
ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE SCHOOL, ITS GOVERNORS AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Governors	Mr J Pyne, Chair Mr V Anandraj Ms J Cheffins (resigned 20 August 2024) Ms K Daber Ms S Dixon (resigned 27 March 2024) Mr R Haynes Dr A Hoti (resigned 25 February 2025) Mr C Jones Ms J Mackenzie (resigned 18 June 2024) Ms S Gibson Ms G Simmonds Ms J Storey (resigned 5 July 2024) Ms S Clayton (appointed 5 December 2023, resigned 13 November 2024) Ms H Fernandes (appointed 18 June 2024) Mr B Howarth (appointed 18 June 2024) Ms E Jones (appointed 18 June 2024) Mr K Ved (appointed 18 June 2024) Ms V Thouroude (appointed 1 October 2024)
Company registered number	01840431
Charity registered number	290180
Registered office	Bateman Street Cambridge CB2 1LY
Clerk to the Governors	Ms N Wrycroft
Company secretary	S Babar
Head Teacher	C F Avery (resigned 16 July 2024) H Helliard (appointed 16 July 2024)
Independent auditors	Peters Elworthy & Moore Statutory Auditors Salisbury House Station Road Cambridge CB1 2LA
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc Gonville Place 95 Regent Street Cambridge CB2 1BQ

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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GOVERNORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Governors, as Trustees of St Mary's School Cambridge (the School), present their annual report together with the audited financial statements for the year ending 31st August 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 2 to the accounts, the Charity's governing documents, the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102). The report is also prepared to meet the requirements for a Directors and Strategic report for Companies Act purposes.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Aims

As set out in its Memorandum of Association, the aim of St Mary's School, Cambridge is to promote and provide for the advancement of education and religion and in connection therewith to acquire, provide, conduct and develop a Roman Catholic school or schools, for the advancement of the education of children of any creed, but particularly children of the Roman Catholic faith, and in particular without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing for the education of girls. In the furtherance of this object, the Governors, as Charity Trustees, have complied with their duty under s17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

To achieve this aim, St Mary's School Cambridge provides education for girls aged 3 to 19 years, aiming to create a caring and stimulating Christian environment within which pupils can realise their spiritual, intellectual, creative, social, academic and physical potential through compassion, wisdom and humour, building their self-confidence and their desire to make significant contributions to society as a whole.

Objectives for the Year

The objectives for St Mary's School in 2023-24 focused on the introduction and familiarisation of the new statement of Vision and Mission and values:

Vision: *By God's grace, women in time will do much* (Mary Ward 1585-1645).

Mission: As a Christian school, underpinned by our Catholic heritage and the life of Mary Ward, our mission is to develop curious, creative and compassionate young women with the aspiration, confidence and integrity to shape a better world for the common good.

Values: Freedom, Love, Justice, Truth and Joy.

To continue to provide a first class, highly effective educational and pastoral environment which recognises the personal needs of each individual and delivers academic added value for all our pupils, and for pupils at other schools in the wider community. The curriculum is reviewed continually to ensure that each pupil achieves their potential academically and provides them with a solid foundation for their next step to university or on into future employment. The focus on tracking and monitoring individual pupils' progress enables us to identify pupils who need further support within the curriculum. As required, we use intervention methods to ensure that parents are kept informed and work with individual pupils to ensure that they reach their true potential.

- Develop the Senior and Junior School facilities to further enhance the educational added value and pastoral care, for which the school is already well regarded. Deliver academic, sporting and environmental benefits to all our pupils, while focusing on the long-term future by developing the Master Plan for the school site.
- Build on our digital technology strategy by investing in the development of a new teaching and learning platform (Firefly) as part of our ongoing digital strategy.

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- Maintain excellent pupil - teacher ratios, and to maintain our programme of professional development for all staff, including undertaking the oversight and in-school training of Early Career Teachers (ECT) on behalf of the Independent Schools Teacher Induction Panel (ISTIP).
- Develop our programme of bursary funding and fee remission to widen pupil access to the school and ensure that education is provided to girls from a broad spectrum of society.
- Contribute to local, national and international communities through our involvement with fellow schools and our charitable fundraising.
- To fully embed with the school community our Mission, Values and Vision to embed five key values; Freedom, Joy, Justice, Love and Truth in everyday school life through:

H – Hard work, **E** – Empathy, **A** – Adaptability, **R** – Responsibility, **T** – Thoughtfulness

EXTERNAL RECOGNITION

In Autumn 2023, St Mary's was announced as a finalist in the Independent School of the Year Awards for Independent Girls' School of the Year, in a shortlist of just six schools nationally.

In April 2024, the school was named a finalist for the 'Boarding Innovation Award' category in the highly regarded BSA Boarding Excellence Awards in recognition of the school's commitment to delivering exceptional boarding provision through innovative practices and the expertise of practitioners. One of the innovative practices that secured us the BSA Boarding Excellence Finalist status was the implementation of an innovative project using 'Work Discussions' as a form of reflective practice. Originating from psychoanalysis, this technique allows our boarding staff to critically reflect on their experiences, emotions, and interactions with students.

The Junior School STEM Lab won a second award in the category of the Greater Cambridge Design and Construction Awards 2024, it was top of its category for Best Conservation, Alteration or Extension under £2m construction costs.

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REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

Academic

The principal activity of St Mary's Cambridge is to provide education to girls between the ages of 3 and 19 years, and to provide opportunities for all pupils to develop spiritually, morally and socially. Following the adoption of High Performance Learning (HPL) in 2017, St Mary's continues to work with this research-based, pedagogy-led philosophy that responds to our growing understanding of human capability. St Mary's empowers all its students to aim high and believes that all can aspire to high performance. HPL significantly improves student academic outcomes and creates students who have the tools to meet the challenges of adult life. As well as providing a shared philosophy and language for teaching and learning which smooths transition and enables professional collaboration, HPL has also enabled us to work with other schools both in the independent and state sector, both in the UK and overseas.

Academic Results

Both the A level and GCSE cohort performed exceptionally well in the summer's public exams.

St Mary's Sixth Form performed strongly with 25% of grades awarded as an A* (compared to 15% in 2023) and 52% of grades were awarded at A* - A. There were particularly strong performances in PE, Photography, Spanish, Latin and Classical Greek with 100% of grades being awarded at A* - A. All subject departments achieved 100% A*- E grades.

These A Level results enabled students to take up places at universities of their choice including Cambridge, Imperial, Durham, Exeter, Sheffield, Warwick, York, Manchester and Nottingham, with 72% going to their first-choice university. Subjects being read included Geography, History, Japanese, Music, Psychology, Law, Medicine and Zoology.

Year 11 students additionally produced very strong results, with 41% of GCSE grades awarded A* - A (equivalent grades 7, 8 & 9), with German and Music achieving 100% of 9 - 7 grades.

Visual Arts

The department continued to welcome several visitors: Nuala Gilmore from Norwich University who gave advice to Years 12 and 13 about personal statements, portfolios and creative careers; PGCE students from Homerton College, University of Cambridge came to take part in workshops for silk screen printing, visual literacy and oracy and alumna; Daisy Dickinson, who spoke with Sixth Form students about working in the Photography industry and how her career started following Year 13. The Art Scholars were active in the school community: through their creation of our Mini Giraffe, Miraffe, for the Wild in Art, Standing Tall, trail in Cambridge; visiting St Mary's Junior school to support younger students in the Magnolia project; attending an illustration workshop with Tilly Pettitt and being involved in teaching the Arts and Crafts workshops run as art enrichment programmes for all students. Some Year 5 & 6 students created our 'St Mary's Gingerbread Girl', which was on display in the Grand Arcade. During the Spring Term the Art department visited Harston Primary school to carry out workshops as part of the outreach programme. The academic year concluded with the Summer Exhibition, an opportunity for all parents, carers and friends to see over 1,500 pieces of work produced by both the GCSE and A level students.

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The Visual Arts department continues to reap competition success, including:

- Artists were awarded both winning and highly commended placings after entering the Annual Rotary Club Young Photographer Competition.
- CIVC : Christmas competition, two students were highly commended in the junior and senior section.
- Two students won their categories (intermediate and senior) of the Rotary Club Young Artist regional competition.
- A student won a Highly Commended Entry prize in the Fitzwilliam College Architecture Design Competition 2024
- Several Year 12 students' work was selected for the Cantab and Granta Arts Societies exhibition. Two students' work went on to win awards for 'Highly commended' and 'Most Original'.
- A student was highly commended for their artwork, which was featured in the prize video reel.

Drama

In the Junior School, the Pre-Prep Nativity play told the story of the Nativity through the collection of fabric from different parts of the world. The Year 3 & 4 play portrayed the story of Robin Hood, with all the actors being commended for the way they delivered the theme of good winning over evil. The annual Year 5 & 6 Shakespearean play was an outdoor garden-based production and gave the pupils an opportunity to work together to produce an enthralling and word-perfect performance.

The main senior school play was a modern adaptation of the Greek play, Medea, pupils covering acting roles, backstage work, lighting and sounds, hair and make-up and costumes. This was the first time the school had staged a Greek tragedy.

The lower school play in the Summer Term was a first for the school – a theatrical take on St Trinian's, 'St Maz' was written by one of the school's drama teachers.

Music

The Junior School welcomed the return of the ever-popular Teatime Concert, which gave students from Year 1 to Year 6 an opportunity to perform a piece of music they were working on. In addition, all students were involved in a choir and many performing opportunities were had, a highlight being singing carols on the stairs at the Junior School, which has become a lovely tradition. The annual Junior School Festival was as popular as ever and saw performances from students in Year 1 up to Year 6. The Junior School concert in May at the University Concert Hall featured all the school ensembles, choirs and some soloists with a Beatles' theme.

The Senior School also performed two concerts at the University of Cambridge concert hall, in December and June. Both featured performances by the school's larger ensembles, alongside performances from both the Young Pianist and Young Musicians of the Year. These competitions were judged by Mr Chris Parsons, a community musician, conductor, trumpeter and Director of Music (Performance) at King's Ely Prep School.

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Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)

The Junior School was placed in the second of a national coding competition, from a field of over 600 entrants. The theme was 'A Future in Stem' and saw pupils from Year 4-8 using Scratch coding programming to develop a game to highlight climate change. In addition, the Junior School welcomed 54 students from Stella Maris College in Madrid, Spain for the annual 'Computer Science International Outreach Day'. The Spanish students (all Year 8 boys) worked with our Year 6 girls in collaborative teams to learn how to program a virtual (on-screen) robots as part of a RoboCupJunior inspired 'Rescue Simulation Challenge'.

Computing challenge - Following the successes of our students in the '3' in November, in which Merit and Distinction awards were achieved by more than 80% of girls in Year 6, over 84% of the girls in Year 4, and 91% of the girls in Year 2. Six Year 6 students joined 8 others from Years 7 & 8 (all of whom had achieved scores in the top 10% nationally) to participate in the online 'Oxford University Computing Challenge 2024' in January 2024. This is an invitation-only challenge for talented UK students to produce fully programmed solutions to computational thinking problems within strict time constraints.

A Year 10 student conquered the Hamilton stage of the intermediate maths challenge, achieving a score that was 45% above the Distinction grade boundary, A score that is only achieved by approximately 1 in 700 students in the challenge.

Sport

Sport at St Mary's has enjoyed another busy and eventful year.

The Summer Term saw both Junior and Senior School Sports' Days with pupils taking part in a variety of track and field events and gaining points to support their various school Houses.

In September St Mary's U18 Hockey team were crowned County champions; in the same month students won the GSA Senior Netball tournament. Prior to their victory, the Netball team spent a day training with England Netball player Beth Cobden.

The U14 Football teams saw their inaugural matches, with all the team working hard to dispel the myth that only men can successfully play the sport. One of our Year 9 pupils was accepted into the Wasps Football Academy which forms part of Watford Ladies Football Club.

Rowing at St Mary's goes from strength to strength with successes in many race events over the year. Of particular note was the gold medal win by one U14 crew in the doubles event at the national Junior Sculling Regatta held at Eton Dorney (site of the 2012 Olympics), having qualified via two local and regional competitions. The School is now British Rowing Affiliated, which opens up a wealth of opportunities to the School's rowing teams, allowing pupils to take part in larger national competitions and to utilise the support and resources of British Rowing.

February saw the Gymnastics Show with pupils from Years 5 - 13 performing using ribbons, apparatus and floor work. This was a great opportunity for a wide age-range of pupils to work together.

The annual Dance Show took place in March, and saw a range of dance styles performed by girls from a variety of years across the school.

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Mental Health & Wellbeing

We prioritise support for students' and staff mental health and wellbeing. Our two Mental Health and Wellbeing co-ordinators in the Senior School work to ensure that support for mental health and wellbeing is prioritised across the whole School community. More than twenty members of staff are Mental Health First Aiders across the Senior and Junior Schools. Along with the nurses, the School has also trained students as mental health champions. The School now employs two counsellors who, alongside the School nurses can provide support to students as needed, their consultations taking place in the school Well-Being room and are available for students referred by the school nurses. The School CloudBase site provides a large range of resources including video clips, links to resources, apps and websites with advice, guidance and self-care support for students concerned about their mental health. The School takes pride in its proactive approach to mental health, with wellbeing initiatives including mindfulness programmes, peer support groups, and development workshops. We are committed to creating a school culture where every girl feels valued and understood. Alongside support for students, staff have been provided with a full programme of activities available across the year including Yoga, massages and Zumba.

The Senior School observed World Mental Health Day in October and Mental Health Awareness Week in May with a range of activities including outside Yoga, gardening club, self-care keyring making, creative collage, karate and self-defence. Students were encouraged to write a note of gratitude to a friend or member of staff to be shared on the 'Gratitude Board'.

Student Voice

St Mary's continues to prioritise our student committees, recognizing the importance of the students having a voice in how their school is run and the impact this has on Oracy across the school years. Our Inclusivity Coordinator who was appointed at the end of 2022 supports the student committees (eco-council, inclusivity, student council, international) to ensure feedback reaches the senior leadership team, who, in turn discuss at weekly SLT meetings and make recommendations which are then fed back to the whole school community during an Assembly.

Outdoor Learning and Biophilia

For Outdoor Classroom Day (23rd May 2024), a range of activities were organised by the Outside Learning Co-ordinator, these included a range of outdoor lessons, craft activities and music all inspired by nature and the environment.

The outdoor classroom continues to be popular with staff and students alike, with the addition of lighting and large bean bags is a comfortable alternative as a venue for lessons to take place. It is a multi-functional, calm space that can be used in all pastoral and academic aspects of school life.

The Gardening Club goes from strength to strength with students being involved in the design and manufacture of the new sensory garden at the school – students using their skills to create a giant bug hotel for the garden. This year saw the inaugural House Gardening event; all students entered into the spirit of competition, planting colour coordinated flowers and vegetables.

The Community Produce stall provides an opportunity for staff and students alike to share spare seedlings, plants and produce. Created in the Summer Term of 2022, the stall is gaining in popularity and the community is encouraged to share spare seedlings, plants and produce. This has been a great success and will continue into next year's growing season.

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SCHOOL SITE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Mary Ward Educational Suite

With completion of the Senior School building project in January 2024, a grand opening was held at the end of that month with governors, alumnae, parents and students invited to see the completed building. The Mary Ward Suite was put into use immediately with all academic staff invited to book the rooms to teach a lesson. Detailed work was carried out by our Senior Deputy with interior design specialists to ensure the four new rooms are a calm learning space, which are easy for both teachers and students alike to navigate. There is a long-term plan to use the four classrooms as a blueprint for re-development of all classrooms across the Senior School site.

Improvements continued across the senior school, with internal painting and decoration taking place. These were in conjunction with the material improvements plan introduced by the Bursar in 2022 and rolling for the next five years.

DETAILS OF BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Bursaries

Due to the ongoing situation in Ukraine, the School continued to support pupils who were staying with hosts in the UK. Due to the uncertain nature of conflict, all offers made to pupils are open-ended, for as long as families need a place at the School.

In 2023/24 the value of means tested bursaries totalled £522,383 compared to £582,150 in 2022/23. This represented 4.05% of our gross fees (compared to 4.38% for 2022/23) and provided assistance to 40 students (45 students in 2022/23). Bursary Awards funding is set at 6% of gross fees, which included some pupils (within Day and Boarding) receiving support at 100%.

The School maintained its ongoing relationship with the Royal National Children's Springboard Foundation by continuing to support 3 Springboard pupils as full-time boarders, together with 2 students welcomed into the Sixth Form from North Cambridge Academy. In total, 13 pupils benefitted from 100% Bursary support either directly from the School or from the Royal National Children's Springboard Foundation.

Scholarships

In addition, the school awarded scholarships to 60 pupils (114 in 2022/23), based on their educational merit and potential, totalling £55,917 compared to £106,732 in 2022/23 and representing 0.43% (0.80% in 2022/23) of our gross fees. Of this number, 4 (9 in 2022/23) also qualified for means-tested bursary support and are included in the figures relating to bursary awards.

The progress of pupils receiving scholarships is reviewed annually to ensure progress is in line with their abilities. No scholarships were withdrawn in the year as a result of reviews.

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LINKS TO OTHER SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS

Sister school and international links

Over the summer break a number of sixth form students and selected staff made a trip to Lourdes, France to assist disabled pilgrims who had made the trip. Donning the iconic blue uniforms, the girls spend all day with one pilgrim, helping with daily tasks, as well as 'rolling' them to receive the healing waters.

Six students from St Aidan's and Ascham schools in New South Wales visited for two weeks at the end of Spring Term. They joined in with the normal routine of the school, staying with Year 10 students' families – with a return trip taking place in July.

Links to the local Catholic and wider community

St Mary's School staff continue to support wider education programmes in which time is given gratis. Our Head of Religious Education represents the Bishop of East Anglia on the Chaplaincy Council of Anglia Ruskin University, an ecumenical body which oversees the work of the university chaplains and acts as a conduit between them and the university management. Partnership with the parish is enhanced by teachers' involvement in parish life, for example through involvement in the ministry at a variety of churches, singing in the choir for services, playing at Disabled Children's Masses, Eucharistic ministry, Catechesis, supporting the parish priest with the day-to-day administration of a local Catholic parish (St John Fisher, Cambourne), running youth activities and Confirmation classes, supporting the First Holy Communion preparation, running adult groups and retreat days, being members of Catholic church steering groups, running a wide variety of social and liturgical activities, leading and preparing ecumenical services and establishing local village groups. Staff volunteer with the Cambridge Churches Homeless Project. Our Director of Christian Life and Head of Religious Education is also responsible for communication with parents about liturgical and occasional social events with the local parishes, e.g. the Ablaze group at St Laurence's Church and initiatives of other church or ecumenical Christian groups in Cambridge.

Our partnership with a local state secondary school, is built on shared Christian values. Students and staff in both schools benefit from a range of collaborations and working with St Bede's has created a values-driven partnership. Activities include:

- Classical Greek – St Bede's Year 9 and 10 students join our girls to study Classical Greek at GCSE. This extends the curriculum options at St Bede's and boosts participation in our smallest classes.

Staff at St Mary's School contribute significantly to the wider community, acting as governors at local state schools and as an Academy Council Member at a local village college.

St Mary's is also keen to support local community activities, from lending our parking facilities to the Botanic Gardens in order to facilitate their events, to opening up the Junior and Senior School buildings for local residents' association meetings (which our Operations Manager attends). Members of the local residents' association and local nursery schools are invited to all Junior School events. The Junior School also invites the Joint Colleges Nursery to use its woods for their outdoor learning programme. Our boarding community on Brooklands Avenue also maintain close links with the residents of the neighbouring Royal Albert Homes almshouses. Finally, it has been particularly important to invite members of our immediate local community to see the completed work at the school at the official opening in January 2024.

The sports ground at Long Road has also been made available to the local community to book for training and match sessions. The facilities are regularly used for a variety of sports: football, hockey, rugby, netball as well as ultimate frisbee. We expect that community use of these facilities will continue to grow year on year.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE, AWARENESS RAISING AND FUND RAISING

Each year the staff and students undertake fundraising for local, national and international charities. These events are well supported by staff and students and are a practical representation of the School's ethos to help others. Charity fundraising played a very important role at St Mary's Junior School with both local and international beneficiaries including Roald Dahl Day, Children in Need and the World Book Day. Proceeds from the Harvest Festival went to the local foodbank and the School continues to sponsor an Ethiopian child, Hani's education and care. In the Senior School, our community is often informed or inspired to work with charitable projects or foundations through alumnae who return to present school assemblies or Sixth Form sessions about the volunteer work they have undertaken. The sponsored Fun Run and Lourdes Fundraising Fortnight are highlights which also include cake sales to non-uniform days. Two 'hunger lunches' each academic year raise money specifically for CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). The total raised across the academic year 2023-24 was £13,861. Beneficiaries included CAFOD, Breast Cancer Now, BBC Children in Need, East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH), Cambridge Women's Aid, RENATE, Alzheimer's Research UK, Young Minds, Save the Children, CAFOD World Gifts, Glanfield Children's Group (Lourdes), DEC Ukraine appeal, East Anglian Air Ambulance and EDUCAID Sierra Leone. The recipient charities are chosen by the Director of Christian Life, in conjunction with the Sixth Form Charity Prefects and with input from students from across the School. The Giving Tree initiative was again organised by Year 9 students, where pupils could pick an item from the Amazon wish list of a local homelessness charity, Jimmy's, and then hang a tag on the tree detailing the gift donated. Representatives from some of these charities visited the School to present assemblies on their work.

St Mary's students continue to actively participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme with over 200 students involved at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Voluntary service forms an important part of the scheme and so our students have spent over 2,000 hours volunteering on a regular basis at many local organisations, including Addenbrooke's Hospital, church cafés, Arthur Rank Hospice, various nursing homes and local Scouting and Guiding communities. Other students support the elderly, work with disabled children, coach a range of activities from rowing to tennis and from dance to junior golf, and help at animal rescue centres, youth clubs, nursery schools and Sunday Schools.

Students, and in particular boarders, have also built-up strong community service links, in particular with Cancer Research UK, providing many donations. Links have also been formed between the boarding accommodation (Mary Ward House) and the residents of the adjacent alms-houses – including baking cakes for the now annual May Day tea party.

Beyond the school gates staff and students are involved in many fundraising and volunteering activities, including the Cambridge Churches Homeless Project, the Library at Home Service, the Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue Team, the Sick Children's Trust at Addenbrooke's Hospital, and the Crick Institute in London. Students and staff have also raised money, including through sporting events, for organisations including Shepreth Wildlife Park, MacMillan Cancer Research and The CF Trust.

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Environment

Now in its seventh year, the Junior School Eco-Council has continued to flourish. The Eco-Council gave an assembly about National Tree Week and planted trees sent by The Woodland Trust. The Eco-Council had great fun working together with school gardeners and Cultivating Change to grow vegetables in the Junior School garden.

St Mary's School was Highly Commended in the Muddy Stiletto Awards for Best Eco Initiative, which celebrates schools who have undertaken initiatives to help protect the planet and thus empowering students to be agents of change in creating a better world. A large group of students were elected to the committee in September 2023 and the committee were taken to the Cambridge Green Schools Conference that month. The committee continued to ensure the environment and surrounding issues were kept in the spotlight with the delivery of topics such as Healthy Living, Eco Schools Award and International Women's Day presentation to the whole school in assemblies across the year.

Transport

Bicycle road awareness and training courses continue to be run on an annual basis, which help to teach our students the value of road safety and increases confidence in road cycling, resulting in a significant number of students cycling to school. Cycling is one of the eco committee's sustainable choices, which make up the eco code for the School. The longer-term strategy for school vehicles is to procure electric minibuses at the point of replacement and when electric minibuses become more available. Discussions are also being held with local independent schools to run a joint coach from various sites on the outskirts of the city to bring students to all the local schools in the vicinity and to avoid a larger number of smaller 'school-specific' minibus traffic. This should further reduce the number of cars needing to travel into the already congested city centre.

Future Plans

St Mary's is committed to maintaining the current high standards of academic achievement and to provide our pupils with the caring and supportive environment which makes it possible for all pupils to reach their full potential. The School will continue regularly to review the curriculum, extra-curricular activities and pastoral support provided.

We will continue to work on a number of other development projects:

With the ongoing commitment to becoming a digital school, the School will continue to expand the role that digital technology plays in the life of our students, including developing the suite of online digital programmes to complement classroom learning and increasing the use of digital textbooks. In addition, we will look into how best to use Artificial Intelligence.

We continue to develop our role as a High Performance Learning school. This will involve looking into areas such as Behaviour, Rewards and Sanctions, Tracking and Monitoring and Setting, basing any changes on research-based, evidence-led best practice. In addition, we will continue to host visits from state and independent schools wishing to understand more about the advantages of HPL.

The Governors continue to be committed to maintaining excellent pupil:teacher ratios and to continue the programme of professional development for all staff. The School invites periodic external reviews by peer schools, teachers attend a wide range of professional development courses and enjoy a programme of INSET which includes presentations from visiting speakers. Support Staff provide essential services and assistance is provided to help attain external qualifications across various job roles.

The contributions made by the School to local, national and international communities, external charity fundraising and bursary provision, are constantly under review and the Governors continue to support and encourage such initiatives.

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The Governors have continued to look into potential international development opportunities. Several possible locations of interest have been identified and the School will carry out further due diligence checks and gain a deeper understanding of the options that are available.

FINANCIAL REVIEW/ RESULTS FOR THE YEAR

Financial results

The total incoming resources in 2024 were £12,698,358 compared to £13,647,329 in 2023, with the main source of income being in respect of School Fees. The School lets its premises to overseas language schools each summer, and the licence for Summer 2024 was reduced compared to that for Summer 2023, with lettings income totalling £47,320 in the year (£410,335 in 2022/23). Fundraising income in 2023 included a donation of £250,000 towards the Mary Ward Educational Suite building project.

Net outgoing resources before transfers in 2024 were £465,171 compared to £1,186,997 net incoming resources in 2023, with staff salary costs being the single largest cost within Expenditure.

The Balance Sheet net assets of the Group have decreased from £18,952,592 in 2023 to £18,487,421 in 2024. Fixed assets consist of the Freehold Property at 47 Bateman Street, Mary Ward House in Brooklands Avenue (our boarding house formerly The Hope Nursing Home) as well as the main school buildings, the Leasehold Property at 6 Chaucer Road as well as School furniture, equipment and motor vehicles.

Developments and maintenance

On site at the Senior and Junior Schools, the digital strategy continued to be applied, with all students at the Senior School benefiting from one-to-one devices, with a roll out of Microsoft-based devices to replace the Chromebooks previously issued. In addition, we continued the programme of replacement of the classroom Interactive Whiteboards with touch screen TVs, using the newly completed Mary Ward Educational Suite classrooms as a blueprint for development of all classrooms across the site.

A full roof replacement was carried out on the main Junior School building during July and August 2024, and the work was completed for the start of the academic year. Two large trees at the front of the Junior School had to be removed as they were found to be the main cause of the movement detected in the Junior School building. They were only removed following a long period of evaluation and investigation, and with the approval of the local authority. More suitable alternative specimens will be planted in their place.

The Bursar carried out a comprehensive review across all sites of the school, with a five-year plan being drawn up to cover maintenance of the material aspects of the buildings.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Reserves and financial health

The reserves of the Group total £18,487,421 (2023: £18,952,592), which includes £23,814,144 (2023: £20,834,549) representing expenditure on freehold and leasehold property less accumulated depreciation and amortisation. The scholarship fund represents investments set aside to produce income and capital growth to provide bursaries and scholarships for students. The Social Investment of £450,000 represents the value of the land at Long Road that forms our contribution to the Joint Venture with Homerton College, Cambridge to provide first class sporting facilities for both entities.

Free reserves have reduced in the year by £1,928,597 (compared to a reduction in the deficit in 2023 by £52,737) and are currently in deficit by £8,712,633 (2023: £6,784,036 - restated to include the social venture). Free reserves are in deficit due to the School's investment in property in recent years. The increase in the deficit in 2023/24 and 2022/23 is due to the expenditure on the Mary Ward Educational Suite in both years. The freehold of the Senior School in Bateman Street was purchased in 2014 and the freehold for Mary Ward House in 2016, with further investment being made to these and other properties to continue to provide first class facilities within education and boarding. Property is held in the financial statements at cost and has not been revalued. A recent independent valuation confirmed property values to be significantly higher than original cost. The School's long-term aim is to generate annual surplus to reduce the deficit. Underlying this despite free reserves being in deficit, Cash Reserves at the year-end were £2.6 million (2023: £3.7 million), and the School is able to meet all liabilities. The target level of cash reserves required is set at 4 months or 1 term's worth of operating costs, equivalent to £3.8 million.

Investment policy and performance

The Memorandum and Articles of Association govern the School's investment policy, which permits the appointment of a proper and competent investment manager to act in accordance with the investment policy laid down and monitored by the Governors. The primary objective for the School's investment manager is to ensure long term capital growth for the portfolio. The funds will be managed to ensure that there are sufficient assets and an investment time horizon far enough in the future to withstand small to medium losses within the portfolio before there is a detrimental effect on the School's ability to deliver against its day-to-day requirements. The Trustees' priority is to grow the capital ahead of inflation over the long term. There was an increase in the valuation of the Charity's Managed Investment Fund of £72,881 during the reported year, and the closing valuation was £584,292 (£511,411 as at 31 August 2023).

Trustees plan to carry out a review of how funds and investments are utilised, to ensure that the School continues to be able to provide bursary and scholarship support to as many pupils as possible. Funds were set aside for this purpose and to date have not been released. This review will investigate and consider the reasons for designations and restrictions of these funds to ensure that they have been correctly applied and remain appropriate to enable use of the funds for the purpose of providing bursary and scholarship support.

Pension liability

The Governors recognise the liability existing in The Pensions Trust Independent Schools Pension Scheme Defined Benefit Scheme (NB please refer to Notes 21 and 29 in the accounts). The Pension Liability has been reported within the accounts in accordance with accounting standard FRS 17. To eliminate the funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme between September 2016 and August 2029. Where the scheme is in deficit and where the School has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement, the School recognises a liability for the obligation.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

ACCESS POLICIES

Bursary Policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure children from families who would otherwise not be able to afford the fees can access the education we offer. St Mary's offers means tested bursaries towards the cost of tuition fees. The bursary awards range from 10% to 100 % remission of fees.

The scheme is designed to assist parents or guardians on low incomes who may otherwise be unable to send, or continue to send, their child to the school. Applications for new entrant bursaries coincide generally with the new admission decision times for the Junior and Senior Schools, but bursary applications from existing parents facing unexpected hardship can occur at any stage. Bursaries are reviewed annually. The availability of bursaries is advertised widely through local churches and church publications, via state school links and on our website. Bursary decisions are made by the Bursary Committee, acting within policy guidance and financial budgets set by the Board of Governors. In assessing means, we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependent relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School has no endowments or capital resources from which to draw bursary funding, so each year's funding is obtained solely from income generated. As a result, in funding our awards we are careful to ensure there is 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.

Scholarships Policy

It is St Mary's School policy, in line with that of other Independent schools, to make scholarship awards on the basis of an individual student's educational potential, and students benefit from a combination of both scholarship and bursary awards. Our scholarships are awarded to recognise outstanding academic, creative and sporting achievement and service to the wider community.

Scholarships are usually awarded as a 5% off day school fees for the length of the scholarship. In the interests of inclusivity, no student will normally be awarded more than two scholarships with fee remission, although applicants may apply for more than two. Awards are usually valid for two (Year 7 and Sixth Form entry) or five (Year 9 entry) years. Scholarships can be purely honorary, with the fee remission donated by parents into our Bursary Fund to benefit students who would otherwise be unable to afford a place at the school. In addition to a fee reduction, scholars receive support in their area of talent from a teacher. Scholars are expected to act as role models to their peers and contribute to wider school life, fostering a love of learning and commitment to service.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Structure

St Mary's School Cambridge was incorporated as a company limited by Guarantee in August 1984 under a Memorandum of Association, which sets out its objects and powers, and is governed under its Articles of Association, both documents as amended. It has been registered as a charity with the Charity Commission since October 1984.

On 5th December 2006, amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association of St Mary's School Cambridge were agreed by the Guardians which, with immediate effect, dissolved the Guardians and passed their powers of governance to the Governors. All ratified Governors are from this point also Members of the Charity. The liability of the Members is limited generally to a sum not exceeding £1 as determined by the terms of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of St Mary's School Cambridge.

The charity has three wholly owned subsidiary companies, St Mary's School Enterprises Limited, St Mary's School Cambridge International Limited and St Mary's Junior School Limited.

The principal activity of St Mary's School Enterprises Limited is that of fund raising and trading activities for the benefit of the School. The principal activity of St Mary's School Cambridge International Limited is to promote the School's international offering. The company was dormant during the year. The principal activity of St Mary's Junior School Limited, that of education, ceased on 14 April 2008 when the company transferred its business to its parent charity, St Mary's School Cambridge. All subsidiary companies have undertaken to pass all their taxable profits to St Mary's School Cambridge, under Gift Aid.

Governance

Under the terms of the amended Memorandum and Articles of Association, Governors are appointed by the existing Board of Governors in office at the time of appointment and are, conditional upon ratification by the Members at the next Governors' Meeting, to serve for a period of three years. All Governors whose appointment is ratified by the Members must become Members. Subsequent re-appointments may extend service, but for normally no more than nine years consecutively, unless a longer appointment term is agreed for special reasons.

Governor Recruitment, Induction and Training

The composition of the Governing Body is given careful thought and planning. Members should be able to speak with knowledge and experience on the whole range of matters which come before them for decision. Accordingly, when a vacancy is to be filled, the Governors determine if any field of experience or training is not represented, or is under-represented, on the Board. To assist in this process, the Governing Body conducts and regularly reviews a skills audit, in line with good practice.

The Governance Committee is generally responsible for identifying new governors with the skills required. However, this is also one of the collective responsibilities of the Governing Body and therefore a matter to which all Governors give thought. In addition to the primary consideration of skills, the Governance Committee ensures that, where possible, the Governing Body is a diverse group of men and women, whilst also taking into account eligibility, personal competences and local availability. Potential Governors are invited to meet the Chair of Governors, other Governors nominated by members of the Governance Committee as part of the appointment process. At these meetings, the obligations and responsibilities of a Governor of St Mary's are explained in detail to ensure that potential Governors have a clear understanding of the duties and workload expected of them. Potential Governors are briefed on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Governors' decision-making processes and the recent financial performance of the School.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

After appointment, the induction process includes introduction to the School's key personnel, discussion of the areas of responsibilities and Committees the new Governor will be invited to join (if appropriate) and a further full tour of the School. New Governors are subject to enhanced DBS clearance checks, sign a declaration of eligibility as a new trustee, and complete a potential conflict of interest statement. New Governors are encouraged to attend the AGBIS new Governors' training course. All Governors throughout their terms of office are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events, especially those run by AGBIS, where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role and mandatory training re safeguarding is provided in-house and via on line providers.

Management

St Mary's School Governors, as Directors and Members of the Charity, are legally responsible for the overall management and control of the School and meet as a Board at least three times a year. The Board is divided into three main Committees (Governance, Education and Finance & General Purposes) and two sub-committees (Bursary and Senior Staff Salaries), as follows:

- the Governance Committee reviews School policies at least annually with the Heads of both the Senior and Junior School, recommending new, amended or renewal of policies to the Governing Board for the School's governance and practical operation. It also oversees matters of ethos, safeguarding, pastoral care and governance including governor appointments, committee membership, induction and review.
- the Education Committee meets regularly to consider matters relating to teaching and learning, boarding, the school's curriculum and co- and extra-curricular activities
- the work of overseeing the financial management of the school is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GP) which meets several weeks before each meeting of the full Governing Board and on other occasions as the need arises.
- the Bursary Sub-Committee meets twice a year to consider and decide upon School bursaries (the bursary demand schedule determining the timing and frequency of meetings). Urgent applications are dealt with by email and/ or additional meetings as needed.
- performance of the Head and Bursar is reviewed annually by the Senior Staff Salaries Sub-Committee, which is chaired by the Chair of Governors. When determining remuneration levels, Governors consider both the individual's performance and the AGBIS Survey of Heads' and Bursars' Salaries and Benefits. In addition, the Head and Bursar are given periodic external reviews as a matter of best practice.

The Head, Bursar and other senior staff are invited to attend Governors' meetings and meetings of Governor committees when appropriate. Individual Governors have specific link responsibilities to areas within School which cover pupil academic, pastoral subjects and student voice, together with infrastructure areas such as finance and property, and report any findings and recommendations to the Board.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Risk Management

The Governors are responsible for the management of the risks faced by the School. The Governors have established a framework for the identification, assessment and control of the major risks to which the School is exposed, and they are assisted by the Senior Leadership Team. The Governors have an ongoing risk management strategy, which is given a very high priority, comprising:

- Termly review of the top risks currently faced by the School
- A full annual review of the risks the School might face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact should those risks materialise.

The key controls used by the charity include:

- Formal agendas for Committee and Board meetings
- Detailed terms of reference for all committees
- Comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting with regular re-forecasting and annual external financial audit
- Established organisational structure and lines of reporting
- Formal written policies
- Clear authorisation and approval levels
- Vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable
- Appropriate training for Governors and staff.

Through the risk management processes established by the School, the Governors are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary.

The principal risks and uncertainties managed through the above measures during the period included:

- The impacts of government policies and changes to legislation, such as imposition of VAT on fees and removal of (charitable) tax reliefs.
- Affordability of fees by parents across the independent sector.
- The impact of cyber-crime, with mitigation including the introduction of two-factor authentication on staff devices, external penetration testing, cyber insurance, regular staff training, review and testing of appropriate software installations.
- The risks of failure to comply with UKVI requirements, particularly in the light of amended UKVI % tolerance, in respect of the School's boarding community, leading to the withdrawal of the authority to sponsor students from overseas were mitigated by on-going staff training and awareness and the external support of specialist immigration services.
- Future demand for independent education, particularly boarding education.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

STATEMENT OF GOVERNOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also the directors of the School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' 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 Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Governors 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 Group and the School and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors 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 Group will continue in business.

The Governors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group and the School's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group and the School 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 Group and the School and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Disclosure of information to auditors

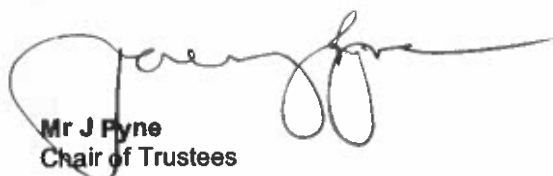
Each of the persons who are Governors at the time when this Governors' Report is approved has confirmed that:

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

Auditors

The auditors, Peters Elworthy & Moore, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Governors will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Governors.

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



Mr J Pyne
Chair of Trustees

Date: 30 May 2025

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of St Mary's School Cambridge (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the School Balance Sheet, the Consolidated 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 Group's and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of the Group's 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 Group 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 Governors' 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 Group's or the parent 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 Governors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(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 Governors 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 Governors' Report, which includes the Directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report included within the Governors' 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 Strategic Report or the Directors' Report included within the Governors' 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:

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

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(CONTINUED)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNORS

As explained more fully in the Governors' Responsibilities Statement, the Governors (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 Governors 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 Governors are responsible for assessing the Group's and the parent 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 Governors either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent 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 engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified which laws and regulations were significant in the context of the School. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were Charities Act 2011, Companies Act 2006 and taxation legislation;
- in addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect, on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the School's and the Group's ability to operate or to avoid material penalty;
- we obtained an understanding of the Group's policies and procedures on compliance with laws and regulations, including documentation of any instances of non-compliance;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- we reviewed the minutes of Trustees' meetings to identify any references to non-compliance with laws and regulations.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(CONTINUED)

We assessed the susceptibility of the School's and Group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and noncompliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- we evaluated the assumptions and judgements used by management within significant accounting estimates and assessed whether these indicated evidence of management bias; and
- performed audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing a sample of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- reviewing any correspondence with relevant regulators such as the Charity Commission.

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.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(CONTINUED)

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.

Nikki Loan

Nikki Loan (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Peters Elworthy & Moore

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Salisbury House

Station Road

Cambridge

CB1 2LA

Date: 30 MAY 2025

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	4	2,291	17,045	19,336	272,137
Charitable activities	5	12,666,902	-	12,666,902	13,284,691
Other trading activities	6	1,230	-	1,230	74,540
Investments	7	-	11,070	11,070	15,961
TOTAL INCOME		12,670,423	28,115	12,698,538	13,647,329
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	8,9	230,822	-	230,822	267,889
Charitable activities	10	12,997,877	-	12,997,877	12,201,105
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		13,228,699	-	13,228,699	12,468,994
NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME BEFORE NET GAINS ON INVESTMENTS					
		(558,276)	28,115	(530,161)	1,178,335
Net gains on investments		-	64,990	64,990	8,662
NET INCOME		(558,276)	93,105	(465,171)	1,186,997
Transfers between funds	22	250,000	(250,000)	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(308,276)	(156,895)	(465,171)	1,186,997
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward		17,695,985	1,256,607	18,952,592	17,765,595
Net movement in funds		(308,276)	(156,895)	(465,171)	1,186,997
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		17,387,709	1,099,712	18,487,421	18,952,592

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

The notes on pages 30 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01840431

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

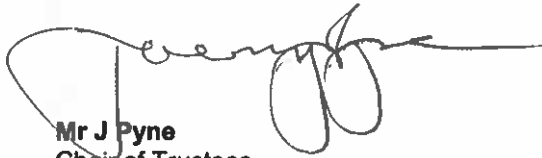
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	13	25,293,610	24,016,451
Investments	14	584,292	511,411
Social investments	15	450,000	450,000
		<u>26,327,902</u>	<u>24,977,862</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	16	655	518
Debtors	17	323,323	472,035
Cash at bank and in hand		2,564,169	3,733,072
		<u>2,888,147</u>	<u>4,205,625</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(5,788,023)	(4,932,137)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(2,899,876)</u>	<u>(726,512)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>23,428,026</u>	<u>24,251,350</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(4,746,605)	(5,096,758)
Provisions for liabilities	21	(194,000)	(202,000)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u><u>18,487,421</u></u>	<u><u>18,952,592</u></u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds	22	1,099,712	1,256,607
Unrestricted funds	22	17,387,709	17,695,985
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>18,487,421</u></u>	<u><u>18,952,592</u></u>

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01840431

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

The Governors 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 Governors and signed on their behalf by:



Mr J Pyne
Chair of Trustees

Date: 30 MAY 2025

The notes on pages 30 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01840431

SCHOOL BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	13	25,293,610	24,016,451
Investments	14	584,296	511,415
Social investments	15	450,000	450,000
		<u>26,327,906</u>	<u>24,977,866</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	17	230,401	396,996
Cash at bank and in hand		2,564,169	3,733,072
		<u>2,794,570</u>	<u>4,130,068</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(5,693,338)	(4,858,505)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(2,898,768)</u>	<u>(728,437)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>23,429,138</u>	<u>24,249,429</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(4,746,605)	(5,096,758)
Provisions for liabilities		(194,000)	(202,000)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u><u>18,488,533</u></u>	<u><u>18,950,671</u></u>
CHARITY FUNDS			
Restricted funds	22	1,102,428	1,259,323
Unrestricted funds	22	17,386,105	17,691,348
TOTAL FUNDS		<u><u>18,488,533</u></u>	<u><u>18,950,671</u></u>

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01840431

SCHOOL BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

The School's net movement in funds for the year was £(462,138) (2023 - £1,198,180).

The Governors 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 Governors and signed on their behalf by:



Mr J Pyne
Chair of Trustees

Date: 30 MAY 2025

The notes on pages 30 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash generated from operating activities	25	1,038,313	1,763,072
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Dividends, interests and rents from investments		11,070	15,961
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		1,500	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,837,545)	(1,458,405)
Proceeds from sale of investments		362,829	125,981
Purchase of investments		(372,515)	(143,693)
Movement in cash held at investors		1,795	4,679
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(1,832,866)	(1,455,477)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayments of borrowing		(374,012)	(315,950)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(374,012)	(315,950)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		(1,168,565)	(8,355)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,713,376	3,721,731
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	26	2,544,811	3,713,376

The notes on pages 30 to 60 form part of these financial statements

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The School is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The members of the Company are the Governors named on page 1. In the event of the School being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the School.

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) (second edition - October 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

St Mary's School Cambridge meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102 and its Group is a Public Benefit Group. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Consolidated Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the Charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The results of the subsidiaries are consolidated on a line by line basis. St Mary's Junior School Limited and St Mary's School International Limited are currently dormant.

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities includes the Group's share of the joint venture's net income or expenditure using the equity accounting basis.

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of Financial Activities in these financial statements. The charity has also taken advantage of the exemption available to qualifying entities not to prepare a charity only statement of cash flows or disclose related party transactions with group companies.

2.2 GOING CONCERN

While the external environment presents a number of challenges, including the introduction of VAT on school fees and the loss of business rates relief, the Governors confirm that the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate for these financial statements. The Governors have been actively engaged in developing strategic responses to these pressures, and actions have already been taken to safeguard the School's mission and financial health; these actions include enhancing operational efficiencies, reviewing non-essential expenditure and diversifying income streams. These plans are designed to ensure the School's resilience and ability to meet its obligations as they fall due for at least the next 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.3 INCOME

All income is recognised once the Group 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 Group 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 Group, can be reliably measured.

Fees and other educational activities

Fees receivable and charges for use of premises are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided. Fees receivable are stated after deducting allowances, scholarships and other remissions granted by the School, but include contributions received from Restricted Funds for scholarships and bursaries. Payments received in respect of future fees are deferred in creditors and are released to the Statement of Financial Activities in the relevant term.

Acceptance deposits

Acceptance deposits are deposits placed when pupils join the School and are refunded at the end of the final term after deducting any outstanding debts. Deposits are held in other creditors until refunded. All deposits are considered immediately returnable should a student leave in accordance with the appropriate terms and conditions and therefore are all held as due within one year.

Activities for generating funds

Charges for goods and services provided by St Mary's School Enterprises Limited are accounted for in the period in which the goods and services are provided, exclusive of any Value Added Tax and trade discounts.

Investment income

Investment income is accounted for when receivable.

Donations

Donations and all other receipts from fundraising are reported gross and the related fundraising costs are reported in expenditure. Donations receivable for the general purposes of the School are credited to Unrestricted Funds. Donations for purposes restricted by the wishes of the donor are taken to Restricted Funds where these wishes are legally binding on the Governors of St Mary's School Cambridge.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

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.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Group to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

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

Expenditure on governance costs incurred by the Group is included within support costs. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with the administration of the Group and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 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.

Land is not depreciated.

Assets in the course of construction are included at costs incurred to date. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

At each reporting date the School assesses whether there is any indication of impairment. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined to be the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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:

Freehold property	- 2 - 5% on cost
Long-term leasehold property	- Over the period of the lease or 50 years if less
Motor vehicles	- 25% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.6 INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the .

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Social investments comprise a programme related investment in a joint venture and is held at cost less impairment in the School's accounts. The nature of the agreement is such that the School's share of the net assets of the venture is limited to the value of the initial investment, therefore the valuation in the Group accounts is limited to the initial investment value.

2.7 STOCKS

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

2.8 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.

2.9 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.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.10 LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS

Liabilities and provisions 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 Group 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 Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities as a finance cost.

Provisions are recognised when the Group has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measure 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 within interest payable and similar charges. Further disclosure in note 21.

2.11 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Group 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.

2.12 PENSIONS

The Charity operates two schemes, one being the Government controlled defined benefit scheme Teachers' Pension Scheme for academic staff and the other a defined contribution scheme for other individuals. Assets of each scheme are held separately from those of the Charity under independent control. The Charity's contributions are expensed in the year in which they are incurred.

The Teachers' Pension Scheme for academic staff is a multi-employer defined benefit plan for which the School cannot ascertain its share of assets and liabilities. The details of the scheme are given in note 28. The School is responsible for a share of the deficit funding and the details of this are set out in note 21.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

2.13 FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Governors 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 Group 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.

3. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGEMENT

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. The Charity and group make estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The present value of the Teachers Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost/(income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in Note 29, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The Governors consider the estimation of potential impairment of the Joint Venture value to be a significant estimate. The Charity has considered the management reports of the Joint Venture and its current operations and do not consider that any impairment of the investment is currently necessary.

The Governors do not consider there are any further critical judgments or sources of estimation uncertainty requiring disclosure beyond the accounting policies and that set out above.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	2,291	17,045	19,336	272,137
	<u>22,137</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>272,137</u>	
TOTAL 2023	<u>22,137</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>272,137</u>	

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Gross fees	13,309,720	13,309,720	14,007,828
Less: Total bursaries, grants and allowances	(642,818)	(642,818)	(723,137)
TOTAL 2024	<u>12,666,902</u>	<u>12,666,902</u>	<u>13,284,691</u>
TOTAL 2023	<u>13,284,691</u>	<u>13,284,691</u>	

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Income from non charitable trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Trading income	1,230	1,230	74,540
	<u>1,230</u>	<u>1,230</u>	
TOTAL 2023	<u>74,540</u>	<u>74,540</u>	

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income investments	11,070	11,070	15,961
	<u>11,070</u>	<u>11,070</u>	
TOTAL 2023	<u>15,961</u>	<u>15,961</u>	

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

8. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

TRADING EXPENSES

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Trading costs	227,643	227,643	264,961
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL 2023	264,961	264,961	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

9. INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COSTS

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Investment management fees	3,179	3,179	2,928
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL 2023	2,928	2,928	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

10. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Direct costs 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Education and welfare	7,849,007	2,104,813	9,953,820	9,640,726
Establishment and premises	2,407,433	636,624	3,044,057	2,560,379
TOTAL 2024	10,256,440	2,741,437	12,997,877	12,201,105
TOTAL 2023	9,683,864	2,517,241	12,201,105	

All expenditure in 2024 and 2023 was unrestricted.

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	Education and welfare 2024 £	Establish- ment and premises 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	6,705,699	611,215	7,316,914	7,140,646
Direct charitable expenditure	1,143,308	1,796,218	2,939,526	2,543,218
TOTAL 2024	7,849,007	2,407,433	10,256,440	9,683,864
TOTAL 2023	7,644,583	2,039,281	9,683,864	

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

10. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Education and welfare 2024 £	Establish- ment and premises 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	984,609	301,998	1,286,607	971,035
Depreciation	527,035	161,191	688,226	648,868
School administrations costs	567,069	173,435	740,504	877,402
Governance costs	26,100	-	26,100	19,936
	<u>2,104,813</u>	<u>636,624</u>	<u>2,741,437</u>	<u>2,517,241</u>
TOTAL 2023	<u>1,996,143</u>	<u>521,098</u>	<u>2,517,241</u>	

The support costs (excluding governance costs) have been allocated proportionately in line with direct costs between the significant activities of the School.

11. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the School's auditor for the audit of the School's annual accounts	16,000	16,025
Fees payable to the School's auditor in respect of:		
All non-audit services not included above	<u>10,250</u>	<u>3,911</u>

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

12. STAFF COSTS

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	School 2024 £	School 2023 £
Wages and salaries	6,673,581	6,375,903	6,673,581	6,375,903
Social security costs	705,275	659,879	705,275	659,879
Contribution pension schemes	1,224,665	1,075,899	1,224,665	1,075,899
	<u>8,603,521</u>	<u>8,111,681</u>	<u>8,603,521</u>	<u>8,111,681</u>

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

	Group 2024 No.	Group 2023 No.	School 2024 No.	School 2023 No.
Education & Welfare	114	113	114	113
Administration	22	23	22	23
Establishment	23	23	23	23
Trading	1	1	1	1
	<u>160</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>160</u>	<u>160</u>

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

	Group 2024 No.	Group 2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	4	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	-
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	-	1
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	1	-
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	1	-
In the band £150,001 - £160,000	-	1

The key management personnel of the Group comprise the Headmistress, the Deputy Head, the Bursar, the Deputy Head: Pastoral & Boarding, the Assistant Head: Director of Studies, Assistant Head: Enrichment and Partnerships and the Head of the Junior School. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £1,009,031 (2023: £810,375).

No trustees received any remuneration or benefits in kind from the Charity (2023: £Nil).

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

GROUP AND SCHOOL

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Fixtures and fittings £	Assets under construction £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION						
At 1 September 2023	18,669,949	4,284,725	237,804	4,820,810	1,263,831	29,277,119
Additions	1,581,783	251,256	-	132,346	-	1,965,385
Disposals	-	-	(22,990)	-	-	(22,990)
Transfers between classes	1,263,831	-	-	-	(1,263,831)	-
At 31 August 2024	21,515,563	4,535,981	214,814	4,953,156	-	31,219,514
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 September 2023	995,041	1,125,084	207,606	2,932,937	-	5,260,668
Charge for the year	44,588	72,687	18,077	552,874	-	688,226
On disposals	-	-	(22,990)	-	-	(22,990)
At 31 August 2024	1,039,629	1,197,771	202,693	3,485,811	-	5,925,904
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 August 2024	20,475,934	3,338,210	12,121	1,467,345	-	25,293,610
At 31 August 2023	17,674,908	3,159,641	30,198	1,887,873	1,263,831	24,016,451

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

GROUP	Listed Investments £	Cash held at Investments £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION			
At 1 September 2023	487,477	23,934	511,411
Additions	372,515	-	372,515
Disposals	(345,690)	(1,795)	(347,485)
Revaluations	47,851	-	47,851
AT 31 AUGUST 2024	562,153	22,139	584,292
NET BOOK VALUE			
AT 31 AUGUST 2024	562,153	22,139	584,292
AT 31 AUGUST 2023	487,477	23,934	511,411

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

SCHOOL	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Listed investments £	Cash held as investments £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 September 2023	63,957	487,477	23,934	575,368
Additions	-	372,515	-	372,515
Disposals	-	(345,690)	(1,795)	(347,485)
Revaluations	-	47,851	-	47,851
AT 31 AUGUST 2024	<u>63,957</u>	<u>562,153</u>	<u>22,139</u>	<u>648,249</u>
IMPAIRMENT				
At 1 September 2023	63,953	-	-	63,953
AT 31 AUGUST 2024	<u>63,953</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>63,953</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
AT 31 AUGUST 2024	<u>4</u>	<u>562,153</u>	<u>22,139</u>	<u>584,296</u>
AT 31 AUGUST 2023	<u>4</u>	<u>487,477</u>	<u>23,934</u>	<u>511,415</u>

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

15. SOCIAL INVESTMENTS

GROUP AND SCHOOL

	Investment in joint venture £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION		
At 1 September 2023	450,000	450,000
At 31 August 2024	450,000	450,000
NET BOOK VALUE		
At 31 August 2024	450,000	450,000
At 31 August 2023	450,000	450,000

In October 2019 St Mary's School Cambridge entered into a joint venture with Homerton College called Ward Griffin LLP. The purpose of the LLP is to improve the sports facilities on Long Road, Cambridge and enable both Homerton and the School use of the facilities.

During the year there were no incoming resources (2023: £Nil) and £40,000 resources expended (2023: £50,240) in respect of the joint venture.

16. STOCKS

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Goods for resale	655	518

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. DEBTORS

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	School 2024 £	School 2023 £
DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR				
Trade debtors	35,183	107,833	35,183	107,833
Other debtors	7,624	2,710	7,624	2,711
Prepayments and accrued income	280,516	361,492	187,594	286,452
	<u>323,323</u>	<u>472,035</u>	<u>230,401</u>	<u>396,996</u>

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	School 2024 £	School 2023 £
Bank overdrafts	19,358	19,696	-	-
Bank loan	365,030	388,889	365,030	388,889
Trade creditors	-	28,294	-	-
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	30,449	69,814
Other taxation and social security	161,536	174,584	154,601	159,255
Other creditors	1,930,299	1,789,738	1,930,299	1,789,738
Accruals and deferred income	3,311,800	2,530,936	3,212,959	2,450,809
	<u>5,788,023</u>	<u>4,932,137</u>	<u>5,693,338</u>	<u>4,858,505</u>

The bank loan is secured over one of the School's properties and bears interest at a rate of 3.52% per annum and is repayable in instalments from March 2018 to March 2036.

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19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	School 2024 £	School 2023 £
Bank loan	4,746,605	5,096,758	4,746,605	5,096,758

The bank loan is secured over one of the School's properties and bears interest at a rate of 3.52% per annum and is repayable in instalments from March 2018 to March 2036.

	2024 £	2023 £
Loan payable falling due in more than 1 year but less than 5 years	1,592,344	1,555,556
Loan payable falling due after 5 years	<u>3,154,261</u>	<u>3,541,202</u>
Total	4,746,405	5,096,758

20. DEFERRED INCOME

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	School 2024 £	School 2023 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	2,140,550	2,007,597	2,140,550	2,007,597
Resources deferred during the year	2,630,027	2,140,550	2,630,027	2,140,550
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(2,140,550)</u>	<u>(2,007,597)</u>	<u>(2,140,550)</u>	<u>(2,007,597)</u>
DEFERRED INCOME AT 31 AUGUST 2024	<u>2,630,027</u>	<u>2,140,550</u>	<u>2,630,027</u>	<u>2,140,550</u>

Deferred income represents school fees received in advance of the relevant school term.

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

21. PROVISIONS

GROUP AND SCHOOL

	Pension deficit funding provision £
At 1 September 2023	202,000
Net movement	(8,000)
	<hr/> 194,000 <hr/>

The School is a member of the Pensions Trust defined benefit pension scheme for academic staff and is making contributions to the recovery plan now set up to eliminate the actuarial deficit arising on the scheme. Further information is contained in Note 29.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gain/(loss) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Capital reserve	15,809,261	-	-	1,091,724	-	16,900,985
GENERAL FUNDS						
Accumulated fund	1,891,803	12,445,813	(13,001,056)	(841,724)	-	494,836
St Mary's School Enterprises Limited *	(6,500)	224,610	(227,643)	-	-	(9,533)
St Mary's Junior School Limited *	1,421	-	-	-	-	1,421
	1,886,724	12,670,423	(13,228,699)	(841,724)	-	486,724
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	17,695,985	12,670,423	(13,228,699)	250,000	-	17,387,709

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

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gain/(loss) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
Scholarship and bursary fund	340,961	16,749	-	-	64,990	422,700
Joint Venture Partnership	450,000	-	-	-	-	450,000
Alvares Meneses fund	215,646	11,366	-	-	-	227,012
Facility Development fund	250,000	-	-	(250,000)	-	-
	<u>1,256,607</u>	<u>28,115</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(250,000)</u>	<u>64,990</u>	<u>1,099,712</u>
TOTAL OF FUNDS	<u>18,952,592</u>	<u>12,698,538</u>	<u>(13,228,699)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,990</u>	<u>18,487,421</u>

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

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gain/(loss) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
DESIGNATED FUNDS						
Capital reserve	15,555,075	-	-	254,186	-	15,809,261
GENERAL FUNDS						
Accumulated fund	1,219,716	13,127,590	(12,201,317)	(254,186)	-	1,891,803
St Mary's School Enterprises Limited *	4,683	253,778	(264,961)	-	-	(6,500)
St Mary's Junior School Limited *	1,421	-	-	-	-	1,421
	1,225,820	13,381,368	(12,466,278)	(254,186)	-	1,886,724
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	16,780,895	13,381,368	(12,466,278)	-	-	17,695,985

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gain/(loss) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
RESTRICTED FUNDS						
Scholarship and bursary fund	319,054	15,961	(2,716)	-	8,662	340,961
Joint Venture Partnership	450,000	-	-	-	-	450,000
Alvares Meneses fund	215,646	-	-	-	-	215,646
Facility Development fund	-	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
	<u>984,700</u>	<u>265,961</u>	<u>(2,716)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,662</u>	<u>1,256,607</u>
TOTAL OF FUNDS	<u>17,765,595</u>	<u>13,647,329</u>	<u>(12,468,994)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,662</u>	<u>18,952,592</u>

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

* denotes Group only fund, all other funds are Charity and Group.

The Scholarship and bursary fund represents donations received specifically to generate income to fund scholarships and bursaries.

The Capital reserve represents the balance of the School's funds that are invested in the freehold and leasehold property net of long term borrowing. The transfer from the Accumulated fund represents the movement of the Capital reserve during the year.

The Joint Venture Partnership is with Homerton College, Cambridge being the valuation of the venture.

The Alvares Meneses fund represents funds held to be spent on travel bursaries.

The Facility Development Fund represents a single donation received in the year to 31 August 2023 towards the development of the Mary Ward Education Suite. The project was completed in the year, and the funds applied in full in the year to 31 August 2024.

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CHARITY ONLY

	Balance at 1 September 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in/out	Gain/(loss)	Balance at 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	15,809,261	-	-	1,091,724	-	16,900,985
General funds	1,882,087	12,669,193	(13,224,436)	(841,724)	-	485,120
Restricted funds	1,259,323	28,115	-	(250,000)	64,990	1,102,428
Total	18,950,671	12,697,308	(13,224,436)	-	64,990	18,488,533

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

23. SUMMARY OF FUNDS

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gain/(loss) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Designated funds	15,809,261	-	-	1,091,724	-	16,900,985
General funds	1,886,724	12,670,423	(13,228,699)	(841,724)	-	486,724
Restricted funds	1,256,607	28,115	-	(250,000)	64,990	1,099,712
	<u>18,952,592</u>	<u>12,698,538</u>	<u>(13,228,699)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>64,990</u>	<u>18,487,421</u>

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gain/(loss) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Designated funds	15,555,075	-	-	254,186	-	15,809,261
General funds	1,225,820	13,381,368	(12,466,278)	(254,186)	-	1,886,724
Restricted funds	984,700	265,961	(2,716)	-	8,662	1,256,607
	<u>17,765,595</u>	<u>13,647,329</u>	<u>(12,468,994)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,662</u>	<u>18,952,592</u>

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

24. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT PERIOD

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	25,293,610	-	25,293,610
Fixed asset investments	-	584,292	584,292
Social investments	-	450,000	450,000
Current assets	2,822,727	65,420	2,888,147
Creditors due within one year	(5,788,023)	-	(5,788,023)
Creditors due in more than one year	(4,746,605)	-	(4,746,605)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(194,000)	-	(194,000)
TOTAL	17,387,709	1,099,712	18,487,421

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR PERIOD

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	24,016,451	-	24,016,451
Fixed asset investments	-	511,411	511,411
Social investments	-	450,000	450,000
Current assets	3,910,429	295,196	4,205,625
Creditors due within one year	(4,932,137)	-	(4,932,137)
Creditors due in more than one year	(5,096,758)	-	(5,096,758)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(202,000)	-	(202,000)
TOTAL	17,695,985	1,256,607	18,952,592

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

25. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Net income/expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(465,171)	1,186,997
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	688,226	648,868
Gains on investments	(64,990)	(8,662)
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(11,070)	(15,961)
(Profit)/loss on the sale of fixed assets	(1,500)	3,142
Increase in stocks	(137)	(166)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	148,092	(92,099)
Increase in creditors	752,863	69,953
Decrease in provisions	(8,000)	(29,000)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,038,313	1,763,072

26. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £
Cash in hand	2,564,169	3,733,072
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	(19,358)	(19,696)
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2,544,811	3,713,376

ST MARY'S SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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27. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 September 2023	Cash flows	Other non- cash changes	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	3,733,072	(1,168,903)	-	2,564,169
Bank overdrafts repayable on demand	(19,696)	338	-	(19,358)
Debt due within 1 year	(388,889)	-	23,859	(365,030)
Debt due after 1 year	(5,096,758)	374,012	(23,859)	(4,746,605)
	<u>(1,772,271)</u>	<u>(794,553)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,566,824)</u>

28. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Capital Commitments, relating to the main site development, contracted for but not provided in these financial statements, for the School and Group were £21,132 (2023: £1,074,000).

29. PENSION COMMITMENTS

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.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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 2020. The valuation results were published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation to be implemented from 1 April 2024 are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.6% 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 £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.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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29. PENSION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI.

With effect from 1 April 2024 the School implemented Phased Withdrawal from The Teachers Pension Scheme, with all new joiners automatically enrolled into APTIS (Aviva's Pension Trust for Independent Schools) Defined Contribution Scheme. This Scheme is operated under a Total Pay and Benefits arrangement, with teachers able to flex salary and employer pension contributions, with the minimum level of contribution required being 5% employee and 10% employer.

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://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 Charity has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Charity has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Independent Schools Pension Scheme - Defined Benefit Scheme

The School participates in the scheme, a multi-employer scheme which provides benefits to some 61 non-associated employers. The scheme is a defined benefit scheme in the UK. It is not possible for the company to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the scheme as a defined benefit scheme. Therefore it accounts for the scheme as a defined contribution scheme.

The scheme is subject to the funding legislation outlined in the Pensions Act 2004 which came into force on 30 December 2005. This, together with documents issued by the Pensions Regulator and Technical Actuarial Standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, set out the framework for funding defined benefit occupational pension schemes in the UK.

The scheme is classified as a 'last-man standing arrangement'. Therefore the company is potentially liable for other participating employers' obligations if those employers are unable to meet their share of the scheme deficit following withdrawal from the scheme. Participating employers are legally required to meet their share of the scheme deficit on an annuity purchase basis on withdrawal from the scheme.

A full actuarial valuation for the scheme was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2023. This actuarial valuation was certified on 11 December 2024 and showed assets of £99.2m, liabilities of £151.5m and a deficit of £52.3m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the trustees and the participating employers have agreed that additional contributions will be paid, in combination from all employers, to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 September 2025 to 31 January 2034: £6,000,000 per annum
(payable monthly and increasing by 3% on each 1st September)

Note that the scheme's previous valuation was carried out with an effective date of 30 September 2020. This valuation showed assets of £201.1m, liabilities of £256.3m and a deficit of £55.2m. To eliminate this funding shortfall, the Trustee has asked the participating employers to pay additional contributions to the scheme as follows:

Deficit contributions

From 1 September 2022 to 30 June 2032: £2,687,000 per annum
(payable monthly and increasing by 3% on each 1st September)

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29. PENSION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

The recovery plan contributions are allocated to each participating employer in line with their estimated share of the scheme liabilities.

Where the scheme is in deficit and where the School has agreed to a deficit funding arrangement the school recognises a liability for this obligation. The amount recognised is the net present value of the deficit reduction contributions payable under the agreement that relates to the deficit. The present value is calculated using the discount rate detailed in these disclosures. The unwinding of the discount rate is recognised as a finance cost.

The discount rates shown above are the equivalent single discount rates which, when used to discount the future recovery plan contributions due, would give the same results as using a full AA corporate bond yield curve to discount the same recovery plan contributions.

Independent Schools Pension Scheme - Defined Contribution Scheme

The School operates an auto enrolment pension scheme utilising the Independent Schools Pension Scheme Defined Contribution Scheme, which all non academic staff have the opportunity to join. Contribution levels are governed by the auto enrolment rules, but enhanced by the school matching up to 6% of employee contributions.

The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the School to all these funds together with provision for future deficit funding for the Independent Schools Pension Scheme. These amounted to £1,224,665 (2023 - £1,075,899). Contributions totalling £149,499 (2023 - £135,255) were payable to the funds at the year-end and are included in creditors.

30. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

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

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	School 2024 £	School 2023 £
Buildings				
Not later than 1 year	95,000	95,000	95,000	95,000
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	380,000	380,000	380,000	380,000
Later than 5 years	494,792	589,792	494,792	589,792
	969,792	1,064,792	969,792	1,064,792

31. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The use of land is rented out to the Joint Venture at an annual rent of 'a peppercorn'.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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32. PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

The following were subsidiary undertakings of the School:

Names	Company number	Registered office	Principal activity	Class of shares	Holding	Included in consolidation
St Mary's School Enterprises Limited	02990383	St Mary's School, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LY	Supply of services to the summer school.	Ordinary	100%	Yes
St Mary's Junior School Limited	02117187	St Mary's School, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LY	Dormant	Ordinary	100%	Yes
St Mary's School Cambridge International Limited	13083555	St Mary's School, Bateman Street, Cambridge, CB2 1LY	Dormant	Ordinary	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiaries for the year were:

Names	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit/(Loss) for the year £	Net assets £
St Mary's School Enterprises Limited	224,610	(227,643)	(3,033)	(9,533)
St Mary's Junior School Limited	-	-	-	8,421
St Mary's School Cambridge International Limited	-	-	-	(79)