

Company registration number: 1693887

Charity registration number: 286434

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

**Manningtons
Statutory auditor
39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE**

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

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Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

Secretary	Julie Thomas
Senior Management / Leadership Team	School Leadership Team
Charity Registration Number	286434
Company Registration Number	1693887
Registered Office	The charity is incorporated in England and Wales. Hood Manor Dartington Devon TQ9 6AB
Auditor	Manningtons Statutory auditor 39 High Street Battle East Sussex TN33 0EE
Solicitors:	Michelmores LLP Education Team Exeter Woodwater House Pynes Hill Exeter EX2 5WR
Bankers	National Westminster Bank plc 9 Fore Street Totnes Devon TQ9 5YW

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present their strategic report for the year ended 31 August 2024, in compliance with s414C of the Companies Act 2006.

Achievements and performance

Ofsted Good rating

In September 2023 Ofsted inspected the school and found the school to be 'Good' in all areas. The inspectors recognised the impact of the developmental processes that the school had implemented. The strength of the governance was recognised and is reflected in the statement 'They assure themselves that agreed systems and processes are implemented through a range of activities. This includes checks against independent school standards'. A 'Good' Ofsted rating allows the school to change inspectorate body to the Independent Schools Inspectorate ("ISI") - a body more likely to have a sympathetic view of the school's non-mainstream approach. The 'Good' rating has also opened up more access to funding for the school and reduced insurance premiums. In March 2024 ISI inspected the school and agreed a material change request. The school, in preparation for future growth, requested a material change that would allow it to change its age range and accept two year old children and increase its allowed student numbers to 388. ISI found the curriculum, premises and governance adequate to the request.

Financial Stability

2023-24 was a second year of financial stability for the school with a surplus of £107k (2023: £56k) and an operational surplus of £161k (2023: £106k). The pupils increased from 238 to 252 which, combined with a 6% fee increase, allowed staff to receive a well deserved 10% salary increase. The school has been able to rebuild reserves which were diminished after COVID.

Enhanced Educational Offering

In 2023-24 the school added Spanish, music and drama to its curriculum offering and opened a lower school library.

Qualifications

In Summer 2023 the school began offering the opportunity for High School pupils to sit GCSE Maths and English exams. 2024's Pupils performed well in their GCSE exams with average maths results significantly better than the national average.

Upper School pupils work towards the New Zealand Certificate of Steiner Education ("NZCSE"). The NZCSE, at Level 3, allows students to apply for university in the UK and in Europe as a full alternative to A levels. In April 2024 the Steiner Education Development Trust (SED) quality assessed the school's running of the New Zealand Certificate of Steiner Education (NZCSE). The assessment found the school to be 'effective in all areas of implementation of the CSE'. In 2024 the Level 3 NZCSE students were all successful in attaining their certificate and 4 of the 5 students attained a distinction.

Business analysis and KPIs

The school created a surplus of £101k in 2023-24, an improvement of £45k on the 2022-23 surplus (£56k). Income of £1.8m (2022-23: £1.5m) is up 20% as a result of an increase of 14 pupils to 252 at the end of 2023-24. Corresponding expenditure has also increased 20% year on year representing a necessary increase in staff salaries. The resulting surplus continues to build a stable cash position rebuilding reserves.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Strategic Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Financial review

	2023-24	2022-23
	£	£
Accounts (deficit) / Surplus	101,842	55,834
Depreciation	54,528	48,197
Bad Debt provisioning	15,438	1,519
Operational (deficit)/ Surplus	171,808	105,550

The school increased its surplus in 2023-24 to £101k, an improvement of £46k, and increased the operational surplus to £171k..

Policy on reserves

The policy of the Trustees remains at maintaining cash reserves within the accounts of between £100,000 and £150,000. Trustees and SLT continue to work towards rebuilding the reserves after the pandemic. Unrestricted reserves, that is reserves not represented by fixed assets or designated and restricted funds, which are used for specific reasons, amounted to £55,916 (2023: -£49,485).

The strategic report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on 6 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Robert Worthington
Trustee

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Trustees' Report

The Trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The object of the Company is to provide for and conduct the education of children in accordance with the principles and methods of Rudolf Steiner.

In furtherance of its object the organisation operates the Rudolf Steiner School, South Devon (also known as the South Devon Steiner School), based at Hood Manor, Dartington. Its further activities include the organisation of cultural events, lectures and meetings and participation in similar activities with other Rudolf Steiner inspired organisations in the UK and abroad.

Public benefit

As a charity, the organisation provides public benefit through its core activity as a provider of education to students from Kindergarten level through to age 19. The school aims to be socially inclusive and to welcome families from a wide range of financial backgrounds. Decisions on fee payments are made on an individual basis and families are invited to apply for a reduction of their fees allowing access to such education to students whose families would not otherwise be able to afford such an opportunity.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Going concern

In accordance with charity commission requirements, the Trustees have considered the question of the viability of the organisation as a going concern. When the budget was set for 2024-25, in summer 2024, it was unknown if and when the Labour government's VAT policy, if Labour were elected. The budget which was set had a 9% fee increase on as well as additional staff positions and room for development. By the time school started in September 2024, Labour had been elected and the VAT-exemption for independent schools was due to be removed in January 2025. The school decided to pass 5% onto parents absorbing the remainder of VAT as it did not expect the parent body to be able to pay an additional 20%. The school entered into a restructure process in November 2024 eventually reducing staffing by 11. The resulting reduction of income and costs produced a forecast deficit of £25k and cash surplus of £25k for 2024-25 which is the expected close position for 2024-25 as at the balance sheet date. Looking forward into 2025-26, the budget is expected to have an operational surplus - with pupil numbers, financial support for parents and staff numbers the variables which will be flexed (actively or passively) to produce that outcome.

Having considered the school's forecast and projections and the options available to reduce costs should the need arise, the Trustees have concluded that there is a reasonable expectation that the school has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The school therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing these financial statements.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Trustees' Report

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees:	Juliet Crittenden
	Nicola Edgcombe (Resigned 15 September 2023)
	Robert Worthington
	Ben Whately
	Alison Fisher
	Anne-Marie Hobbs
	Thomas Mitchell (resigned 26 June 2024)

Secretary:	Julie Thomas
Senior Management / Leadership Team:	School Leadership Team

Structure, governance and management

Nature of governing document

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited is a company limited by guarantee. It is also registered as a charity with the Charity Commission, the Memorandum and Articles of Association of which is available to view on the website www.southdevonsteinerschool.org.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by the School Council of Trustees and then ratified by the members of the School Association at the AGM in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Induction and training of Trustees

Trustees are selected for their high standard of professional skill, expertise and experience usually with a particular portfolio in mind. The application process is compliant with safer recruitment and safeguarding requirements, given that the charitable organisation is a school for children and young people. Those Trustees holding certain portfolios such as safeguarding and health & safety are required to do further in-depth training in order to meet DfE standards. All Trustees are required to do annual safeguarding training and update their knowledge of safeguarding policies and KCSIE. Induction also involves familiarisation with various governance documents on the responsibilities of being a Trustee including the Memorandum & Articles of the School Association, Independent School's Standards and other regulatory compliance.

Arrangements for setting key management personnel remuneration

The Trustees have agreed remuneration for key management roles according to levels of responsibility, experience and performance at relevant market rates, taking into account the geographical location. These salaries are reviewed as part of the annual review of performance and salaries across the school. Any Trustee who is also a paid member of staff is excluded from the review process and any related decisions. At present none of the trustees are paid members of staff.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Trustees' Report

Organisational structure

The Trustees meet regularly to manage the organisation's affairs. The day-to-day running of the organisation is formally delegated to the School Leadership Team (SLT) - which comprises the School Education Manager (who currently chairs the School Leadership Team), the School Business Manager and the elected teacher representative. The SLT meetings are also attended by the Lower School Learning Manager, Office and H&S and Facilities Manager, Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Early Years Manager. There is regular, comprehensive reporting to the Trustees on weekly, monthly and termly basis as appropriate. Underneath and accountable to the School Leadership Team are appropriate departmental structures and meetings which cover every aspect of the organisation's activities. Trustees have direct methods of observing the implementation of policies, procedures and plans independent of leadership reporting.

The organisation continues to maintain active links with the Waldorf UK, the national representative body for Steiner Waldorf education in the UK, with representatives attending national meetings and training days and ensuring a continuous exchange of policies, information, expertise and inspiration.

The School is inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate.

Major risks and management of those risks

Charity's risk assessment

Risk assessment is an ongoing component of Trustee activity with a risk register reviewed at termly board meetings.

The annual risk review process has highlighted the Labour election pledge to remove the VAT exemption on independent schools which could have a significant impact on the value of VAT-inclusive fees charged to parents in the future. The Trustees and SLT are mindful of the proposed policy in school decision-making and continue to increase reserves.

The charity's risk profile is in line with any organisation offering education and all necessary steps are taken to ensure that appropriate mitigation and control structures are in place. They include comprehensive policies to guide every aspect of the organisation's activities, effective management and governance oversight, performance systems and insurances.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each member has taken steps that they ought to have taken as a member in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information. The Trustees confirm that there is no relevant information that they know of and of which they know the auditor is unaware.

Reappointment of auditor

At the Annual General Meeting Manningtons Chartered Accountants were appointed for this accounting period. The designated Trustee will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Trustees' Report

The annual report was approved by the Trustees of the charity on 6 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rw' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Robert Worthington
Trustee

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 proper accounting records that can 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.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the Trustees of the charity on 6 May 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Robert Worthington
Trustee

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is United Kingdom Accounting Standards, comprising Charities SORP - FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and applicable law (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 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 auditor responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 Strategic Report and Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' 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 charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the 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.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities (set out on page 8), the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

The detection of fraud and irregularities is a primary consideration of the audit planning and is carried through to the audit completion stage. A risk assessment and preliminary analytical review is undertaken at the planning stage and areas of concern are then built into the audit strategy and testing to ensure sufficient procedures and evidence is obtained to give comfort that material irregularities and potential instances of fraud are detected where possible.

The audit team is briefed regarding any areas of concern, the potential audit risks and consequential impact. The audit team remained vigilant throughout their work and made enquiries of key management personnel throughout. Rudolf Steiner School South Devon key management were consulted on any known or suspected breaches in laws and regulations along with misappropriation of funds at both the planning and completion stages of the audit. Due consideration was given to the possible use of management override and this was built into our audit strategy.

The initial risk assessment highlighted a potential show stopper being of non-compliance with Ofsted. Rudolf Steiner School South Devon had another Ofsted inspection in September 2023. We were able to obtain a copy of the full inspection report which was rated as Good in every aspect and overall. Rudolf Steiner School then changed to inspectorate to ISI (Independent schools Inspectorate) and underwent a Material Change Inspection in March 2024 as requested by the DfE. A copy of the report has been obtained and all standards were met and material change granted so non compliance and potential show stopper not materialising.

The purpose of the preliminary analytical review of the financial statements is to highlight any possible areas of concern to investigate whether the variance is expected or unexpected, based on the information obtained as part of the planning process and the current climate the charity is operating under. Relevant audit tests had then been planned to obtain supporting documentation to ensure that they are within the charitable objectives and no misappropriation of funds by way of fraud, or misstatements. Latest accounts disclosure checklists available are also completed to ensure the accounts comply with the latest reporting framework that is applicable to the charitable company.

There are aspects of the audit which are deliberately unpredictable to assist in the detection of irregularities, such as varying how we test items which are more susceptible to fraud, year on year and by incorporating systematic sampling over the populations tested.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Trustees, 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 charity's Trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its Trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

R. Walsh.

Rowena T K Walsh (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Manningtons, Statutory Auditor

39 High Street
Battle
East Sussex
TN33 0EE

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon)
Limited**

Date: 22nd May 2023

Handwritten signature

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	673	-	673
Charitable activities	4	1,828,455	-	1,828,455
Investment income	6	1,309	-	1,309
Total income		1,830,437	-	1,830,437
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(1,500)	-	(1,500)
Charitable activities	8	(1,727,095)	-	(1,727,095)
Total expenditure		(1,728,595)	-	(1,728,595)
Net income		101,842	-	101,842
Transfers between funds		5,104	(5,104)	-
Net movement in funds		106,946	(5,104)	101,842
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		1,107,091	5,104	1,112,195
Total funds carried forward	22	1,214,037	-	1,214,037

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024
(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	3,417	-	3,417
Charitable activities	4	1,490,724	-	1,490,724
Activities for generating funds	5	7,414	-	7,414
Investment income	6	125	-	125
Total income		1,501,680	-	1,501,680
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	7	(415)	-	(415)
Charitable activities	8	(1,445,431)	-	(1,445,431)
Total expenditure		(1,445,846)	-	(1,445,846)
Net income		55,834	-	55,834
Net movement in funds		55,834	-	55,834
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		1,051,257	5,104	1,056,361
Total funds carried forward	22	1,107,091	5,104	1,112,195

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The funds breakdown for 2024 and 2023 is shown in note 22.

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

(Registration number: 1693887)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	1,546,175	1,580,377
Current assets			
Debtors	16	244,744	246,551
Cash at bank and in hand	17	155,761	81,128
		<u>400,505</u>	<u>327,679</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(381,508)</u>	<u>(406,509)</u>
Net current assets/(liabilities)		<u>18,997</u>	<u>(78,830)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		1,565,172	1,501,547
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	19	<u>(351,135)</u>	<u>(389,352)</u>
Net assets		<u>1,214,037</u>	<u>1,112,195</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	22	-	5,104
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,214,037</u>	<u>1,107,091</u>
Total funds	22	<u>1,214,037</u>	<u>1,112,195</u>

The financial statements on pages 13 to 30 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 6 May 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Robert Worthington
Trustee

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash income		101,842	55,834
Adjustments to cash flows from non-cash items			
Depreciation	7	53,496	48,197
Investment income	6	<u>(1,309)</u>	<u>(125)</u>
		154,029	103,906
Working capital adjustments			
Decrease in debtors	16	1,807	91,806
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	18	18,577	(22,968)
Decrease in deferred income	19	<u>(46,048)</u>	<u>(79,529)</u>
Net cash flows from operating activities		<u>128,365</u>	<u>93,215</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Interest receivable and similar income	6	1,309	125
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	15	(19,294)	(8,036)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		<u>-</u>	<u>157</u>
Net cash flows from investing activities		(17,985)	(7,754)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of loans and borrowings	18	<u>(35,747)</u>	<u>(34,260)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		74,633	51,201
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>81,128</u>	<u>29,927</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August		<u>155,761</u>	<u>81,128</u>

All of the cash flows are derived from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 17 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the Trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Hood Manor

Dartington

Devon

TQ9 6AB

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006. The date of transition to FRS 102 was 1 September 2015.

Basis of preparation

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) 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 notes.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charity to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Labour's VAT policy has had a significant impact upon the school. In January 2025, when the VAT exemption on independent schools was removed, the school reduced fees by 15% to effectively pass only 5% of VAT onto parents. The subsequent reduction in income necessitated a restructure in November 2024 which reduced staff numbers and forecast a deficit of £25k for 2024/25 and an operational surplus of £25k. The 2025/26 year will have an operational surplus with the option to reduce costs if income is not sufficient to create that outcome alone. Therefore, trustees are confident that the school continues to have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Judgements

Determination of whether there are indicators of impairment of the Charity's tangible assets. Factors taken into consideration in reaching such a decision include the economic viability and expected future financial performance of the asset.

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values. The carrying amount is £1,546,175 (2023 -£1,580,377).

The recoverability of book debts is reviewed by management and a provision is made based on all the information available. The carrying amount is £374,742 (2023 -£359,304).

Income and endowments

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

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- School fees are invoiced in advance of the next school year.
- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, the management of investments and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and Trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity 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 charity 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.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £200.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Freehold Interest in buildings	2% straight line basis
Furniture and equipment	10% - 20% straight line basis

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Foreign exchange

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate of exchange at the date of the transaction. There are no monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the Trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Pensions and other post retirement obligations

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme which is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the charity has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies; Appeals and Donations	673	673	3,417
	<u>673</u>	<u>673</u>	<u>3,417</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Education	1,763,980	1,763,980	1,444,734
Letting of non-investment property	16,938	16,938	19,500
Other	47,537	47,537	26,490
	<u>1,828,455</u>	<u>1,828,455</u>	<u>1,490,724</u>

5 Activities for generating funds

	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Events income; Fundraising events	-	7,414
	<u>-</u>	<u>7,414</u>

6 Investment Income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income; Interest receivable on bank deposits	1,309	1,309	125
	<u>1,309</u>	<u>1,309</u>	<u>125</u>

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7 Expenditure on raising funds

a) Costs of trading activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising trading costs;				
Fundraising		1,500	1,500	415
		<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>415</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Note	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Education		263,986	263,986	287,732
Depreciation, amortisation and other similar costs		54,228	54,228	47,854
Staff costs		1,253,850	1,253,850	998,821
Governance costs	9	<u>155,031</u>	<u>155,031</u>	<u>111,024</u>
		<u>1,727,095</u>	<u>1,727,095</u>	<u>1,445,431</u>

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

9 Analysis of governance and support costs

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs			
Other staff costs	2,988	2,988	4,139
Audit fees			
Audit of the financial statements	7,982	7,982	9,744
Accountancy	3,276	3,276	3,180
Legal fees	62,625	62,625	39,226
Marketing and publicity	1,779	1,779	538
Other governance costs	76,381	76,381	54,197
	<u>155,031</u>	<u>155,031</u>	<u>111,024</u>

10 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit fees	7,982	9,744
Loss on disposal of fixed assets held for the charity's own use	(300)	(343)
Depreciation of fixed assets	<u>54,528</u>	<u>48,197</u>

11 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No Trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

12 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	1,136,641	914,207
Social security costs	94,382	66,308
Pension costs	22,827	18,306
Other staff costs	2,988	4,139
	<u>1,256,838</u>	<u>1,002,960</u>

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2024 No	2023 No
Charitable activities	<u>55</u>	<u>54</u>

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the charity were £103,370 (2023 - £90,450).

13 Auditors' remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Audit of the financial statements	<u>7,982</u>	<u>9,744</u>
Other fees to auditors		
All other non-audit services	<u>3,276</u>	<u>3,180</u>

14 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2023	2,253,828	242,278	2,496,106
Additions	17,011	2,283	19,294
Disposals	-	(1,031)	(1,031)
At 31 August 2024	<u>2,270,839</u>	<u>243,530</u>	<u>2,514,369</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2023	694,261	221,468	915,729
Charge for the year	45,076	8,420	53,496
Eliminated on disposals	-	(1,031)	(1,031)
At 31 August 2024	<u>739,337</u>	<u>228,857</u>	<u>968,194</u>
Net book value			
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,531,502</u>	<u>14,673</u>	<u>1,546,175</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,559,567</u>	<u>20,810</u>	<u>1,580,377</u>

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	232,462	200,541
Prepayments	7,800	5,020
Accrued income	-	40,990
Other debtors	4,482	-
	<u>244,744</u>	<u>246,551</u>

17 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash on hand	2,192	981
Cash at bank	52,937	79,231
Short-term deposits	100,632	916
	<u>155,761</u>	<u>81,128</u>

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	27,956	25,837
Trade creditors	174,637	161,678
Other loans	8,963	8,612
Other taxation and social security	2,559	-
Other creditors	3,926	3,356
Accruals	17,247	14,758
Deferred income	146,220	192,268
	<u>381,508</u>	<u>406,509</u>

Creditors due within one year includes the following liabilities, on which security has been given by the charity:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loan	27,956	25,837
Other Loan	8,963	8,612
	<u>36,919</u>	<u>34,449</u>

19 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	293,075	322,330
Other loans	58,060	67,022
	<u>351,135</u>	<u>389,352</u>

Included in the creditors are the following amounts due after more than five years:

	2024	2023
	£	£
After more than five years by instalments	<u>187,763</u>	<u>222,136</u>

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Bank loans and overdrafts after five years

Bank loans are a combination of 2 loans as follows:

Bank loan 1 is secured by a legal charge over the freehold business property; Hood Manor over 19 years with the final installment due July 2034. Interest charged at a fixed rate of 4.84% on the loan for the year amounted to £14,556 (£15,512 - 2023).

Bank loan 2 is a unsecured government backed Covid Bounce for £50,000 over 10 years with the final installment due May 2030 . Interest is charged at a fixed rate of interest at 2.5% per annum, the amount charged for the year amounted to £921 (£2,161 - 2023).

Other loans after five years

The other loan is secured by a legal charge over the freehold business property; Hood Manor. During 2021 financial year a further £60,000 was borrowed and the loan period extended reducing monthly repayments with the final installment due May 2031. Interest charged at a rate of 4% variable on the loan for the year amounted to £2,910 (£2,208 -2023).

20 Obligations under leases and hire purchase contracts

Operating lease commitments

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other		
Within one year	2,924	2,924
Between one and five years	<u>5,848</u>	<u>8,772</u>
	<u>8,772</u>	<u>11,696</u>

21 Pension and other schemes

Defined contribution pension scheme

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the charity to the scheme and amounted to £22,827 (2023 - £18,306).

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

22 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General fund	1,107,091	1,830,437	(1,728,595)	5,104	1,214,037
Restricted funds					
Arts and crafts	<u>5,104</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(5,104)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>1,112,195</u>	<u>1,830,437</u>	<u>(1,728,595)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,214,037</u>

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds				
<i>General</i>				
General fund	1,051,257	1,501,680	(1,445,846)	1,107,091
Restricted				
Arts and crafts	<u>5,104</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,104</u>
Total funds	<u>1,056,361</u>	<u>1,501,680</u>	<u>(1,445,846)</u>	<u>1,112,195</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

The Arts and Crafts fund is to expand resources available for furthering the education or arts and crafts within the school.

The balance on the Arts and Crafts restricted fund has been spent in earlier years and is no longer held for this purpose, so the balance has been transferred into unrestricted funds in 2024.

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

23 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 31 August 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,546,175	1,546,175
Current assets	400,505	400,505
Current liabilities	(381,508)	(381,508)
Creditors over 1 year	(351,135)	(351,135)
Total net assets	<u>1,214,037</u>	<u>1,214,037</u>

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 August 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,580,377	-	1,580,377
Current assets	322,575	5,104	327,679
Current liabilities	(406,509)	-	(406,509)
Creditors over 1 year	(389,352)	-	(389,352)
Total net assets	<u>1,107,091</u>	<u>5,104</u>	<u>1,112,195</u>

24 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 September 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	81,128	74,633	155,761
Debt due within one year	(34,987)	(2,470)	(37,457)
Debt due after more than one year	(389,352)	38,217	(351,135)
Net debt	<u>(343,211)</u>	<u>110,380</u>	<u>(232,831)</u>

	At 1 September 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	29,927	51,201	81,128
Debt due within one year	(34,718)	(269)	(34,987)
Debt due after more than one year	(423,343)	33,991	(389,352)
Net debt	<u>(428,134)</u>	<u>84,923</u>	<u>(343,211)</u>

Rudolf Steiner School (South Devon) Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

25 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made the following related party transactions:

School fees

Trustees Nicola Edgcombe, Ben Whately and Alison Fisher have children attending the school as pupils. Invoices for parental contributions have been raised complying with the school's fee and financial assessment policy, resulting in Ben Whately receiving a discount in line with the policy. Outstanding fees are a combination of overdue fees and Autumn term invoices raised in advance and deferred in the accounts. At the balance sheet date the amount due from Rudolf Steiner School South Devon for Autumn School fees to a Trustee was £2,305 (2023 - £950 Rudolf Steiner School South Devon from Trustees).

26 Off-balance sheet arrangements

On 17 December 2024 the school refinanced repaying the two loans held over Hood Manor totalling £332,405. The school took out a new loan for £700,000 secured on the full site for 25 years duration. The interest charged on the new loan is a variable rate of 2.75%+base rate. The release of capital of £348,094.03 can only be used for capital developments.