The audit team obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are those which relate to the reporting framework (The Charity SORP 2019), the relevant tax compliance regulations and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We understood how the charitable company complies with these frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We also reviewed board minutes to identify any recorded instances of irregularity or non-compliance that might have a material impact on the financial statements.

We reviewed the susceptibility of the charitable company’s financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud may occur by meeting with key management to understand where they considered there was a susceptibly to fraud. Based on our understanding our procedures involved enquiries of management and those charged with governance, manual journal entry testing, cashbook reviews for large and unusual items and the challenge of significant estimates used in preparing the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

We reviewed the charitable company's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the charitable company and its environment and identify and instances of non-compliance. We also assessed the charitable company's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.

The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and charity awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

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 Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Andrew Malpass BA FCA (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

11 December 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	**114,390**	**-**	**114,390**	*26,255*
Charitable activities	5	**-**	**7,231,760**	**7,231,760**	*6,711,659*
Investments	7	**-**	**32,568**	**32,568**	*1,410*
Total income		**114,390**	**7,264,328**	**7,378,718**	*6,739,324*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	**35,503**	**7,166,621**	**7,202,124**	*6,589,695*
Total expenditure		**35,503**	**7,166,621**	**7,202,124**	*6,589,695*
Net movement in funds		**78,887**	**97,707**	**176,594**	*149,629*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**13,733**	**6,180,226**	**6,193,959**	*6,044,330*
Net movement in funds		**78,887**	**97,707**	**176,594**	*149,629*
Total funds carried forward	18	**92,620**	**6,277,933**	**6,370,553**	*6,193,959*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01269507

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note		2023 £		*2022 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**5,444,009**		*5,533,315*
			5,444,009		*5,533,315*
Current assets					
Stocks	13	**12,459**		-	
Debtors	14	**225,253**		*220,465*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**3,357,978**		*3,639,768*	
		3,595,690		*3,860,233*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	**(2,384,901)**		*(2,496,699)*	
Net current assets			**1,210,789**		*1,363,534*
Total assets less current liabilities			**6,654,798**		*6,896,849*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		**(284,245)**		*(702,890)*
Total net assets			**6,370,553**		*6,193,959*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	18		**92,620**		*13,733*
Unrestricted funds	18		**6,277,933**		*6,180,226*
Total funds			**6,370,553**		*6,193,959*

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Bunting
Director
Date: 7 December 2023

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	*2022 £*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	**330,477**	*652,497*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Capital expenditure		**(119,835)**	*(252,673)*
Net cash used in investing activities		**(119,835)**	**(252,673)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayments of borrowing		**(525,000)**	*(75,000)*
Bank investment interest received		**32,568**	*1,410*
Net cash used in financing activities		**(492,432)**	**(73,590)**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**(281,790)**	**326,234**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**3,639,768**	*3,313,534*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	**3,357,978**	*3,639,768*

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. General information

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the charity are the trustees named on page 1 of these accounts. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £20 per member of the charitable company.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (issued in October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charitable company's accounting policies.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charitable company which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income (continued)

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charitable company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Taxation

The College is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the College is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% - 7% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% written down value
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% - 25% straight line

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

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

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the College anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The College only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.14 Pensions

The College contributes to personal pension plans for non-teaching staff. Contributions to pension schemes are charged to expenditure as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the College and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the College for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.16 Prepaid Fees Scheme

The College operates a prepaid fees scheme and parents may, subject to contractual terms and conditions, pay to the College tuition fees in advance. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The College makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

- Depreciation rates are determined based on the estimated useful life of the asset.
- Residual value estimates are based on the estimated value at the end of the useful economic life of the asset.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Donations	114,390	**114,390**	*26,255*
Total 2022	*26,255*	*26,255*	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Teaching	7,231,760	**7,231,760**	*6,711,659*
Total 2023	7,231,760	**7,231,760**	*6,711,659*
Total 2022	*6,711,659*	*6,711,659*	

6. Analysis of income from charitable activities by type of income

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Gross fees receivable	-	6,647,105	**6,647,105**	*6,344,011*
Less: scholarships, bursaries and other discounts	-	(382,961)	**(382,961)**	*(262,425)*
Other income from charitable activity	-	859,291	**859,291**	*630,073*
Donations	114,390	-	**114,390**	*26,255*
Total 2023	114,390	7,123,435	**7,237,825**	*6,737,914*
Total 2022	*26,255*	*6,711,659*	*6,737,914*	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	*Total funds 2022 £*
Other investment income	32,568	**32,568**	*1,410*
Total 2023	32,568	**32,568**	*1,410*
Total 2022	*1,410*	*1,410*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	*Total 2022 £*
Teaching	-	4,287,634	**4,287,634**	*3,964,643*
Catering Costs	-	488,346	**488,346**	*402,989*
Bus costs	-	305,872	**305,872**	*211,403*
Premises	-	879,520	**879,520**	*815,906*
Support costs of schooling	35,503	1,185,609	**1,221,112**	*1,173,211*
Governance	-	19,640	**19,640**	*21,543*
Total 2023	35,503	7,166,621	**7,202,124**	*6,589,695*
Total 2022	*57,045*	*6,532,650*	*6,589,695*	

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2023 £	Depreciation 2023 £	Other costs 2023 £	Total 2023 £	*Total 2022 £*
Teaching	4,101,258	45,672	140,704	**4,287,634**	*3,964,643*
Catering Costs	-	20,643	467,703	**488,346**	*402,989*
Bus costs	-	-	305,872	**305,872**	*211,403*
Premises	224,531	134,858	520,131	**879,520**	*815,906*
Support costs of schooling	544,807	7,968	668,337	**1,221,112**	*1,173,211*
Governance	-	-	19,640	**19,640**	*21,543*
Total 2023	4,870,596	209,141	2,122,387	**7,202,124**	*6,589,695*
Total 2022	*4,386,945*	*208,939*	*1,993,811*	*6,589,695*	

9. Net Income/(Expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	**209,141**	*208,938*
Operating Lease Charges	**122,753**	*114,851*
Auditors Remuneration	**13,050**	*11,700*
Other Services	**1,900**	*1,800*
	346,844	*337,289*

10. Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	**3,802,310**	*3,403,377*
Social security costs	**386,840**	*355,286*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**681,446**	*628,282*
	4,870,596	*4,386,945*

The average number of persons employed by the College during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teaching Staff	**87**	*81*
Support Staff	**26**	*28*
	113	*109*

10. Staff costs (continued)

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023	*2022*
	No.	*No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	**4**	*2*
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	**-**	*1*
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	**1**	-

Key management personnel received remuneration during the year of £466,720 (2022: £337,401)

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2022 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 August 2023, expenses totalling £182 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee *(2022 - £823 to 2 Trustees)*. The expenditure related to travel expenses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2022	**5,283,894**	**105,997**	**2,415,878**	**7,805,769**
Additions	**4,392**	**-**	**115,443**	**119,835**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**(343,607)**	**(343,607)**
At 31 August 2023	**5,288,286**	**105,997**	**2,187,714**	**7,581,997**
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	**290,884**	**96,430**	**1,885,140**	**2,272,454**
Charge for the year	**40,836**	**3,188**	**165,117**	**209,141**
On disposals	**-**	**-**	**(343,607)**	**(343,607)**
At 31 August 2023	**331,720**	**99,618**	**1,706,650**	**2,137,988**
Net book value				
At 31 August 2023	**4,956,566**	**6,379**	**481,064**	**5,444,009**
At 31 August 2022	*4,993,010*	*9,567*	*530,738*	*5,533,315*

13. Stocks

	2023 £	*2022 £*
Finished goods and goods for resale	**12,459**	-

14. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**47,647**	*132,322*
Other debtors	**4,344**	*7,610*
Prepayments and accrued income	**173,262**	*80,533*
	225,253	*220,465*

15. Cash at Bank

Various society, sports and similar clubs maintain bank accounts which are administered by the College.

The balance on these various bank accounts is included within cash in bank at 31 August 2023, and within creditors; amounts falling due within one year, is £23,094 (2022: £34,061). The income paid into these accounts in the year to 31 August 2023 of £9,771 (2022: £7,827) is not income of the College and is therefore not included in incoming resources within the Statement of Financial Activities. The expenditure from these accounts was £20,738 (2022: £1,194) in the year.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	**-**	*150,000*
Fees in advance	**1,692,318**	*1,317,745*
Trade creditors	**155,356**	*120,492*
Advance fee contracts	**34,718**	*37,990*
Repayable deposits	**118,315**	*18,000*
Other taxation and social security	**91,540**	*263,616*
Other creditors	**153,471**	*405,676*
Accruals and deferred income	**139,183**	*183,180*
	2,384,901	*2,496,699*

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans	**-**	*375,000*
Repayable deposits	**231,935**	*303,415*
Advance fee contracts	**52,310**	*24,475*
	284,245	*702,890*

The bank loan is secured against a legal charge held by Natwest over the leasehold property of the charitable company.

Advance Fee Contracts

Certain parents have entered into contracts to discharge, under certain conditions, the equivalent of up to severn years' tuition fees in advance. Amounts received from advanced fee contracts are included in cash at bank and are dealt with as unrestricted funds. Assuming the pupils concerned remain in College for the expected academic years, advance fees will be applied to fee income as follows:

Movements in the year were:

	2023 £	2022 £
Balance at 1 September 2022	**62,465**	*131,125*
Amounts received in the year	**57,711**	-
Amounts utilised in the period in settlement of fees	**(33,147)**	*(68,660)*
Balance at August 31 2023	**87,029**	*62,465*

Repayable Deposits

Deposits are taken when pupils commence their education at the College and are repaid when the pupils leave. Hence, the College recognises the asset and the liability in the balance sheet. Assuming the pupils remain in the College for the expected academic years the deposits will be repaid as follows:

	2023	*2022*
	£	*£*
Amounts repayable within one year	**118,315**	*18,000*
Amounts repayable between 1 to 5 years	**94,100**	*74,000*
Amounts repayable after 5 years	**137,835**	*229,415*
	350,250	*321,415*

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	**39,915**	**-**	**(81,584)**	**41,669**	**-**
Capital fund	**150,000**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**150,000**
	189,915	**-**	**(81,584)**	**41,669**	**150,000**
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	**5,990,311**	**7,264,328**	**(7,085,037)**	**(41,669)**	**6,127,933**
Total Unrestricted funds	**6,180,226**	**7,264,328**	**(7,166,621)**	**-**	**6,277,933**
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	**13,733**	**26,741**	**(26,741)**	**-**	**13,733**
Capital Expenditure	**-**	**87,649**	**(8,762)**	**-**	**78,887**
	13,733	**114,390**	**(35,503)**	**-**	**92,620**
Total of funds	**6,193,959**	**7,378,718**	**(7,202,124)**	**-**	**6,370,553**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated funds
Bursary fund - Over the last 40 years the provision of bursary places has transformed lives, enabling pupils from all backgrounds to follow their dreams and become the person they want to be. The Abbey Gate College Bursary Fund provides children with the opportunity to realise their individual potential through an outstanding education, regardless of financial circumstances.

Capital fund - The Capital Fund was established in 2021 and has been set up to fund capital purchases and developments over the next 5 years. The college are looking to improve the school facilities in order to enhance the learning of pupils. Proposed projects include enhancing the refectory at the senior school, improving the sixth form provision and extending the science laboratories.

During the year £81,584 (2022:£10,085) was expended in relation to the Bursary Fund.

Restricted funds
Restricted income includes donations received during the year of £26,741 (2022: £26,255) for the development of teaching facilities and bursaries. £26,741 (2022: £57,045) was utilised during the year to support pupils through the bursary scheme. The restricted fund balance for teaching facilities and bursaries is £nil (2022:£nil).

£nil (2022:£nil) of the restricted donation received in 2014/15 for visits to the Royal Philharmonic was expended, with £3,800 remaining of the original £10,000 donation. The restricted fund also includes £9,933 for a variety of purposes.

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Balance at 31 August 2022* £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds				
Bursary fund	*50,000*	*-*	*(10,085)*	*39,915*
Capital fund	*150,000*	*-*	*-*	*150,000*
	200,000	*-*	*(10,085)*	*189,915*
General funds				
General Funds - all funds	*5,799,807*	*6,713,069*	*(6,522,565)*	*5,990,311*
Total Unrestricted funds	*5,999,807*	*6,713,069*	*(6,532,650)*	*6,180,226*
Restricted funds				
Restricted Funds - all funds	*44,523*	*26,255*	*(57,045)*	*13,733*
Total of funds	*6,044,330*	*6,739,324*	*(6,589,695)*	*6,193,959*

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,444,009	**5,444,009**
Current assets	101,382	3,494,308	**3,595,690**
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,284,586)	**(2,284,586)**
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(384,560)	**(384,560)**
Difference	(8,762)	8,762	**-**
Total	92,620	6,277,933	**6,370,553**

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2022 £	*Unrestricted funds 2022 £*	*Total funds 2022 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*-*	*5,533,315*	*5,533,315*
Current assets	*13,733*	*3,846,500*	*3,860,233*
Creditors due within one year	*-*	*(2,496,699)*	*(2,496,699)*
Creditors due in more than one year	*-*	*(702,890)*	*(702,890)*
Total	*13,733*	*6,180,226*	*6,193,959*

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**176,594**	*149,629*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**209,141**	*208,938*
Interest income	**(32,568)**	*(1,410)*
Decrease in stocks	**-**	*8,244*
Increase in debtors	**(17,247)**	*(18,854)*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**(5,443)**	*305,950*
Net cash provided by operating activities	**330,477**	*652,497*

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	**3,357,978**	*3,639,768*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**3,357,978**	*3,639,768*

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**3,639,768**	**(281,790)**	**3,357,978**
Debt due within 1 year	**(593,666)**	**558,948**	**(34,718)**
Debt due after 1 year	**(678,415)**	**446,480**	**(231,935)**
	2,367,687	**723,638**	**3,091,325**

23. Pension commitments

Pension Arrangements

The College offers membership of defined contribution "Stakeholder" schemes to non-teaching staff. The contributions to these schemes for the year to 31 August 2023 were £39,065 (2022: £32,603) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2023 was £7,358 (2022: £21,264).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)

- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million.

- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI, assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £644,599 (2022: £595,547) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2022 was £74,894 (2022: £280,107).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The College has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The College has set out above the information available on the scheme.

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the College had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	**149,593**	*153,039*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**384,495**	*463,938*
Later than 5 years	**801,750**	*881,925*
	1,335,838	*1,498,902*

The following lease payments have been recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial activities:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals	**122,753**	*114,851*

25. Related party transactions

During the year, reimbursement of Directors expenses amounted to £182 relating to one director (2022: £823 relating to 2 Directors) in relation to travel and subsistence.

During the year, two children of two Directors and two grandchildren of one other Director attended the college (2022: one child of one Director and four grandchildren of three other Directors). Fee discounts are awarded on the same basis as available to other parents.

26. Controlling party

The College, having no share capital, is under the control of the Board of Directors, who are also the Trustees of the College.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 273586

Accounts

Registered number: 01269507
Charity number: 273586

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Abbey Gate College

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COLLEGE, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Directors	Andrew Grime, Chair of Governors[1,2,3,4,5] James Brown, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Governor (appointed 24 March 2022)[1] Emma Bunting, Chair of Finance & Bursaries Committee[1] Paul Carter, Deputy Chair of Governors, Deputy Chair of Curriculum & Learning Committee & EYFS Governor[2] Fraser Crewe, Chair of Estates & Compliance Committee[3] Jeremy Dussek, Deputy Chair of Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee and Prevent Governor (resigned 29 November 2022)[4] Richard Flood, Deputy Chair of Estates & Compliance Committee (resigned 3 September 2021)[3] Sean Gardner, Chair of Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee, Safeguarding Governor, Careers Governor and GDPR Governor (resigned 13 January 2023)[2,4] Roger Hoyle, Chair of Promotions & Communities Committee[5] Tim Stanley, PSHE & RSE Governor[1,5] Damian Stenhouse, Chair of Curriculum & Learning Committee, ECT, SEND and MAGat Governor[2]

[1] Finance & Bursaries Committee
[2] Curriculum & Learning Committee
[3] Estates & Compliance Committee
[4] Pastoral & Wellbeing Committee
[5] Promotions & Communities Committee

Derek Bunting, Noel Dutton, Trevor Manning Foster (deceased 14/02/2022) and Jane Robinson are Foundation Governors who are entitled to atttend Directors' meetings but not to vote. Derek Bunting serves on the Finance & Bursaries Committee, Noel Dutton, Trevor Manning Foster (deceased 14/02/2022) and Jane Robinson serve on the Estates & Compliance Committee.

Company registered number	01269507
Charity registered number	273586
Principal and Registered office	Saighton Grange Saighton Chester CH3 6EN

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COLLEGE, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Company secretary	Brian Wake
Independent Auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Union Street Chester CH1 1UA
Solicitors	Jolliffe & Co Exchange House White Friars Chester CH1 1DP
Insurance Brokers	Hettle Andrews 2 Brunswick Square Birmingham B1 2LP
Senior management team	C Jenkinson, Headteacher - Senior School (appointed 1 September 2021) M Hickey, Headteacher - Infants & Juniors G Allmand, Senior Deputy Headteacher (resigned 31 August 2022) A Austin, Senior Deputy Headteacher (appointed 1 September 2022) R Kennedy, Director of Finance and Operations (resigned 8 July 2022)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their Annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Deeside House Educational Trust Limited for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The charitable company is established to promote and provide for the advancement of education. It has established Abbey Gate College, Chester (the College) to provide a first class education of high academic standard, with individual attention being given to each child. All pupils are encouraged to extend themselves to their full potential both academically and personally.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

Trustees, Governors, Senior Leaders, Staff, Parents and Pupils respectively and appropriately contribute to the on-going review and implementation of the College’s Strategic Plan, which includes an Educational as well as a Business Development Plan.

Our vision is to be the school of first choice in the area for families who seek a personalised, caring, and safe educational environment, with excellent curricular and co-curricular provision, and a commitment to preserve, protect, and progress the world we all share.

In support of the College’s vision, our mission is, within our safe and caring community, that each one of our pupils will become the best that they can be, and have the self-belief to go forward into this changeable world with courage and with compassion.

Since foundation, the College has always aimed to develop and nurture each individual pupil’s character, personal skills, and attitude around a robust core of academic excellence. This is clearly defined by our revised, three, aspirational pillars:

Objectives and activities (continued)



All aspects of our curricular and co-curricular programmes, as well as our continuing development and evolution as a school, aim to establish a strong foundation of life-long resilience, compassion, and creativity, so that each pupil will become an adult with the self-worth, purpose, and courage to thrive in a future world, which they will help to shape for the good of themselves and others.

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

In the academic year of 2021-2022, headline developments included:

1) A new Head from September 2021, with strong leadership experience in both UK and international schools.
2) A review and re-launch of the College's vision, mission, and aims, as above.
3) A review and re-launch of the College's code of conduct for all pupils, as our community moved on from lockdowns and the substantial impact of the 2020/21 pandemic.



4) The appointment of a new Manager of Marketing & Promotions, who is making much clearer, for the benefit of all, what the College's core purpose is and our visual identity.



Objectives and activities (continued)

5) A review and re-launch of the College's House system, in full consultation with students across all years. In addition to the pastoral benefits of vertical grouping within the College's otherwise traditional structure by year group, the fundamental purpose of our Houses to support "Service" to others is more evidently defined and enabled.



6) A review and re-design, led mainly through student consultation, of our College uniform, to include improved gender neutrality within the clothing options.



7) A developmental prioritisation of the emotional and physical safety of all students and staff, specifically within the COVID-context, but also enabling evolved procedures for disclosures, sharing, and behaviour management. This included, for example:

a. An anonymised, digital safeguarding reporting/sharing tool for students;
b. A new digital platform for recording and monitoring safeguarding issues;
c. Increased CCTV across the whole College;
d. Improvements to site security generally across the whole College;
e. Advocacy with the local council in relation to road crossing safety at Saighton Grange;
f. Restrictions on students' use of mobile phones/devices during the school day.

Objectives and activities (continued)

8) A developmental prioritisation of contextual wellbeing, from specific, professional counselling expertise and mental health support, to integrated ways of being, working, and learning each day. This included, for example:
   a. Reviewed & increased non-contact for some staff, particularly pastoral;
   b. Appointment of a new HR Manager i/c Staff Wellbeing;
   c. Weekly services of an additional, professional counsellor as well as a therapist, alongside our existing pastoral teams and expertise;
   d. Reviewed suicidality protocols;
   e. Appointment of a new catering company from Summer ’22 across the College, with staff, student, and parental consultation;
   f. Affiliation with ‘ThoughtBox’ and their Triple Wellbeing Award: Self-Care, People-Care, Earth-Care;
   g. Review of facilities & spaces, including a re-furbishment of our Sixth Form & Learning Enrichment/Support areas, with the kind support of a generous benefaction.





9) A developmental prioritisation of student agency in both academic learning as well as personal growth, with a specific focus on feedback, formative assessment, metacognition, student voice, and leadership responsibilities. This included, for example:
   a. Assessment feedback to feed-forward & pupil response practices;
   b. Increasing value-added outcomes at GCSE & A level;
   c. Evolving student leadership, with 3 Heads of School, each with a clear leadership role in their title, moving on from gender-defined titles;
   d. Developing 3 ‘Student Agencies’ of pupil voice groups and committees across all years:
      i. Self: Learning & Wellbeing & Diversity
      ii. Service: Houses & Charities & Projects
      iii. Sustainability: Ecology & Digital
   e. Re-connecting with and developing further our PTA & Parent Reps.

Objectives and activities (continued)

10) A developmental prioritisation of higher order pedagogical practice in lessons, enabling a variety of 'stretch & challenge' for all pupils, and including enhanced provision for those identified as more able, gifted, and talented (MAGaT). This included, for example:
    a. A new Senior School staff lead for MAGaT provision, and learner profiles for MAGaT pupils;
    b. Staff training, discussion & priority focus;
    c. Creation of a Teaching & Learning policy, with a staff group of pioneers;
    d. Work with the 'Student Agency' for 'Self'.

11) A developmental prioritisation of digital innovation for all pupils and staff, to maximise the effectiveness of remote/blended/hybrid teaching and learning, as well as the use of devices in lessons. This included, for example:
    a. Upgraded Wi-Fi across the whole College, with upgraded network cabinet & switches;
    b. Upgraded cyber-security and insurance;
    c. Surface Pro devices for all staff from Sept. '22, led by a staff group of Digital Pioneers;
    d. Work with the 'Student Agency' for 'Sustainability';
    e. The selection of and migration to a new Management Information System across the whole College from Sept. '22.

d. Main activities undertaken to further the College's purposes for the public benefit

The Directors maintain due regard to the Charity Commission's revised guidance on public benefit.

The College provided a much-valued education to 498 pupils during the year at no cost to the UK Treasury. Pupils are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life. Fees are set at as low a level as possible, whilst ensuring the financial viability of and the ongoing investment in the College, and are consistent with our vision, mission, and aims.

Along with all schools in the country in 2021-22, many of the College's educational and/or public benefit initiatives were limited, restricted or curtailed because of the prevailing pandemic-related context. However, despite these challenges, the College still made every effort to serve others as much as possible.

1) Examples of how our local community benefited from the College's grounds and facilities:
    a. Weekly use by Chester Hockey Club
    b. Termly and holiday clubs run by AJ Huddart (Dodgeball and Tennis)
    c. Weekly football run by Eaton Estates
    d. Weekly football run by local pub – Rake and Pikel
    e. Weekly use by Farndon Netball Club
    f. Weekly football run by Chester Nomads Junior Football Club
    g. Weekly football run by MPH Coaching
    h. Weekly football run by Andrew Whiton
    i. Weekly netball run by Boughton Belles
    j. Termly hire by Chester Music society
    k. Trinity Music Exams
    l. Go Kids Go – Wheelchair sports

2) Examples of direct service/outreach in the local community:
    a. Spirit of Christmas – online charity concert for Neuro Muscular Centre

Objectives and activities (continued)

3) Examples of direct service/outreach in the wider, global community:
   a. Service project with 'Sense Africa' and our link-village in Eswatini – the student and staff expedition to Mlindzini High School took place in July '22.
   b. As Ukrainian refugees arrived in the Chester area, we actively supported host families by:
      i. organising collection of goods & clothes
      ii. designing, making, and promoting yellow and blue Sunflowers, sold and worn in support those suffering from the consequences of war
      iii. providing non-fee/100% bursarial education for 2 Senior School refugee pupils.

4) Examples of indirect service through charitable fund-raising:
   a. £1254 was raised for 'Children in Need'
   b. £250 was raised for Charlie Waller Trust
   c. £269 was raised for the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
   d. £2000 was raised for Visyon, a mental health charity for young people
   e. £2000 was raised for Ark Angels, which supports local animals in need
   f. £1030 was raised for the College's Ukrainian Sunflower Appeal

5) Examples of educational partnership/benefit in the local community:
   a. Subsidised 'Brain Day' lecture for Sixth Form scientists at Christleton High School;
   b. Relationship established with Chester International School for shared initiatives;

Opportunities for the education of pupils whose parents cannot afford to pay full fees are provided through the bursary scheme. Parents benefited to the extent of £67,130 in respect of 18 pupils in the year. The College engaged the services of an external, specialist company to review and advise on all bursarial applications, and help to ensure that the College's practice and decisions are appropriately monitored and managed, with on-going consideration of equality, diversity, and inclusion perspectives.

Other fee awards in the year including scholarships, which were not means-tested, sibling and staff discounts were £236,418.

The availability of bursary and other means-tested awards are, and will continue to be, publicised on the College website and by other means. In assessing means a number of factors are taken into consideration including family income, investments, savings and family circumstances. However, as there are no endowment funds in making awards, the Board have to be mindful to ensure a balance between fee paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards. One important part of the work of the Promotions Committee has been to help raise non fee income to provide an enhanced and equitable bursary provision.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Financial achievements of the College

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2022, which forms part of the financial statements that follows this report, shows a surplus of £149,629 The corresponding surplus for the previous year was £409,069. The inflationary increase in fees as from 1 September 2021 was 2% resulting in gross fees for the year of £6,344,011 (2021: £6,156,211).

The net cash inflow from operating activities was £652,497 (2021: £1,052,727). The net inflow, which is fully explained in the Statement of Cash Flows on page 23, is principally the result of the surplus for the year and additional fees received in advance. Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets were £252,673 (2021: £182,044). Cash at bank increased to £3,639,768 from £3,313,534, however this includes £600,000 of a Government backed Covid Interruption Business Loan (CIBL) taken out in the previous financial year which has subsequently been repaid after the 31 August 2022.

Net current assets at 31 August 2021 of £1,430,676 decreased slightly to £1,363,534 at 31 August 2022 as a result of movement in creditors.

In order to be satisfied that the charitable company has adequate finance facilities to meet its obligations as they fall due and particularly when considering a project involving substantial expenditure, the Directors review detailed budgets and cash flow forecasts and regularly monitor progress against these forecasts. Forecasts are based on the number of pupils and staff in the College at commencement of the current academic year adjusted, when appropriate, to take account of significant changes as and when they happen.

As a charity, parents have the assurance that all the income of the College must be applied for educational purposes. Tax exemption, but not exemption from VAT, is available on educational activities and on investment income and gains provided these are applied for charitable purposes. In addition, a reduction in business rates on property occupied for charitable purposes is available. The financial benefits received from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help to reduce fees and provide bursaries.

b. Review of activities

Pupil Numbers & Fees

Educational activities across a broad range of areas were carried out at the Infant and Junior School at Aldford and at the Senior School at Saighton from ages 4 to 18. The average pupil roll for the year was 498. Year 7 intake for September 2021 was around 60 and 45 in the Lower Sixth/Year 12.

The Board considers detailed budgets at their meeting in March of each year and set the fees for the forthcoming academic year at the lowest level they consider necessary to meet the running costs of the College and provide a modest surplus to enable the continued development of the facilities. In addition, parents are encouraged to contribute, by way of annual donations of £250 towards the Bursary Fund.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Inspection

A Regulatory Compliance Inspection was carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in February 2018.

An Educational Quality Inspection, including a Focused Compliance Inspection, was also carried out by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in April 2022.

Copies of the respective reports are in the public domain and also available on the College's website at https://abbeygatecollege.co.uk.

In the most recent report, inspectors agreed that: "The school is successful in meeting its aim to enable pupils to have the self-confidence to go forward into the changeable world with courage and compassion."





Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Academic & Other Achievements

Despite a decrease in headline attainment at national level, as all schools' results returned, post-lockdowns, to examiner assessment, as compared with school-based assessment in 2020 and 2021; results for Abbey Gate College continued to improve at both A level and GCSE.

A2 Headline Results (Percentage of Entries)

	A*	A	B	C	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C
2022	19%	30%	29%	12%	49%	78%	90%
2021	25%	22%	28%	18%	47%	75%	94%
2020	11%	28%	34%	24%	40%	74%	97%
2019	10%	14%	32%	28%	24%	56%	84%
2018	6%	20%	30%	24%	25%	55%	79%

A2 Further Detail 2022

- Regional A*-A is 32.3%
- National A*-A is 36%

Of the 27 students who were entered for A2 Levels in 2022:

- 17 students achieved at least AAB
- 9 students achieved at least AAA
- A Level Average Points per Entry is 43.13
- A Level Average Points per Pupil is 132.59
- A Level Total Entries is 83

91% of students gained a place at their first choice University with 42% progressing into highly competitive courses at Russell Group Universities.

GCSE Results (Percentage of Entries)

	9-8	9-7	9-5	9-4
2022	27%	47%	85%	96%
2021	21%	43%	87%	97%
2020	18%	41%	86%	99%
2019	14%	34%	81%	94%
2018	10%	21%	71%	93%

GCSE Further Detail 2022

- National 9-7 is 26%
- National 9-4 is 73%

Of the 65 pupils who were enter for GCSEs in 2022:

- 14 pupils achieved 9-7 in English and Maths
- 47 pupils achieved 9-5 in English and Maths
- 59 pupils achieved 5 Standard Passes including English and Maths
- 47 pupils achieved 5 Strong Passes including English and Maths
- 16 pupils achieved 8 or more Grade 7/8/9s across all subjects
- 6 pupils achieved 8 or more Grade 8/9s across all subjects

- Average Total Attainment 8 is 61.42
- Average Attainment 8 Grade is 6.14

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)



INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS!!

FUN IN THE PUMPKIN PATCH!

In early October, the wonderful members of the PTFA transformed the lovely grounds at the Infant and Junior School into our very own vibrant and prolific Pumpkin Patch!

All the children had a wonderful time picking their own pumpkins to take home and carve into any design they liked.

The enthusiastic PTFA members were on hand to help our little farmers on the day - some of the harvest was very heavy!

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR!

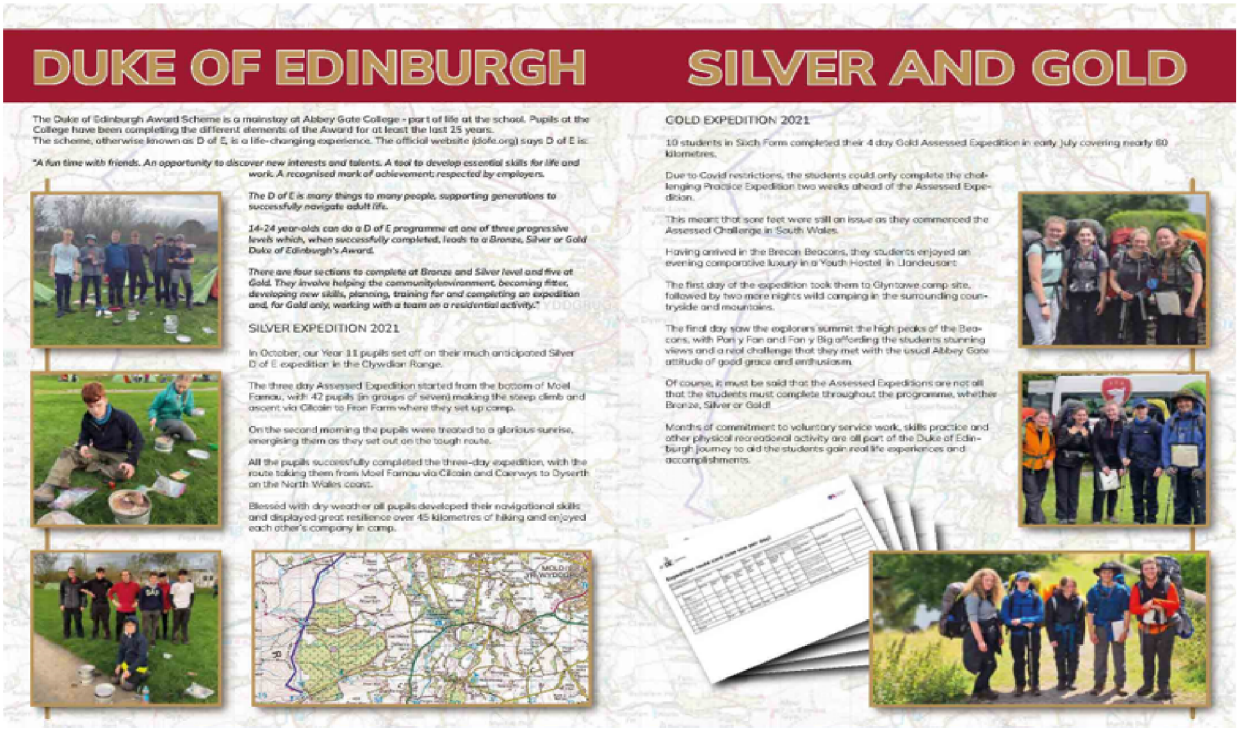
The children at the Infant and Junior School were treated to a Chilling and Thrilling Spooktacular day for Halloween.

The children wore their spooky costumes throughout the day and enjoyed themed lessons, including a modified version of Apple Bobbing, where they had to try to spear apples, bobbing about in a bowl of water, with a fork.

They also got to display some very impressive dance moves at the Halloween Disco, with lots of games including 'Tombstones', an alternative version of 'What's the Time, Mr Wolf'.

The PTFA again put on a wonderful show in the form of a Halloween Fair, where the children could spend their tokens on an array of themed goodies such as beautifully iced biscuits, a spooky lucky-dip and lots of other games and treats.

9



DUKE OF EDINBURGH SILVER AND GOLD

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is a mainstay at Abbey Gate College - part of life at the school. Pupils at the College have been completing the different elements of the Award for at least the last 15 years.
The scheme, otherwise known as D of E, is a life-changing experience. The official website (dofe.org) says D of E is:

"A fun time with friends. An opportunity to discover new interests and talents. A tool to develop essential skills for life and work. A recognised mark of achievement respected by employers.

The D of E is many things to many people, supporting generations to successfully navigate adult life.

14-24 year-olds can do a D of E programme at one of three progressive levels which, when successfully completed, leads to a Bronze, Silver or Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

There are four sections to complete at Bronze and Silver level and five at Gold. They involve helping the community/environment, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition and, for Gold only, working with a team on a residential activity."

SILVER EXPEDITION 2021

In October, our Year 11 pupils set off on their much anticipated Silver D of E expedition in the Clwydian Range.

The three day Assessed Expedition started from the bottom of Moel Famau, with 42 pupils (in groups of seven) making the steep climb and ascent via Cilcain to Fron Farm where they set up camp.

On the second morning the pupils were treated to a glorious sunrise, energising them as they set out on the tough route.

All the pupils successfully completed the three-day expedition, with the route taking them from Moel Famau via Cilcain and Caerwys to Dyserth on the North Wales coast.

Blessed with dry weather all pupils developed their navigational skills and displayed great resilience over 45 kilometres of hiking and enjoyed each other's company in camp.

GOLD EXPEDITION 2021

10 students in Sixth Form completed their 4 day Gold Assessed Expedition in early July covering nearly 60 kilometres.

Due to Covid restrictions, the students could only complete the challenging Practice Expedition two weeks ahead of the Assessed Expedition.

This meant that sore feet were still an issue as they commenced the Assessed Challenge in South Wales.

Having arrived in the Brecon Beacons, they students enjoyed an evening comparative luxury in a Youth Hostel in Llandeusant.

The first day of the expedition took them to Glyntawe camp site, followed by two more nights wild camping in the surrounding countryside and mountains.

The final day saw the explorers summit the high peaks of the Beacons, with Pen y Fan and Fan y Big affording the students stunning views and a real challenge that they met with the usual Abbey Gate attitude of good grace and enthusiasm.

Of course, it must be said that the Assessed Expeditions are not all that the students must complete throughout the programme, whether Bronze, Silver or Gold!

Months of commitment to voluntary service work, skills practice and other physical recreational activity are all part of the Duke of Edinburgh journey to aid the students gain real life experiences and accomplishments.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)



Abbey Gate College

-Young Writers-

"Words are our most inexhaustible source of magic."
J. K. Rowling

'YOUNG WRITERS' - NEW CREATIVE WRITING INITIATIVE LAUNCHED.

Introduced by Head of English Miss Denarski, the Young Writers initiative will provide pupils with a platform to have their written work published!

Pupils can submit poetry, creative writing, opinion articles or creative essays (maximum 400-600 words) and those selected will be published in this section of the Broadsheet each Term.

In this first issue, work submitted by pupils includes poetry, prose, and literary and activity reviews.

-Young Writers-

YOUNG WRITERS SPOTLIGHT

In the Autumn Term, many of our students entered the Young Writers Competition: Empowered.

Libby Matthews (11R) had her poem chosen to be published from over 12,000 entries!

Libby's work will be published in Young Writer's book called Empowered – A Fountain of Ink, and a copy will be in the National Archives of the British Library forever!

This is a huge achievement and should be commended. Here follows another piece written by Libby:

2030

February 17th
My 24th birthday, a life just begun...

Yet this desolate wasteIl once knew as home dims my hope of a life worth living.

Sea levels erupt, merciless in their wake, Neptune's ruthless roars devastate everything daring to defy his corrupted conquest!

The scorching sun spits upon her skin, an abused anatomy of greenery now the recreation ground of the reaper himself.

Vicious vultures hold lifeless tea parties feasting upon the flesh of mother nature's silenced stillborn.

If only we had listened, if only we knew, the impact of our actions back in... 2022.

Libby Matthews (Year 11)

THE BLANKET THAT IS THE EARTH

The Earth is covered by the universe, cosy, warm and untouched.
for so long, hidden in a basket called time, away stars like holes in the universe, galleries like tears in a blanket and warmth and warmth like the soft embrace of the Earth.

By Henriette Luisa Braga Soarez de Magarola (Year 7)

DESERT ISLAND

As the crimson hues ascended across the horizon, the luscious island revealed its identity. The parts of hope circle around the outcrop of rocks in a bitter sea. The crystal, azure water lapped gently on the silky sand, while flamboyant flowers let off a beautiful aroma. The canopy-like palm trees swayed in the gentle breeze which has sloths nestling; the tantalising scent of washed-up waves and bananas; that sweltering sun heating up each singular grain of sand.

Sam Stockton (Year 7)



SPORTING NEWS

U16 ESFA CUP – DECIDED ON SUDDEN DEATH PENALTIES

Verses St. Gregory the Great School: Lost 5 – 4 on penalties.

Full time: 3 – 3. After Extra Time: 4 – 4.

In early January the College U16 Football Squad travelled to Oxfordshire to take on St Gregory the Great School in the ESFA Cup Quarter Final qualifying match.

The 11 hour round trip was certainly action packed and full of incident!

In an all action game, AGC were knocked out in the cruelest of circumstances on sudden death penalties.

The College team dominated early on but the home side found some momentum, aided by a huge long throw weapon and towels aplenty to dry the ball. One of these torpedo throws from St Gregory's saw the loose ball swept in for the equaliser.

Half time: 1-1.

Early in the second half the College were still dominating play and Ben N rebounded his own shot to score before he again flicked in a header for 3-1. The home side responded with a bending free kick before another hopeful free kick looped over the College keeper for a late equaliser.

Full time: 3 – 3.

As fatigue set in, both teams struggled to create clear chances but the home team's long throw weapon struck again with 3 minutes to go and a loose ball was smashed home.

The College squad deserve great credit for driving forward and with the last touch of the game Max W rose to head in a Zac Y corner.

After extra time: 4-4.

Penalties ensued with it ending 4-4 before sudden death penalty kicks decided the tie in favour of the home team.

The Abbey Gate College squad played with excellence, demonstrating great determination and incredible sportsmanship, despite such a disappointing way to lose.

SPORTING NEWS

ISA SWIMMING GALA

In the Autumn term, a team of 27 swimmers headed up to York to compete in the Independent Schools Association interschool swimming gala.

Some of the pupils had never swum in a gala before, so were pushing their personal boundaries, but armed with our new Abbey Gate College branded swimming hats we set off on an adventure!

Pupils swam in individual events (for example the 50m breaststroke or 100m backstroke) as well as racing in either medley or freestyle relays.
Each and every pupil represented the college with determination and amazing team spirit, it was a joy to behold.
If swimmers won their events, they were then selected to represent the 'North' team at the ISA National Swimming Gala at the Olympic Pool in London in November.

Ten of our pupils were awarded this honour, an incredible result for the size of the college!

At the end of November, the pupils travelled down to London and were awarded their blue 'North' cap.

Unfortunately, due to injury and Covid only five swimmers were able to compete on the day: Maddy (Year 7), Charlotte (Year 7), Sam (Year 9), Jack (Year 9) and Katy (Year 11) stepped up to the blocks and took on the six other regional teams.

The day was a great success with pupils walking away having had the experience of a lifetime and with a haul of 5 medals in total, a truly inspiring achievement. Roll on next year.....

Charlotte – Silver 50m breaststroke
Sam – Bronze 200m medley relay
Jack – Bronze 200m medley relay
Katy – Gold 200m freestyle relay and Bronze 100m freestyle.

A remarkable result for our College Community!

PUPILS UNDERGO SPORTING PERFORMANCE ANALYTICS

In mid February selected pupils from all year groups across the Senior School were involved in a day of profiling for sporting performance with specialist and age based analysis with Project MVP analytics.

The testing included strength, vertical jump, agility, reaction time and a 20 metre sprint. Each pupil had their weight, both standing and sitting heights recorded to allow nationwide comparisons.

The test results are sent to all participants to allow analytics in all performance areas and for tutorials to be accessed online on how they can best progress to the next level. Analysis in school allows staff to provide support and opportunities for appropriate fitness programmes to compliment their already busy schedules.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

SENIOR SCHOOL

YEAR 10 HISTORY TRIP: WW1 BATTLEFIELDS

Following the Year 10 Battlefields trip to Northern France and Belgium during Activity Week in June, Head of History, Mr Dickins, has written the following report about the trip - a wonderful experience for all involved.









DAY 1
After 3 years of absence, it felt good to be back on a coach heading down to Dover on our way to the First World War battlefields of Northern France and Belgium. Sleep was in short supply, but for some reason it never seems to matter as the excitement of the ferry crossing and travel abroad takes over. Our first stop was Vimy Ridge - the site of a rare allied breakthrough in 1917. Canadians here dug deep into the chalk to allow them a surprise attack, and we were taken down a section of the intricate tunnel network they built. The memorial that sits on the final objective they achieved in just 3 days is an impressive symbol of Canadian nationhood and overlooks the industrial areas Britain was so keen to deny the Germans.

After a short drive we crossed the border into Belgium and stopped at a stretch of German trenches at Bayernwald. These gave the students a real sense of the nature of the fighting throughout the war. It was here that the British detonated 1 of 19 mines that between them formed the largest non-nuclear explosion the world has yet encountered. 10,000 German soldiers were killed instantly and the battle of Messines was judged by German commanders as the second key reason for their country's overall defeat.
Nearby lies the cemetery of Voormezeele where the great great great uncle of Ed Brown lies. He was an artillery driver and was killed along with 2 other operators in 1917. The site is one of many spread across the region, marking points of the front line where casualties had been heavy.
As the afternoon and tiredness wore on, we finally drove into Ypres where we visited the atmospheric museum 'In Flanders Fields,' housed in the city's impressive Medieval cloth hall. The focus here is very much on the stories of individuals all of whom - as John Macrae wrote - "lived, felt down, saw sunset glow, loved, and were loved..." Throughout the day the pupils seemed deeply affected by what they had discovered, remaining strong ambassadors for the College in spite of the fact they'd been awake for the greater part of 36 hours.

DAY 2
Phillips Senseo Coffee pods fused with an agreeable continental breakfast set us up for our next day exploring the battlefields of the Ypres Salient - specifically focusing on the Chain of Evacuation for British and Imperial casualties.
Essex Farm cemetery was the first stop and after some initial map work orientation tasks, the pupils set about finding the headstone of Valentine Strudwick. At 15 years of age, he was the youngest recorded British fatality on the Western Front. This was something of an eye-opener for our Year 10s. We then moved down to the remains of the Advanced Dressing Station where John Macrae wrote his famous poem 'In Flanders Field'. He composed this in just 20 minutes following the death of his friend the previous day, and Katie Spencer read it sensitively to the group.

From Essex Farm we drove to Lissenjhoek where we found the grave of Lance Corporal Mihaere, the great great great great uncle of Hunter Brownrigg. Mihaere would have been brought here for medical attention, for the cemetery was formally a major Casualty Clearing Station for the surrounding frontline. There are over 10,000 headstones here including that of Nellie Spindler - a nurse who was one of only two women buried in this region. Nellie was a victim of German shelling which had reached the normally safe grounds of the Clearing Station. It was here also that Robertson made great strides in his work on blood transfusions and Crile developed effective techniques to bring the wounded back into consciousness.

The Paschendeale museum was our next stop - an impressive section of trenches that include a reconstructed underground bunker network with kitchen, first aid post, dormitories, command and communication rooms and even toilets.

There was also an extensive collection of World War 1 weaponry - each capable of imposing its own characteristic injury - from gas shells to flamethrowers to grenades and to machine guns - and all appearing in different versions according to their country of manufacture.

In the afternoon we contrasted the German cemetery at Langemarck with the famous British and Commonwealth memorial at Tyne Cot. In the former - the site of the first German gas attack in April 1915, Hugo Hinchcliffe, Abi Langley and Neve Kynman read Wilfred Owen's 'Dulce and Decorum Est.' We also reflected on the mass grave where almost 25,000 German soldiers have been laid to rest. Tyne Cot felt very different, and as we thought about how to attack German dugouts by the side of one which later became a First Aid Post, Hunter Brownrigg's nosebleed allowed Dr Leatherbarrow to work in the footsteps of World War 1 medics.

After a hearty Chicken and Chips meal in 'Ypres' main square, we finished the day at the Menin Gate. Here Alex O'Hare and Paris Laithwaite looked smart and respectful in their college uniforms as they formally laid a wreath during the nightly Last Post ceremony. A participating American Politician also there remarked on how their presence gave hope for the future.

DAY 3
Our final day began with an early drive out of Belgium and back to France - this time to the region of the Somme battlefields. Boncourt cemetery - tucked away in the French countryside - proved a peaceful resting place for another of Hunter's family, this time an infantryman from the Scottish borderers. Many of the soldiers here died either towards the end of 1916 or in the Spring of 1918 when the Germans recaptured much of the land fought over in the previous 3 years.

Thereafter we stopped at the huge Lochnager Crater - caused by one of 19 mines that initiated the first attacks of the Battle of the Somme. It is a truly impressive sight, but the explosion did much to warn the German defenders who then had 2 clear minutes to return from their dugouts and man their frontline trenches. The casualties inflicted on day one are well known - and this section of the battle claimed the highest concentration - some 6,500 within 4 hours.

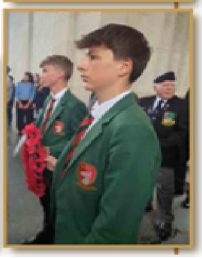
The Newfoundland Park at Beaumont Hammel allowed our pupils a further experience of the trench system and we walked (as Kitchner's army was ordered) down towards the German positions some 200 meters beyond. In 2022, however, there was no machine-gun and shell fire impeding our progress. A final glimpse, then, at the huge memorial at Thiepval ended what proved to be an immensely worthwhile and humbling visit.

Our Year 10 pupils were a great credit to their college and their country - such that the fallen might sense that their sacrifice has not been in vain.











INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

J3 & J4 PRODUCTION - OINK!

The children of J3 and J4 worked tirelessly over several months this year, perfecting their production of 'Oink!', a modern twist on the timeless take of the Three Little Pigs.

The cast were simply phenomenal, their comic timing was perfect, their singing reached extraordinary heights and all performers were polished and professional in a way that belied their tender years.

It was obvious just how much the cast were enjoying themselves, and their performances were met with thunderous applause from the audience.

Of course, the support given by their teachers, including Mrs Richards, Mrs Tomlins, Mrs Dukes and Mrs Faithfull, as well as other support staff, was invaluable.



INFANT AND JUNIOR NEWS

MORE ABLE & TALENTED SCIENCE CLUB

Pupils from classes J4, J5 & J6 were invited to join an extra-curricular science club to complete an exciting but challenging science project. Their project title was 'What effects how quickly an object rolls down a ramp?'.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed planning and investigating different surfaces and angles of their ramps. Challenges included ensuring both accurate and reliable results. Mathematical skills were also tested as pupils were required to calculate mean values and the speed of rolling objects in metres per second.

The finale of the project involved the pupils designing a disability ramp that would be suitable for an infant and junior school.

All the pupils rose to this final challenge and produced well thought out and innovative designs. Many of the pupils even built amazing models of their fabulous designs.

Congratulations to Sonny and Oliver for their winning design which catered for many disability needs and not just wheelchair users.



ISA ATHLETICS NORTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

A number of our children competed in Manchester at the ISA North Junior Athletics competition. This was a new experience for most of our them given the break due to the pandemic and they performed tremendously well!

Our children battled stormy against pupils from 20 other schools, showing that small can be really quite mighty.

There were lots of fantastic individual performances with wins in the 60m sprint, long jump, rounders ball throw, relay finals and an overall win for the J4 Girls team.

As a result of their achievements some pupils were selected to represent the North of England at the ISA National Athletics Championship with some terrific results!
Elsa B - 7th in Throw; Amelie A - 6th in 60m & 4th in Relay;
Emily M - 4th in Long Jump Max N - 3rd in Long Jump & 2nd in relay.

The junior school pupils did really well to qualify for the nationals and competed tremendously well in the finals again some of the best young athletes in the country.



Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Factors relevant to achieve objectives

Additional to activities undertaken to achieve objectives, parental and pupil surveys confirmed:



d. Investment policy and performance

The Charity has no endowment funds and, as the Board policy is to invest all surplus financial resources in improvements to the infrastructure of the College, there are no significant amounts available for investment. Surplus cash is placed with deposit taking institutions for short periods to maximise interest income.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The charitable company has total funds at 31 August 2022 of £6,193,959 (2021: £6,044,330) of which unrestricted funds are £6,180,226 (2021: £5,999,807) and restricted funds £13,733 (2021: £44,523). Of the unrestricted funds, £189,915 (2021: £200,000) have been designated to a Bursary Fund (£39,915) and a Capital Fund (£150,000). Tangible fixed assets are £5,533,315 (2021: £5,489,580) thereby resulting in positive free reserves of £456,996 (2021: free reserves of £310,227).

It is the policy of the Board to invest all available resources in the development of the learning and teaching facilities at Abbey Gate College while exercising prudent financial management having regard to the future needs of the College.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Directors are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the charitable company. They identify risks and assess the impact and establish controls to minimise the effect of major risks. A formal process of review of the risks is undertaken on an on-going and no less than annual basis, with a full Risk Register maintained by the College and the Board of Governors.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee with charity number 273586 and was set up by a Memorandum of Association dated 29 February 2012.

The principal objects of the charitable company as set out in its Articles are to promote and provide for the advancement of education and, in connection therewith, to carry on any school for the education of children of either sex. The charitable company carries on its activities through Abbey Gate College.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the charitable company appoint the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is the Governing Body of the College and the Trustee Board of the charitable company. Board members receive no remuneration for their services as Trustees, Directors or Governors. They are legally responsible as charity Trustees, and as Directors and Governors, for the overall management and control of the charitable company and its educational establishment Abbey Gate College. The Board operates under agreed Terms of Reference and are required to confirm at each Board meeting whether or not they have any conflict of interest.

The Board meets at least once each academic term to review and approve the management affairs of the College and the Head Teacher and Finance Manager are invited to, and report at, these meetings. In addition, the Board meets as necessary without the Head Teacher and Finance Manager being present to review the affairs of the charity that do not impact directly on the College. Such matters relate principally to the succession of Board members and members of the charitable company.

The Board strives to maintain a broad range of skills within its membership and anyone expressing an interest in joining may be invited to do so by the Board. Recruitment to the Board is from within the membership of the charitable company and often follows an invitation to serve on one of the committees of the Board which enables individuals to offer advice in their particular field.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

An induction programme operates which involves familiarisation of new members with the organisation of the College and its affairs, clarifying their individual responsibilities, safeguarding induction and training, and ongoing attendance at appropriate external training sessions and conferences dependent on the needs identified.

d. Pay policy for senior staff

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Directors and the Head Teacher. The Directors meet once a year to review salary benchmarking information relating to this position and set salary and benefit packages accordingly.

e. Organisational structure and decision making

The Board appoints a Head Teacher who is responsible for the overall leadership, management and day to day running of the College and is supported by Leadership Teams of senior and middle leaders.

5 sub-committees operate within the governing structure:
1) Curriculum & Learning
2) Pastoral & Wellbeing
3) Finance & Bursaries
4) Promotions & Communities
5) Estates & Compliance

Specific Terms of Reference exist for each sub-committee along with a regular routine of reporting to the Board each term.

f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

The Directors are mindful of the prevailing economic conditions and have set a revenue budget and capital expenditure plans for the year to 31 August 2023 based on tight financial management with associated fees at as low a level is considered prudent after considering the needs of the College. Significant investment in new facilities will only be undertaken when resources permit.

Funds held as custodian

No assets are held as custodian trustees.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the College for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report including the Strategic report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 College will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the College's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the College and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the College and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, WR Partners, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Bunting
Director
Date: 23rd March 2023



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Deeside House Educational Trust Limited (the 'college') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2022 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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 course of 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The audit team obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are those which relate to the reporting framework (The Charity SORP 2019), the relevant tax compliance regulations and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We understood how the charitable company complies with these frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We also reviewed board minutes to identify any recorded instances of irregularity or non-compliance that might have a material impact on the financial statements.

We reviewed the susceptibility of the charitable company’s financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud may occur by meeting with key management to understand where they considered there was a susceptibly to fraud. Based on our understanding our procedures involved enquiries of management and those charged with governance, manual journal entry testing, cashbook reviews for large and unusual items and the challenge of significant estimates used in preparing the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

We reviewed the charitable company's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the charitable company and its environment and identify and instances of non-compliance. We also assessed the charitable company's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.

The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and charity awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

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 Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

WR Partners

Andrew Malpass BA FCA (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Date: 3rd April 2023

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	**26,255**	**-**	**26,255**	*48,433*
Charitable activities	5	**-**	**6,711,659**	**6,711,659**	*6,312,263*
Investments	7	**-**	**1,410**	**1,410**	*61*
Total income		**26,255**	**6,713,069**	**6,739,324**	*6,360,757*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	**57,045**	**6,532,650**	**6,589,695**	*5,951,688*
Total expenditure		**57,045**	**6,532,650**	**6,589,695**	*5,951,688*
Net movement in funds		**(30,790)**	**180,419**	**149,629**	*409,069*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**44,523**	**5,999,807**	**6,044,330**	*5,635,261*
Net movement in funds		**(30,790)**	**180,419**	**149,629**	*409,069*
Total funds carried forward	18	**13,733**	**6,180,226**	**6,193,959**	*6,044,330*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 27 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01269507

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note		2022 £		*2021 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**5,533,315**		*5,489,580*
			5,533,315		*5,489,580*
Current assets					
Stocks	13	**-**		*8,244*	
Debtors	14	**220,465**		*201,611*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**3,639,768**		*3,313,534*	
		3,860,233		*3,523,389*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	**(2,496,699)**		*(2,092,713)*	
Net current assets			**1,363,534**		*1,430,676*
Total assets less current liabilities			**6,896,849**		*6,920,256*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		**(702,890)**		*(875,926)*
Total net assets			**6,193,959**		*6,044,330*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	18		**13,733**		*44,523*
Unrestricted funds	18		**6,180,226**		*5,999,807*
Total funds			**6,193,959**		*6,044,330*

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Emma Bunting
Director
Date: 23rd March 2023

The notes on pages 27 to 46 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	*2021 £*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	**652,497**	*1,052,727*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		**-**	*4,154*
Capital expenditure		**(252,673)**	*(182,044)*
Net cash used in investing activities		**(252,673)**	**(177,890)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash inflows from new borrowing		**-**	*600,000*
Repayments of borrowing		**(75,000)**	*-*
Bank investment interest received		**1,410**	*61*
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		**(73,590)**	**600,061**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**326,234**	**1,474,898**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**3,313,534**	*1,838,636*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	**3,639,768**	*3,313,534*

The notes on pages 27 to 46 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. General information

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the charity are the trustees named on page 1 of these accounts. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £20 per member of the charitable company.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (issued in October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Going concern

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

2.3 Income

All income is recognised once the charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charitable company's accounting policies.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charitable company which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income (continued)

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charitable company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Taxation

The College is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the College is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% - 7% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% written down value
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% - 25% straight line

2.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.9 Debtors

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

2.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the College anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.12 Financial instruments

The College only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.14 Pensions

The College contributes to personal pension plans for non-teaching staff. Contributions to pension schemes are charged to expenditure as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

2.15 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the College and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the College for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.16 Prepaid Fees Scheme

The College operates a prepaid fees scheme and parents may, subject to contractual terms and conditions, pay to the College tuition fees in advance. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The College makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

- Depreciation rates are determined based on the estimated useful life of the asset.
- Residual value estimates are based on the estimated value at the end of the useful economic life of the asset.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Donations	26,255	-	**26,255**	*12,000*
Government Grants	-	-	**-**	*36,433*
Total 2022	26,255	-	**26,255**	*48,433*
Total 2021	*12,000*	*36,433*	*48,433*	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Teaching	6,711,659	**6,711,659**	*6,312,263*
Total 2022	6,711,659	**6,711,659**	*6,312,263*
Total 2021	*6,312,263*	*6,312,263*	

6. Analysis of income from charitable activities by type of income

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Gross fees receivable	-	6,344,011	**6,344,011**	*6,156,211*
Less: scholarships, bursaries and other discounts	-	(262,425)	**(262,425)**	*(311,948)*
Other income from charitable activity	-	630,073	**630,073**	*447,721*
Bursary donations	26,255	-	**26,255**	*20,279*
Total 2022	26,255	6,711,659	**6,737,914**	*6,312,263*
Total 2021	*-*	*6,312,263*	*6,312,263*	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Other investment income	1,410	**1,410**	*61*
Total 2022	1,410	**1,410**	*61*
Total 2021	*61*	*61*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	*Total 2021 £*
Teaching	-	3,964,643	**3,964,643**	*3,759,034*
Catering Costs	-	402,989	**402,989**	*313,054*
Bus costs	-	211,403	**211,403**	*184,200*
Premises	-	815,906	**815,906**	*730,461*
Support costs of schooling	57,045	1,116,166	**1,173,211**	*952,086*
Governance	-	21,543	**21,543**	*12,853*
Total 2022	57,045	6,532,650	**6,589,695**	*5,951,688*
Total 2021	*-*	*5,951,688*	*5,951,688*	

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2022 £	Depreciation 2022 £	Other costs 2022 £	Total 2022 £	*Total 2021 £*
Teaching	3,707,239	60,748	196,656	**3,964,643**	*3,759,034*
Catering Costs	-	11,948	391,041	**402,989**	*313,054*
Bus costs	-	-	211,403	**211,403**	*184,200*
Premises	142,053	130,189	543,664	**815,906**	*730,461*
Support costs of schooling	537,653	6,054	629,504	**1,173,211**	*952,086*
Governance	-	-	21,543	**21,543**	*12,853*
Total 2022	4,386,945	208,939	1,993,811	**6,589,695**	*5,951,688*
Total 2021	*4,158,253*	*234,476*	*1,558,959*	*5,951,688*	

9. Net Income/(Expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	**208,938**	*234,312*
Operating Lease Charges	**114,851**	*104,704*
Auditors Remuneration	**11,700**	*11,500*
Other Services	**1,800**	*1,475*
	337,289	*351,991*

10. Staff costs

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Wages and salaries	**3,403,377**	*3,237,178*
Social security costs	**355,286**	*325,326*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**628,282**	*595,749*
	4,386,945	*4,158,253*

The average number of persons employed by the College during the year was as follows:

	2022 No.	*2021 No.*
Teaching Staff	**81**	*77*
Support Staff	**28**	*30*
	109	*107*

10. Staff costs (continued)

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2022	*2021*
	No.	*No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	**2**	*1*
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	**1**	*1*
In the band £100,001 - £200,000	**-**	*1*

Key management personnel received remuneration during the year of £337,401 (2021: £331,766)

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2021 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, expenses totalling £823 were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees *(2021 - £930 to 2 Trustees)*. The expenditure related to travel expenses and retirement gifts.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2021	**5,266,414**	**105,997**	**2,180,685**	**7,553,096**
Additions	**17,480**	**-**	**235,193**	**252,673**
At 31 August 2022	**5,283,894**	**105,997**	**2,415,878**	**7,805,769**
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021	**245,510**	**93,242**	**1,724,764**	**2,063,516**
Charge for the year	**45,374**	**3,188**	**160,376**	**208,938**
At 31 August 2022	**290,884**	**96,430**	**1,885,140**	**2,272,454**
Net book value				
At 31 August 2022	**4,993,010**	**9,567**	**530,738**	**5,533,315**
At 31 August 2021	*5,020,904*	*12,755*	*455,921*	*5,489,580*

13. Stocks

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Consumables	**-**	*8,244*

14. Debtors

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**132,322**	*36,185*
Other debtors	**7,610**	*24,902*
Prepayments and accrued income	**80,533**	*140,524*
	220,465	*201,611*

15. Cash at Bank

Various society, sports and similar clubs maintain bank accounts which are administered by the College.

The balance on these various bank accounts is included within cash in bank at 31 August 2022, and within creditors; amounts falling due within one year, is £34,061 (2021: £27,428). The income paid into these accounts in the year to 31 August 2022 of £7,827 (2021: £5,443) is not income of the College and is therefore not included in incoming resources within the Statement of Financial Activities. The expenditure from these accounts was £1,194 (2021: £546) in the year.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Bank loans	**150,000**	*75,000*
Fees in advance	**1,317,745**	*1,527,307*
Trade creditors	**120,492**	*70,634*
Advance fee contracts	**37,990**	*68,659*
Repayable deposits	**18,000**	*18,000*
Other taxation and social security	**263,616**	*77,368*
Other creditors	**405,676**	*148,232*
Accruals and deferred income	**183,180**	*107,513*
	2,496,699	*2,092,713*

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Bank loans	**375,000**	*525,000*
Repayable deposits	**303,415**	*288,460*
Advance fee contracts	**24,475**	*62,466*
	702,890	*875,926*

The bank loan is secured against a legal charge held by Natwest over the leasehold property of the charitable company.

Advance Fee Contracts

Certain parents have entered into contracts to discharge, under certain conditions, the equivalent of up to severn years' tuition fees in advance. Amounts received from advanced fee contracts are included in cash at bank and are dealt with as unrestricted funds. Assuming the pupils concerned remain in College for the expected academic years, advance fees will be applied to fee income as follows:

Movements in the year were:

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Balance at 1 September 2021	**131,125**	*82,232*
Amounts received in the year	**-**	*80,167*
Amounts utilised in the period in settlement of fees	**(68,660)**	*(31,274)*
Amounts accrued to contract as debt financing cost	**-**	*-*
Balance at 31 August 2022	**62,465**	*131,125*

Repayable Deposits

Deposits are taken when pupils commence their education at the College and are repaid when the pupils leave. Hence, the College recognises the asset and the liability in the balance sheet. Assuming the pupils remain in the College for the expected academic years the deposits will be repaid as follows:

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Amounts repayable within one year	**18,000**	*18,000*
Amounts repayable between 1 to 5 years	**74,000**	*74,000*
Amounts repayable after 5 years	**229,415**	*214,460*
	321,415	*306,460*

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds				
Bursary fund	**50,000**	**-**	**(10,085)**	**39,915**
Capital fund	**150,000**	**-**	**-**	**150,000**
	200,000	**-**	**(10,085)**	**189,915**
General funds				
General Funds - all funds	**5,799,807**	**6,713,069**	**(6,522,565)**	**5,990,311**
Total Unrestricted funds	**5,999,807**	**6,713,069**	**(6,532,650)**	**6,180,226**
Restricted funds				
Restricted Funds - all funds	**44,523**	**26,255**	**(57,045)**	**13,733**
Total of funds	**6,044,330**	**6,739,324**	**(6,589,695)**	**6,193,959**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Designated funds
Bursary fund - Over the last 40 years the provision of bursary places has transformed lives, enabling pupils from all backgrounds to follow their dreams and become the person they want to be. The Abbey Gate College Bursary Fund provides children with the opportunity to realise their individual potential through an outstanding education, regardless of financial circumstances.

Capital fund - The Capital Fund was established in 2021 and has been set up to fund capital purchases and developments over the next 5 years. The college are looking to improve the school facilities in order to enhance the learning of pupils. Proposed projects include enhancing the refectory at the senior school, improving the sixth form provision and extending the science laboratories.

During the year £10,085 (2021:£nil) was expended in relation to the Bursary Fund.

Restricted funds
Restricted income includes donations received during the year of £26,255 (2021:£12,000) for the development of teaching facilities and bursaries. £57,045 (2021:£nil) was utilised during the year to support pupils through the bursary scheme. The restricted fund balance for teaching facilities and bursaries is £nil (2021:£30,790).

£nil (2021:£nil) of the £10,000 restricted donation received in 2014/15 was expended for visits to the Royal Philharmonic, with £3,800 remaining. The restricted fund also includes £9,933 for a variety of purposes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Transfers in/out* £	*Balance at 31 August 2021* £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	-	-	-	*50,000*	*50,000*
Capital fund	-	-	-	*150,000*	*150,000*
	-	-	-	*200,000*	*200,000*
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	*5,602,738*	*6,348,757*	*(5,951,688)*	*(200,000)*	*5,799,807*
Total Unrestricted funds	*5,602,738*	*6,348,757*	*(5,951,688)*	-	*5,999,807*
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	*32,523*	*12,000*	-	-	*44,523*
Total of funds	*5,635,261*	*6,360,757*	*(5,951,688)*	-	*6,044,330*

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,533,315	**5,533,315**
Current assets	13,733	3,846,500	**3,860,233**
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,496,699)	**(2,496,699)**
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(702,890)	**(702,890)**
Total	13,733	6,180,226	**6,193,959**

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2021 £	*Unrestricted funds 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*-*	*5,489,580*	*5,489,580*
Current assets	*44,523*	*3,478,866*	*3,523,389*
Creditors due within one year	*-*	*(2,092,713)*	*(2,092,713)*
Creditors due in more than one year	*-*	*(875,926)*	*(875,926)*
Total	*44,523*	*5,999,807*	*6,044,330*

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**149,629**	*409,069*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**208,938**	*234,312*
Interest income	**(1,410)**	*(61)*
Loss on the sale of fixed assets	**-**	*568*
Decrease in stocks	**8,244**	*3,211*
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(18,854)**	*5,160*
Increase in creditors	**305,950**	*400,468*
Net cash provided by operating activities	**652,497**	*1,052,727*

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Cash in hand	**3,639,768**	*3,313,534*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**3,639,768**	*3,313,534*

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**3,313,534**	**326,234**	**3,639,768**
Debt due within 1 year	**(281,659)**	**(312,007)**	**(593,666)**
Debt due after 1 year	**(813,460)**	**135,045**	**(678,415)**
	2,218,415	**149,272**	**2,367,687**

23. Pension commitments

Pension Arrangements

The College offers membership of defined contribution "Stakeholder" schemes to non-teaching staff. The contributions to these schemes for the year to 31 August 2022 were £32,603 (2021: £18,121) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2022 was £21,264 (2021: £nil).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)

- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million.

- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI, assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £595,547 (2021: £577,628) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2022 was £280,107 (2021: £nil).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The College has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The College has set out above the information available on the scheme.

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the College had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Not later than 1 year	**153,039**	*104,923*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**463,938**	*382,960*
Later than 5 years	**881,925**	*962,100*
	1,498,902	*1,449,983*

The following lease payments have been recognised as an expense in the Statement of financial activities:

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Operating lease rentals	**114,851**	*104,704*

25. Related party transactions

During the year, 2 Directors received reimbursement of expenses in the amount of £823 (2021: £930 relating to 2 Directors), relating to travel costs.

During the year, one child of one Director and four grandchildren of three other Directors attended the college (2021: two children of one Director and five grandchildren of three other Directors). Fee discounts are awarded on the same basis as available to other parents.

26. Controlling party

The College, having no share capital, is under the control of the Board of Directors, who are also the Trustees of the College.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 273586

Accounts

Registered number: 01269507
Charity number: 273586

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Abbey Gate College

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COLLEGE, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Directors	Emma Bunting, Chair of Finance[1] Paul Carter, Deputy Chair of Governors[5] Fraser Crewe, Chairman of the Estates Committee (appointed 24 June 2021)[3] Brian M. Dawson (resigned 15 June 2021)[1,4] Jeremy Dussek, Deputy Chair of Safeguarding Committee[4] Richard Flood, Deputy Chair of Estates Committee (resigned 3 September 2021)[3] Sean Gardner, Chair of Safeguarding Committee[2,4] Andrew Grime, Chair of Board[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8] Roger Hoyle, Chair of Promotions Committee (appointed 26 November 2020)[8] Tim Stanley[1,8] Damian Stenhouse, Chair of Education Committee (appointed 26 November 2020)[2,6] Edward Trevor-Barnston, Chair of Promotions Committee (resigned 10 August 2021)[8] Brian Wake, Company Secretary[3]

[1] Finance Committee
[2] Education Committee
[3] Estates Committee
[4] Safeguarding Committee
[5] EYFS and Junior School responsibility
[6] SEND Governor
[7] PREVENT Governor
[8] Promotions Committee

Derek A. Bunting, Noel Dutton, Trevor Manning Foster and E. Jane Robinson are Foundation Governors who are entitled to atttend Directors' meetings but not to vote. Derek A. Bunting serves on the Finance Committee, Noel Dutton, Trevor Manning Foster and E. Jane Robinson serve on the Estates Committee.

Company registered number	01269507
Charity registered number	273586
Principal and Registered office	Saighton Grange Saighton Chester CH3 6EN

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE COLLEGE, ITS DIRECTORS AND ADVISERS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Company secretary	Brian Wake
Independent Auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Union Street Chester CH1 1UA
Solicitors	Jolliffe & Co Exchange House White Friars Chester CH1 1DP
Insurance Brokers	Hettle Andrews 2 Brunswick Square Birmingham B1 2LP
Senior management team	Mrs T Pollard, Headmistress (Retired 31 August 2021) Mr C Jenkinson, Headmaster (Started 1 September 2021) Mr G Allmand, Deputy Head Mrs R Kennedy, Director of Finance and Operations

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Deeside House Educational Trust Limited for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletins 1 and 2.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The charitable company is established to promote and provide for the advancement of education. It has established Abbey Gate College, Chester (the College) to provide a first class education of high academic standard, with individual attention being given to each child. All pupils are encouraged to extend themselves to their full potential both academically and personally.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

b. Strategies for achieving objectives

The review of the Strategic Plan establishes a clear direction for the College with teaching, learning and pastoral care at its core. Ensuring the continued improvement in standards, results and the educational experience for all pupils is our primary focus for the future.

Regular contact with parents is maintained throughout the year by informal contact, letters from the Leadership Team, letters via Clarion Call, a text and email messaging service, information presented to pupils through the pupil portal of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and to parents via the parental VLE, the termly Broadsheet publication and weekly Infant and Junior School newsletter. Pupils have Form Tutors, Heads of Year, a Head of House and a Head of Key Stage responsible for their pastoral care and academic development, under the guidance of the Head of Pastoral.

Pupils are also members of a Pastoral House; there are three houses at both the Junior School and the Senior School. This house system provides continuity of care throughout and gives a structure for competitions, motivating pupils through the awarding of House Points and raising money for charitable causes.

In addition, the College seeks to play a significant part in the life of the community by providing access to the facilities and as a venue for external music examinations.

Staff and pupils are actively encouraged to participate in community and charity activities both collectively and individually.

In order to promote continuity for families, fee reductions are available to parents who have more than one child at the College and bursary awards are made annually to assist parents to meet the fees in circumstances where they would not otherwise be able to do so.

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

The Abbey Gate College mission statement is:

"At Abbey Gate College, our children are at the heart of everything we do. We promote a love of learning, academic ambition and excellence within a welcoming, safe and caring community. We nurture our pupils' potential, encourage aspiration and develop their understanding of the wider world. Together, we strive to make a positive contribution to society. We foster an environment in which achievement and personal development in all contexts is celebrated and endeavour is recognised. Pupils are instilled with a 'can do' attitude giving them the confidence to make a difference and 'Be Someone'."

Aims

At Abbey Gate College, we aim to inspire our pupils to:

- Achieve individual academic excellence
- Become happy, confident, fulfilled and resilient young people
- Embrace enrichment opportunities to discover and realise their full potential
- Enjoy learning and be ambitious
- Become tolerant individuals with respect for others
- Develop a strong moral code and be responsible members of society

In achieving these aims, the College builds the self confidence of pupils and prepares them for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences for the next chapters in their lives.

In setting the objectives for the year and planning the activities the Directors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Abbey Gate College is committed to welcoming children from all backgrounds. Before admitting a pupil the Head Teacher satisfies herself that the College will be able to educate and develop the pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews, assessments and references are undertaken in order to provide the assurance, and to assure parents, that prospective pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education provided. An individual's economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of the assessment processes.

Abbey Gate College is an equal opportunity organisation and is committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Reasonable adjustments are made to meet the needs of staff and pupils who are, or become, disabled. There is a rigorous anti bullying policy in force.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of pupils and insists that all staff and volunteers share this commitment.

Parents are given information about their children's social and academic progress through Parents' Evenings in addition to end of year reports and regular progress and/or assessment cards.

The whole school targets for the year to 31 August 2021, which have been achieved, included:

- To maximize pupils' academic achievement through effective feedback, tracking and intervention;
- To encourage pupils to take responsibility for their personal development and academic progress;
- To create environments in which collaborative learning takes place and
- To develop and embed strategies for well being and resilience in pupils and staff.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Whilst the College now has the benefit of planning permission for the addition of two new Science Labs and a re modelled Sixth Form Centre, major capital projects were put on hold in light of the pandemic. Nevertheless, smaller but still significant improvements were made to the infrastructure. The roll out of LED lighting has continued. A much-needed theatre projector has been purchased which will improve the quality of our productions, a Bratt pan has also been purchased and the catering team await the fitting of this new equipment, whilst we liaise with the Estate on gas trench works. Pupil and staff laptops have been bought and this will continue with further purchases of ICT equipment for both staff and pupils as we develop our innovative technologies.

d. Main activities undertaken to further the College's purposes for the public benefit

The Directors maintain due regard to the Charity Commission's revised guidance on public benefit.

The College provided a first-class education to 499 pupils during the year at no cost to the UK Treasury. Pupils are prepared for the opportunities, responsibilities, and experiences of later life. Fees are set at as low a level as possible whilst ensuring the financial viability of the College and are consistent with the aim of providing a first-class education to boys and girls.

The College shares its facilities and expertise with community organisations wherever possible.

The report will make mention of activities in pre-Covid times in order to put into context the plans for the future.

A number of local cricket teams have and continue to benefit from the use of the College's facilities, both for winter nets practice as well as outdoor matches in the summer months. Several regional football tournaments have also been hosted including ones for independent schools and local state secondary schools. The sports facilities, including the playing fields, outside courts, sports hall and all weather pitch have also been used by a range of other groups including local football teams, Chester Hockey, Boughton Belles netball club, and the Beth Tweddle Gymnastics club. Before Covid, a local primary school also made use of the all weather surface for the benefit of its pupils.

Previously the College has played host to the charity 'Go Kids Go' which saw youngsters use the College grounds to help them learn how to manoeuvre themselves around in a wheelchair via a 'Wheelchair Mobility Workshop' as well inviting local primary schools to the College to take part in exciting workshops; now that the 'educational bubbles' have been removed, the College will look to open its doors to its community once more. Previous events have included a Science Day, a Harry Potter themed day, an Inter School Quiz which is held for local primary schools using the College's facilities and expertise of the College staff and where parents of the pupils and staff from the primary schools are also invited to be an audience at the event. A Careers Fair has previously been organised for Year 5 pupils from local primary schools and the College's careers co-ordinator, in liaison with careers service MPloy, have arranged for a number of businesses to attend the event and the have pupils enjoyed a morning learning about the fire service, the NHS and engineering amongst many others. As soon as we can host these events on site once more, such opportunities will be explored for the benefit of our local partners.

Choral music continues to be a considerable strength of the College in terms of the standards achieved and levels of participation. It plays a significant part in the College's contribution to the musical life of the wider Chester community. Our choir and musical ensembles regularly perform at events for the local community and while previous events included: at Chester Cathedral for the Neuro muscular charity; for Nat West in Chester; at a Christmas Concert at St. Werburgh's Church Chester; and at the Christmas lunch of the Chester Business Network, there are plans to once again provide music for a range of local, regional and national events and services, beginning with College recitals and a service at Chester Cathedral. A local chamber music society has also made use of the facilities in the music school as does The Trinity College of Music.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Service learning, including fund raising for charity and raising awareness are an important part of the College ethos. The charities 'Trauma Response Network' and 'Young Carers' were nominated for fund raising efforts through the College house scheme during the last few years and both benefitted from a total of over £10,000 being raised. Other fund raising efforts at the Senior School include those for Children in Need and the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Charities for the academic year 2021/22 are planned to be Visyon, a mental health charity and Ark Angels, which supports local animals in need.

Just before Covid shut down the College's outreach activities, plans were being made to link with the new local Care home, Deewater Grange. Now that society is opening up once again, the links that had been discussed can be explored once again. College's established link with Saighton Primary School led to the Senior School being invited to take part in the recent school and community remembrance service in Saighton Village.

In July 2022 (postponed from 2020), a number of Sixth Form pupils and staff from the College are planning to visit the College's partner school in Eswatini, Mlindzini High. Pupils are currently planning their visit and undertaking fundraising events to finance the trip.

Opportunities for education of pupils whose parents cannot afford to pay full fees are provided through the bursary scheme. Parents benefited to the extent of £74,118 in respect of 19 pupils in the year.

Other fee awards in the year including scholarships, which were not means tested, sibling and staff discounts were £223,935.

The availability of bursary and other means tested awards are, and will continue to be, publicised on the College website and by other means. In assessing means a number of factors are taken into consideration including family income, investments, savings and family circumstances. However, as there are no endowment funds in making awards the Board have to be mindful to ensure a balance between fee paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards. One important part of the work of the Promotions Committee has been to help raise non-fee income to provide an enhanced and equitable bursary provision. This work was adversely affected by the pandemic

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Main achievements of the College

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021, which forms part of the financial statements that follows this report, shows a surplus of £409,069 The corresponding surplus for the previous year was £279,186. The inflationary increase in fees as from 1 September 2020 was 0% resulting in gross fees for the year of £6,156,211 (2020: £6,046,340 before fee rebates relating to the pandemic of £276,756).

The net cash inflow from operating activities was £1,052,727 (2020: £191,482). The net inflow, which is fully explained in the Statement of Cash Flows on page 22, is principally the result of the surplus for the year and additional fees received in advance. Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets were £182,044 (2020: £150,978). Cash at bank increased to £3,313,534 from £1,838,636 at the previous year-end which includes £600,000 of a Government backed Covid Interruption Business Loan (CIBL)

Net current assets at 31 August 2020 of £407,042 increased to £1,430,676 at 31 August 2021 as a result of operating cash flows.

In order to be satisfied that the charitable company has adequate finance facilities to meet its obligations as they fall due and particularly when considering a project involving substantial expenditure, the Directors review detailed budgets and cash flow forecasts and regularly monitor progress against these forecasts. Forecasts are based on the number of pupils and staff in the College at commencement of the current academic year adjusted, when appropriate, to take account of significant changes as and when they happen.

As a charity, parents have the assurance that all the income of the College must be applied for educational purposes. Tax exemption, but not exemption from VAT, is available on educational activities and on investment income and gains provided these are applied for charitable purposes. In addition, a reduction in business rates on property occupied for charitable purposes is available. The financial benefits received from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help to reduce fees and provide bursaries.

b. Review of activities

Pupil numbers and fees

Educational activities across a broad range of areas were carried out at the Infant and Junior School at Aldford and at the Senior School at Saighton from ages 4 to 18. Year 7 intake for September 2020 was 64 and 31 enrolled for the Lower Sixth.

The Board considers detailed budgets at their meeting in March of each year and set the fees for the forthcoming academic year at the lowest level they consider necessary to meet the running costs of the College and provide a modest surplus to enable the continued development of the facilities. In addition, parents are encouraged to contribute, by way of annual donations of £250, to assist with the cost of developing and modernising teaching facilities and equipment.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Inspection

A Regulatory Compliance Inspection was carried out by The Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in February 2018. The College was found to be fully compliant, and a copy of the inspection report is available on the College's website at https://abbeygatecollege.co.uk/

The College was due to have an Educational Quality Inspection in February 2021, this was postponed due to the pandemic. College staff prepare for the next inspection and await confirmation of the date.

Academic achievements

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Our A level results this academic year were excellent with 100% pass rate and 94% of our students obtaining a grade of A* to C, there was much to celebrate. 90% of students gained a place at their first choice University with 45% progressing into highly competitive courses at Russell Group Universities.

We were delighted that 97% of all results awarded at GCSE level were Grades 9-4 and that 43% of the grades awarded were 9-7 in one or more of their subjects.

For the past four years our A level results, published by the Department for Education have placed us top or near to the top in the Chester and Cheshire West for Pupil Progress. This important document includes all state maintained and independent schools in the area and shows that on entry to Sixth Form our students achieved the best value-added score based on GCSE results in their actual examinations.

The Summer 2021 results were determined via Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs). Pupils sat robust assessments during the end of the academic year. These assessments, along with work that had been completed earlier in the year, formed the Assessment Record that the TAGs were calculated from. Assessments were standardised against examination board criteria and moderated within department areas (supported by a member of the Leadership Team). Finally, the grades were scrutinised by the Headmistress to ensure they had been fairly determined (i.e., no unconscious bias had affected them), and that all College procedures had been followed.

Extra Curricular Activities

In all cases the involvement in extra-curricular activities from September 2020 until June 2021 was sparse and sporadic, with visits and activities only starting to pick up towards the end of the summer term. We were, however, able to run several end-of-exam celebration trips for Upper Sixth and Year 11 pupils prior to their departure in June.

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A re-scheduled Activity Week saw lots of our youngsters being taken outside of their comfort zones and participating in a variety of trips and experiences. These included a number of adventurous and team building events for all Year groups, as well as a range of on-site activities including working with drones, a one-day film school, circus skills and careers planning for both Year 10 and Lower Sixth pupils. We were also able to run a number of postponed Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions, enabling pupils to complete their Awards.

The College will seek to reinstate all possible activities when it is safe to do so and Government guidance allows it.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Activities beyond the curriculum continue to enrich the educational and learning experiences for pupils of all ages. Our extra curricular activities calendar is varied and very full. We try to ensure that each pupil has access to as many activities as possible. Within the Music department each pupil has access to peripatetic music teachers who offer tuition in a wide range of musical instruments. The College is renowned for the high calibre of its Chapel Choir with strong links to Chester Cathedral. The choir tour frequently around the UK and to other cities abroad and performs annually at St Paul's Cathedral.

Drama productions at the College are of a high standard across all age groups and plays are performed annually in the theatre at the Senior School.

Sport is an increasing area of strength due to the extension of the sporting facilities (Teaching and Sports Pavilion in June 2016 and All-Weather Pitch in January 2018). The College continues to compete in local, regional and national competitions across a range of year groups in a range of sports.

Our pupils take place in academic competitions, such as the Physics Olympiad, the UK Maths Challenge and the Young Enterprise Scheme. Many curriculum departments have created links with local, regional, national and international communities and these have included visits to local businesses, universities, field study centres both home and abroad and included specific educational trips pertinent to particular subjects.

The Duke of Edinburgh Scheme remains extremely popular, with a significant number of pupils participating at Bronze, Silver and Gold Level.

Other Activities

Pupils take part in the creative arts across both sites and are prepared in order to compete in a variety of classes in the Chester Speech and Drama Festival and Shropshire Speech and Drama Festival.

As restrictions allow, our Chapel Choir alongside our Concert Band, the Syncopators, Saightonians and soloists will be once again involved in numerous performances, services and concerts throughout the year.

Our whole school charity for this year was the Carers Trust, rolled over from the 2019/20 academic year in order to continue to raise funds. We were able to present £3,307 to the Charity after a number of innovative and personal challenges completed by the pupils.

Promotion of literacy across all year groups once more led us to be involved in the Roald Dahl Foundation Readathon, the whole college participated in World Book Day and once again the BBC School Report Day challenged our youngsters to create film and editorial work across a range of subjects.

We are continuing to concentrate on promoting positive Mental Health and Wellbeing for all in this year and nearly 90% of all of our staff (teaching and support staff) have been successfully trained in the internationally accredited adult two day Mental Health First Aid course (by MHFA England), and half day 'Mental Health Aware' course. This training has proved vital in order to continue to support our children through their return to school and the current on going situation. The College continues to identify those pupils who may need a little extra support with their well being and are liaising with a counsellor to support any individual.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Pastoral and Wellbeing

Despite the significant pressures that our pupils have faced over the last year, we are extremely proud of how the vast majority have continued to cope with resilience and fortitude. Understandably, for some, there have been challenges that have needed input and support from teachers, pastoral team members and our College Counsellor. Through assemblies, Form Times and general contact with pupils, we have shared information about wellbeing and the importance of this being nurtured at all times.

For some pupils, the disruption to life and the limitations on their ability to socially integrate has resulted in them having to re-adjust to more 'normal' circumstances. The pastoral team have been busy supporting pupils in this regard.

c. Factors relevant to achieve objectives

The key objectives for the year to 31 August 2021 are to continue to provide educational excellence in academic and extra curricular areas while responding to national changes in both specification and examination structure, to develop the curriculum further and enhance opportunities for pupils.

The whole school targets for the 2020/21 academic year are:

Pupils' achievements
- To maximise the academic achievement of all pupil groups through inspirational teaching, effective feedback and targeted intervention
- To embed effective independent learning skills in the delivery of the curriculum and encourage pupils to take responsibility for their learning
- To maximise pupils' engagement and active involvement in all lessons

Pupils' development
- To embed strategies for wellbeing and resilience in pupils, in order to foster a growth mind-set
- To ensure that pupils develop strong levels of tolerance and understanding (including the 9 protected characteristics) as a result of the effective teaching of Fundamental British Values
- To ensure that all pupils have knowledge of and access to a wide range of enrichment activities to encourage ambition, confidence and personal drive

d. Investment policy and performance

The Charity has no endowment funds and, as the Board policy is to invest all surplus financial resources in improvements to the infrastructure of the College, there are no significant amounts available for investment. Surplus cash is placed with deposit taking institutions for short periods to maximise interest income.

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The charitable company has total funds at 31 August 2021 of £6,044,330 (2020: £5,635,261) of which unrestricted funds are £5,999,807 (2020: £5,602,738) and restricted funds £44,523 (2020: £32,523). Of the £5,999,807 unrestricted funds, £200,000 (2020:£nil) have been designated to a Bursary Fund (£50,000) and a Capital Fund (£150,000). Tangible fixed assets are £5,489,580 (2020: £5,546,569) thereby resulting in positive free reserves of £310,227 (2020: free reserves of £56,169).

It is the policy of the Board to invest all available resources in the development of the learning and teaching facilities at Abbey Gate College while exercising prudent financial management having regard to the future needs of the College.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Directors are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the charitable company. They identify risks and assess the impact and establish controls to minimise the effect of major risks. A formal process of review of the risks is undertaken on an annual basis.

The major risks that have been identified in the Risk Register are:
- Impact of pandemic;
- External financial factors – increased cost as a result of Government or external decisions;
- Pupil numbers fall below that required to operate the College effectively and invest in future improvements;
- A serious accident or incident occurs involving the College and /or its pupils/staff, which has potential to harm reputation if not dealt with effectively;
- Failure of ICT equipment and systems;
- Failure to attract, recruit and retain high quality staff;
- Non compliance with legal and regulatory requirements including GDPR; and

The key controls in place are as follows:
- Articles of Association are documented;
- Formal meeting agendas are prepared and minutes of all Board and committee meetings are produced and circulated to all Board members and the Head Teacher and Bursar;
- Committee minutes are circulated to all Board members and the Head Teacher and Bursar;
- The Board approves, and annually reviews, terms of reference for all committees;
- Comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management reporting systems are in operation;
- A clearly defined organisational structure and lines of reporting are in place;
- Formal written policies and risk assessments on key issues are approved by the Board and Leadership Team and are reviewed regularly;
- The Board has established, and reviews, authorisation and approval levels which are disseminated;
- An induction process is in place for new Directors and all members of staff;
- Compliance is monitored by all Committees and a Compliance Officer has been appointed;
- Safeguarding procedures and policies are in place and adherence is monitored. These procedures include vetting as required by law, and the taking up of references for new employees;
- Health & Safety procedures and policies are in place and adherence is monitored. The Health and Safety Liaison Governor reports into the Estates Committee;
- A Critical Incident Management Plan is updated annually by the College Leadership Team and shared with all Directors and Staff;
- A strategic plan, business plan and College development plan are in place and reviewed by the Directors and Leadership Team to ensure alignment of key aims and objectives and track progress;
- A robust system for tracking and monitoring of pupils' academic progress is in place, and appropriate actions and intervention strategies implemented as required to ensure pupils achieve their best possible results; and
- Clear role description, induction processes and career progression opportunities are in place for teaching and support staff, plus skills assessment and deputisation arrangements for key roles.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee with charity number 273586 and was set up by a Memorandum of Association dated 29 February 2012.

The principal objects of the charitable company as set out in its Articles are to promote and provide for the advancement of education and, in connection therewith, to carry on any school for the education of children of either sex. The charitable company carries on its activities through Abbey Gate College.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the charitable company appoint the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is the Governing Body of the College and the Trustee Board of the charitable company. Board members receive no remuneration for their services as Trustees, Directors or Governors. They are legally responsible as charity Trustees, and as Directors and Governors, for the overall management and control of the charitable company and its educational establishment Abbey Gate College. The Board operates under agreed Terms of Reference and are required to confirm at each Board meeting whether or not they have any conflict of interest.

The Board meets at least once each academic term to review and approve the management affairs of the College and the Head Teacher and Bursar are invited to, and report at, these meetings. In addition, the Board meets as necessary without the Head Teacher and Bursar being present to review the affairs of the charity that do not impact directly on the College. Such matters relate principally to the succession of Board members and members of the charitable company.

The Board strives to maintain a broad range of skills within its membership and anyone expressing an interest in joining may be invited to do so by the Board. Recruitment to the Board is from within the membership of the charitable company and often follows an invitation to serve on one of the committees of the Board which enables individuals to offer advice in their particular field.

c. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

An induction programme operates which involves familiarisation of new members with the organisation of the College and its affairs, clarifying their individual responsibilities, safeguarding induction and training, and ongoing attendance at appropriate external training sessions and conferences dependent on the needs identified.

d. Pay policy for senior staff

The key management personnel of the charitable company comprise the Directors, the Head Teacher, the Director of Finance and Operations. The Directors meet once a year to review salary benchmarking information relating to these positions and set salary and benefit packages accordingly.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Organisational structure and decision making

The Board appoints a Head Teacher who is responsible for the management and day to day running of the College and is supported by a Leadership Team. The Head Teacher determines the curriculum, admits pupils and also appoints, and is responsible for the management of, the teaching staff. The Director of Finance and Operations, who reports to the Head Teacher, is responsible for the day to day management of College finances, for the maintenance of the buildings, grounds and equipment, ICT infrastructure and the recruitment and management of nonteaching staff. The Board agrees the policies and the financial limits under which the Head Teacher and the Director of Finance and Operations operate and their detailed responsibilities and powers are set out in their job descriptions.

Five committees operate within the governing structure, the Finance Committee, an Estates Committee, Safeguarding Committee, Promotions Committee and an Education Committee. These operate as subcommittees of the Board and their responsibilities and authority levels are set out in Terms of Reference approved by the Board. Minutes of meetings of the committees are circulated to all Board members. The Head Teacher and the Director of Finance and Operations are invited to attend all meetings of these committees and designated members of the teaching and support staff are also invited to attend appropriate meetings of committees.

f. Financial risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

Plans for future periods

The Directors are mindful of the prevailing economic conditions and have set a revenue budget and capital expenditure plans for the year to 31 August 2021 based on tight financial management with associated fees at as low a level is considered prudent after considering the needs of the College. Investment in the new facilities referred to above, while being planned for, will only be undertaken when resources permit.

Funds held as custodian

No assets are held as custodian trustees.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the College for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report including the Strategic report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the College and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, 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 of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 College will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the College's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the College and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the College and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustees' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

The auditors, WR Partners, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Emma Bunting
Director
Date: 17 May 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Deeside House Educational Trust Limited (the 'college') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 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 Companies Act 2006.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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 charitable company'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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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 course of 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The audit team obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are those which relate to the reporting framework (The Charity SORP 2019), the relevant tax compliance regulations and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We understood how the charitable company complies with these frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We also reviewed board minutes to identify any recorded instances of irregularity or non-compliance that might have a material impact on the financial statements.

We reviewed the susceptibility of the charitable company’s financial statements to material misstatement including how fraud may occur by meeting with key management to understand where they considered there was a susceptibly to fraud. Based on our understanding our procedures involved enquiries of management and those charged with governance, manual journal entry testing, cashbook reviews for large and unusual items and the challenge of significant estimates used in preparing the financial statements.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED (CONTINUED)

We reviewed the charitable company's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the charitable company and its environment and identify and instances of non-compliance. We also assessed the charitable company's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.

The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and charity awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

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 Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Andrew Malpass BA FCA (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

17 May 2022

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	**12,000**	**36,433**	**48,433**	*172,436*
Charitable activities	5	**-**	**6,312,263**	**6,312,263**	*5,848,262*
Investments	7	**-**	**61**	**61**	*3,793*
Total income		**12,000**	**6,348,757**	**6,360,757**	*6,024,491*
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	**-**	**5,951,688**	**5,951,688**	*5,745,305*
Total expenditure		**-**	**5,951,688**	**5,951,688**	*5,745,305*
Net movement in funds		**12,000**	**397,069**	**409,069**	*279,186*
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		**32,523**	**5,602,738**	**5,635,261**	*5,356,075*
Net movement in funds		**12,000**	**397,069**	**409,069**	*279,186*
Total funds carried forward		**44,523**	**5,999,807**	**6,044,330**	*5,635,261*

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

DEESIDE HOUSE EDUCATIONAL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	2021 £		2020 £	
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		**5,489,580**		*5,546,569*
			5,489,580		*5,546,569*
Current assets					
Stocks	13	**8,244**		*11,455*	
Debtors	14	**201,611**		*206,771*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**3,313,534**		*1,838,636*	
		3,523,389		*2,056,862*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	**(2,092,713)**		*(1,649,820)*	
Net current assets			**1,430,676**		*407,042*
Total assets less current liabilities			**6,920,256**		*5,953,611*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		**(875,926)**		*(318,350)*
Net assets excluding pension asset			**6,044,330**		*5,635,261*
Total net assets			**6,044,330**		*5,635,261*
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	18		**44,523**		*32,523*
Unrestricted funds	18		**5,999,807**		*5,602,738*
Total funds			**6,044,330**		*5,635,261*

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

Emma Bunting
Director
Date: 17 May 2022



The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	2021 £	*2020 £*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	**1,052,727**	*191,482*
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		**4,154**	*2,600*
Capital expenditure		**(182,044)**	*(150,978)*
Net cash used in investing activities		**(177,890)**	**(148,378)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash inflows from new borrowing		**600,000**	-
Bank investment interest received		**61**	*3,793*
Net cash provided by financing activities		**600,061**	**3,793**
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**1,474,898**	**46,897**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**1,838,636**	*1,791,739*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21	**3,313,534**	*1,838,636*

The notes on pages 23 to 42 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. General information

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the charity are the trustees named on page 1 of these accounts. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £20 per member of the charitable company.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the second edition of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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) (issued in October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

2.2 Company Status

Deeside House Educational Trust Limited is a charitable company limited by guarentee. The Directors named on page 1 are the Trustees of the charitable company and the Governors of the educational establishment. The company is limited by guarantee of its members, who appoint the Board of Directors. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarentee is limited to £20 per member.

The charitable company constitues a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

2.3 Going concern

After making enquires, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charitable company therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

The Trustees have also assessed the potential impact on the future operations of the charitable company with regard to the Covid-19 outbreak. The charitable company is considered to be well positioned given the current environment with no impact on the going concern basis of the financial statements.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Income

All income is recognised once the charitable company has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charitable company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charitable company, can be reliably measured.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset class and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charitable company's accounting policies.

On receipt, donated professional services and facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charitable company which is the amount it would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charitable company and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charitable company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charitable company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.7 Taxation

The College is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the College is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £NIL or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation (continued)

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, .

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% - 7% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% written down value
Fixtures and fittings	- 5% - 25% straight line

2.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

2.10 Debtors

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

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the College anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

2.13 Financial instruments

The College only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.14 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.15 Pensions

The College contributes to personal pension plans for non-teaching staff. Contributions to pension schemes are charged to expenditure as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the schemes.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

2.16 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the College and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the College for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

2.17 Prepaid Fees Scheme

The College operates a prepaid fees scheme and parents may, subject to contractual terms and conditions, pay to the College tuition fees in advance. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The College makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

- Depreciation rates are determined based on the estimated useful life of the asset.

- Residual value estimates are based on the estimated value at the end of the useful economic life of the asset.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Donations	12,000	-	**12,000**	*30,364*
Government Grants	-	36,433	**36,433**	*142,072*
	12,000	36,433	**48,433**	*172,436*
Total 2020	*30,364*	*142,072*	*172,436*	

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Teaching	6,312,263	**6,312,263**	*5,848,262*
Total 2020	*5,848,262*	*5,848,262*	

6. Analysis of income from charitable activities by type of income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Gross fees receivable	6,156,211	**6,156,211**	*6,046,340*
Less: scholarships, bursaries and other discounts	(311,948)	**(311,948)**	*(611,736)*
Other income from charitable activity	447,721	**447,721**	*405,657*
Bursary donations	20,279	**20,279**	*8,000*
Total 2021	6,312,263	**6,312,263**	*5,848,261*
Total 2020	*5,848,261*	*5,848,261*	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Other investment income	61	**61**	*3,793*
Total 2020	*3,793*	*3,793*	

8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Teaching	-	3,759,034	**3,759,034**	*3,658,077*
Catering Costs	-	313,054	**313,054**	*212,545*
Bus costs	-	184,200	**184,200**	*181,789*
Premises	-	730,461	**730,461**	*673,189*
Support costs of schooling	-	952,086	**952,086**	*1,003,705*
Governance	-	12,853	**12,853**	*16,000*
	-	5,951,688	**5,951,688**	*5,745,305*
Total 2020	*1,681*	*5,743,624*	*5,745,305*	

Summary by expenditure type

	Staff costs 2021 £	Depreciation 2021 £	Other costs 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	*Total funds 2020 £*
Teaching	3,507,859	90,062	161,113	**3,759,034**	*3,658,077*
Catering Costs	-	5,891	307,163	**313,054**	*212,545*
Bus costs	-	-	184,200	**184,200**	*181,789*
Premises	145,279	135,501	449,681	**730,461**	*673,189*
Support costs of schooling	505,115	3,022	443,949	**952,086**	*1,003,705*
Governance	-	-	12,853	**12,853**	*16,000*
	4,158,253	234,476	1,558,959	**5,951,688**	*5,745,305*
Total 2020	*4,129,157*	*237,378*	*1,378,770*	*5,745,305*	

9. Net Income/(Expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	**234,312**	*237,377*
Operating Lease Charges	**104,704**	*104,704*
Auditors Remuneration	**11,500**	*9,625*
Other Services	**1,475**	*1,475*
	351,991	*353,181*

10. Staff costs

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Wages and salaries	**3,237,178**	*3,227,136*
Social security costs	**325,326**	*316,274*
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	**595,749**	*585,747*
	4,158,253	*4,129,157*

During the year £0 (2020: £21,501) was paid in redundancy costs to employees. There was a balance of £0 (2020: £nil) outstanding at year end included within accruals.

The average number of persons employed by the College during the year was as follows:

	2021 No.	*2020 No.*
Teaching Staff	**77**	*80*
Support Staff	**30**	*32*
	107	*112*

10. Staff costs (continued)

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2021	*2020*
	No.	*No.*
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	**1**	*1*
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	**1**	-
In the band £100,001 - £200,000	**1**	*1*

Key management personnel received remuneration during the year of £331,766 (2020: £257,322)

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2020 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 August 2021, expenses totalling £930 were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees *(2020 - £1,196 to 2 Trustees)*. This expenditure related to travel expenses.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2020	**5,177,073**	**105,997**	**2,097,319**	**7,380,389**
Additions	**89,341**	**-**	**92,703**	**182,044**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**(9,337)**	**(9,337)**
At 31 August 2021	**5,266,414**	**105,997**	**2,180,685**	**7,553,096**
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2020	**207,554**	**88,990**	**1,537,276**	**1,833,820**
Charge for the year	**37,956**	**4,252**	**192,104**	**234,312**
On disposals	**-**	**-**	**(4,616)**	**(4,616)**
At 31 August 2021	**245,510**	**93,242**	**1,724,764**	**2,063,516**
Net book value				
At 31 August 2021	**5,020,904**	**12,755**	**455,921**	**5,489,580**
At 31 August 2020	*4,969,519*	*17,007*	*560,043*	*5,546,569*

13. Stocks

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Consumables	**8,244**	*11,455*

14. Debtors

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	**36,185**	*58,445*
Other debtors	**24,902**	*38,579*
Prepayments and accrued income	**140,524**	*109,747*
	201,611	*206,771*

15. Cash at Bank

Various society, sports and similar clubs maintain bank accounts which are administered by the College.

The balance on these various bank accounts is included within cash in bank at 31 August 2021, and within creditors; amounts falling due within one year, is £27,428 (2020: £22,531). The income paid into these accounts in the year to 31 August 2021 of £5,443 (2020: £17,557) is not income of the College and is therefore not included in incoming resources within the Statement of Financial Activities. The expenditure from these accounts was £546 (2020: £23,770) in the year.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Bank loans	**75,000**	-
Fees in advance	**1,527,307**	*1,191,109*
Trade creditors	**70,634**	*70,095*
Advance fee contracts	**68,659**	*36,302*
Other taxation and social security	**77,368**	*152,429*
Other creditors	**148,232**	*150,693*
Accruals and deferred income	**107,513**	*31,194*
Repayable deposits	**18,000**	**17,998**
	2,092,713	*1,649,820*

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	**1,191,109**	*1,484,467*
Resources deferred during the year	**1,527,307**	*1,191,109*
Amounts released from previous periods	**(1,191,109)**	*(1,484,467)*
	1,527,307	*1,191,109*

Deferred income relates to fees paid in advance for the year 21/22.

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Bank loans	**525,000**	-
Repayable deposits	**288,460**	*272,962*
Advance fee contracts	**62,466**	*45,388*
	875,926	*318,350*

The bank loan is secured against a legal charge held by Natwest over the leasehold property of the charitable company. The loan is repayable over a 5 year term and interest charges commence in the next financial year.

Advance Fee Contracts

Certain parents have entered into contracts to discharge, under certain conditions, the equivalent of up to severn years' tuition fees in advance. Amounts received from advanced fee contracts are included in cash at bank and are dealt with as unrestricted funds. Assuming the pupils concerned remain in College for the expected academic years, advance fees will be applied to fee income as follows:

Movements in the year were:

	2021	*2020*
	£	*£*
Balance at 1 September 2020	**82,232**	*136,564*
Amounts received in the year	**80,167**	*-*
Amounts utilised in the period in settlement of fees	**(31,274)**	*(54,332)*
Amounts accrued to contract as debt financing cost	**-**	*-*
Balance at 31 August 2021	**131,125**	*82,232*

Repayable Deposits

Deposits are taken when pupils commence their education at the College and are repaid when the pupils leave. Hence, the College recognises the asset and the liability in the balance sheet. Assuming the pupils remain in the College for the expected academic years the deposits will be repaid as follows:

	2021	*2020*
	£	*£*
Amounts repayable within one year	**18,000**	*17,999*
Amounts repayable between 1 to 5 years	**74,000**	*74,000*
Amounts repayable after 5 years	**214,460**	*198,962*
	306,460	*290,961*

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds					
Bursary fund	-	-	-	50,000	50,000
Capital fund	-	-	-	150,000	150,000
	-	-	-	200,000	200,000
General funds					
General Funds - all funds	5,602,738	6,348,757	(5,951,688)	(200,000)	5,799,807
Total Unrestricted funds	5,602,738	6,348,757	(5,951,688)	-	5,999,807
Restricted funds					
Restricted Funds - all funds	32,523	12,000	-	-	44,523
Total of funds	5,635,261	6,360,757	(5,951,688)	-	6,044,330

Designated funds
Bursary fund - Over the last 40 years the provision of bursary places has transformed lives, enabling pupils from all backgrounds to follow their dreams and become the person they want to be. The Abbey Gate College Bursary Fund provides children with the opportunity to realise their individual potential through an outstanding education, regardless of financial circumstances.

Capital fund - The Capital Fund was established in 2021 and has been set up to fund capital purchases and developments over the next 5 years. The college are looking to improve the school facilities in order to enhance the learning of pupils. Proposed projects include enhancing the refectory at the senior school, improving the sixth form provision and extending the science laboratories.

Restricted funds
Incoming restricted fund resources includes £12,000 for the development of teaching facilities.

Incoming resources also includes £nil restricted donations for a variety of purposes (2020: £11,574) of which £nil (2020: £1,674) was expended in the year for the purposes of which the donations were received. The remaining £9,900 (2020: £9,900) is the closing balance of donations received. £nil (2020: £nil) of the £10,000 restricted donation received in 2014/15 was expended for visits to the Royal Philharmonic, with £2,038 remaining.

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	*Income* £	*Expenditure* £	*Balance at 31 August 2020* £
Unrestricted funds				
General Funds - all funds	*5,352,235*	*5,994,127*	*(5,743,624)*	*5,602,738*
Restricted funds				
Restricted Funds - all funds	*3,840*	*30,364*	*(1,681)*	*32,523*
Total of funds	*5,356,075*	*6,024,491*	*(5,745,305)*	*5,635,261*

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2021 £	**Unrestricted funds 2021** £	**Total funds 2021** £
Tangible fixed assets	-	5,489,580	**5,489,580**
Current assets	44,523	3,478,866	**3,523,389**
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,092,713)	**(2,092,713)**
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(875,926)	**(875,926)**
Total	44,523	5,999,807	**6,044,330**

19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2020 £	*Unrestricted funds 2020 £*	*Total funds 2020 £*
Tangible fixed assets	*-*	*5,546,569*	*5,546,569*
Current assets	*32,523*	*2,024,340*	*2,056,863*
Creditors due within one year	*-*	*(1,649,821)*	*(1,649,821)*
Creditors due in more than one year	*-*	*(318,350)*	*(318,350)*
Total	*32,523*	*5,602,738*	*5,635,261*

20. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	**409,069**	*279,186*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**234,312**	*237,378*
Interest income	**(61)**	*(3,793)*
Loss/(profit) on the sale of fixed assets	**568**	*(1,865)*
Decrease in stocks	**3,211**	*46,884*
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**5,160**	*(90,322)*
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	**400,468**	*(283,681)*
Net cash provided by operating activities	**1,052,727**	*183,787*

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	*2020 £*
Cash in hand	**3,313,534**	*1,838,636*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**3,313,534**	*1,838,636*

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2020	Cash flows	At 31 August 2021
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,838,636	1,474,898	3,313,534
Debt due within 1 year	(187,037)	(94,622)	(281,659)
Debt due after 1 year	(272,962)	(540,498)	(813,460)
	1,378,637	839,778	2,218,415

23. Pension commitments

Pension Arrangements

The College offers membership of defined contribution "Stakeholder" schemes to non-teaching staff. The contributions to these schemes for the year to 31 August 2021 were £18,121 (2020: £22,830) and the amounts payable at 31 August 2021 was £nil (2020: £nil).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)

- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million.

23. Pension commitments (continued)

- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI, assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £577,628 (2020: £577,628).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The College has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The College has set out above the information available on the scheme.

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2021 the College had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021	*2020*
	£	*£*
Not later than 1 year	**104,923**	*104,923*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**382,960**	*382,960*
Later than 5 years	**962,100**	*1,042,275*
	1,449,983	*1,530,158*

25. Related party transactions

During the year, 2 Directors received reimbursement of expenses in the amount of £930 (2020: £1,196 relating to 2 Directors), relating to travel costs.

During the year, two children of one Director and five grandchildren of three other Directors attended the college (2020: three children of two Directors and five grandchildren of two other Directors). Fee discounts are awarded on the same basis as available to other parents.

During the year, the College received services totalling £Nil (2020: £1,440) from Brownbread Group Limited, which the Director, S Gardner is involved with. There was no outstanding balance at year end (2020: £Nil).

26. Controlling party

The College, having no share capital, is under the control of the Board of Directors, who are also the Trustees of the College.