

Charity Registration No. 311054
Company Registration No. 00947085 (England and Wales)

**EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**GOVERNORS' REPORT, STRATEGIC REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Governors

Mr D A E Williams (resigned 3 December 2024)
Mrs M Barnett (Chair)
Mr P A Kendall (Deputy Chair)
Ms A J Godfrey
Mr D G Emkes
Mr Z Khawaja
Mr C E Lilley
Mr A J Robson (resigned 4 September 2025)
Mr I A Sheldon
Mr J L Stevens
Mrs S Maughan
Mrs W Kent
Mr A Aziz (resigned 5 December 2024)
Mr G Burger
Mr N Marchant
Ms S Perry
Mrs A Sinclair (appointed 19 September 2025)
Mr M Redmart (appointed 19 September 2025)
Mrs J Sutherland (appointed 19 September 2025)

Key Management Personnel

	Head	Mr E Balfour (to 17 October 2024) Mr RJP Stanley (appointed 17 October 2024)
	Head and Assistant Head (Staff Development)	Mr RJP Stanley (to 17 October 2024)
	Deputy Head (Academic)	Mrs V Hodge (appointed 6 January 2025)
	Senior Deputy Head (Pastoral)	Mrs M Wright (appointed 1 September 2024)
	Bursar & Company Secretary	Mrs GP Dippenaar (to 14 December 2024)
	Bursar & Clerk to Governors (Interim)	Mr TJR Petty (appointed 16 December 2024 to 21 April 2025)
	Bursar & Company Secretary	Mrs D Taylor (appointed 22 April 2025)
	Assistant Head (Junior Department)	Mrs E Balfour (to 17 October 2024)
	Assistant Head (Junior Department)	Mrs A Wynne (appointed 1 January 2025)
	Assistant Head (Middle School)	Mr C Thorne (appointed 1 September 2024)
	Assistant Head (Digital Development)	Mr I Kay
	Director of Marketing and Admissions	Mrs P Hopkins (to 17 March 2025)
	Assistant Head (Co-Curricular)	Mr B McManus
	Assistant Head (Learning Support)	Mrs L Simmonds (appointed 1 September 2024)
	Director of Marketing & Admissions	Julia Gaine (appointed 14 July 2025)

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Number	311054
Company Number	00947085
Registered Office & Principal Address	Edge Grove School Aldenham Village Watford Hertfordshire WD25 8NL
Auditors	TC Group The Courtyard Shoreham Road Upper Beeding Steyning West Sussex BN44 3TN
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 11 Bank Court, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP1 1BX

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CONTENTS

	Page
Governors' Report (incorporating the Strategic Report)	1
Statement of Governors' Responsibilities	14
Auditor's Report	15
Statement of Financial Activities	19
Balance Sheet	20
Cash Flow Statement	21
Notes to the Financial Statement	22

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

The Governors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025, which also comply with the Companies Act 2006 requirement for a Directors' Report and Strategic Report.

The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Edge Grove ("the School") was founded in 1935. It became an incorporated charitable company in 1969, Edge Grove School Trust Ltd ("The Company"), charity registration number 311054, company registration number 00947085, with the liability of its members limited to £1 each by guarantee. The Registered Office and principal address is at the School. The Company is governed by its Articles of Association, adopted by special resolution on 4 September 2014.

The School

The School is a co-educational, independent preparatory day school for children between the ages of 3 and 13 years. Following the sale of the lease on the School House Nursery the whole School is now conveniently located on one site only, situated in 45 acres of Hertfordshire parkland, midway between Watford and Radlett.

The Head is a member of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) and the School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS) and the Independent Schools Bursars' Association (ISBA). It is governed by a Board of Governors, who are also company directors and charity trustees.

Group Structure

The School is an independent single entity.

Governance and Organisational Management

The members of the Governing Body, as the company directors and the charity trustees, are legally responsible for the overall management and control of the School. The following served as Governors during the year in question:

Mrs M Barnett (Chair appointed 3/12/24)
Mr P A Kendall (Deputy Chair)
Mr D G Emkes
Ms A J Godfrey
Mr Z Khawaja
Mr C E Lilley
Mr A J Robson (resigned 04/09/25)
Mr I A Sheldon
Mr J L Stevens
Mrs S Maughan
Mrs W Kent
Mrs S R Perry

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Mr N Marchant
Mr G Burger

The Governors have no beneficial interest in the company. All of the Governors are members of the company and, as such, guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Governors determine the general strategy of the School. Effective governance is ensured through: firstly, the appointment of Governors with a range of relevant skills and knowledge as measured against agreed parameters; secondly, the efficient working of the Board's delegated committee structure (see below); and thirdly, through application of a risk management regime which seeks to cover all aspects of the governance task. The day-to-day management of the School is delegated to the Head and the Bursar who are supported by the Senior Leadership Team and the Senior Executive Team. Together these groups form the Key Management Personnel. The Head and Bursar attend all of the meetings of the Governing Board and its committees.

The Governors, assisted by the Head, select new members of the Board. Applications for the position of Governor are sought by word of mouth. The full Board of Governors meets at least 3 times per year. The Board is assisted by Committees which carry out close scrutiny of the Governors' responsibilities and which meet termly. The committee structure comprises: Education, Finance and Estates, and HR & Remuneration. These committees comprise Governors and, where applicable, other co-opted individuals. All the committees operate under terms of reference specified by the Board of Governors which ratifies the decisions of each committee.

The Chair and Deputy Chair of Governors are, ex-officio, members of all sub committees. The Board operates a strategic planning process of all Board Members rather than delegation to a specific committee and this meets at least annually. During the year in question, other Board members served on the individual committees as follows:

Finance & Estates: Mrs W Kent (Chair), Mrs Mr Z Khawaja, Mr D G Emkes, Mrs M Barnett, Mr A J Robson, Mr C E Lilley, Mr J L Stevens, Mrs S R Perry

Education: Mr I A Sheldon (Chair), Ms A J Godfrey, Mr G Burger, Mrs S Maughan, Mr N Marchant

HR & Remuneration: Ms A J Godfrey (Chair), Mrs W Kent, Mrs M Barnett, Mr P Kendall

Individual Governors held specific responsibilities for Safeguarding, Education, Health & Safety, Pastoral.

Governor Induction and Training

The induction and training of Governors is carried out in accordance with the School's policy on the subject, which also covers the process of appointing Governors. In addition to receiving a detailed Governors' 'Welcome Pack', new Governors attend a series of orientation visits and briefings aimed at familiarising them both with the detailed workings of the School and the responsibilities attaching to their role as trustees. Governors are also required to undergo online training in: Safeguarding, Online Safety, Prevent, GDPR & Cyber training and to be up to date with the most recent publication of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Following their appointment, Governors are strongly urged to take advantage of the numerous external trustee training and information courses available, and a central record of such attendance is maintained. It is our policy that at least once per year, a joint staff and governor training day is arranged on a topic of mutual interest.

Related Parties

No Governor nor Key Management Personnel had any significant related transactions with the School during the year.

Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The School views all members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as being "Key Management Personnel" and Governors take deliberate steps to ensure that these personnel are fairly and appropriately remunerated.

Mr RJP Stanley	Head
Mrs DM Taylor	Bursar & Company Secretary (<i>Apr. 2025</i>)
Mrs M Wright	Senior Deputy Head (Pastoral) and DSL
Mrs V Hodge	Deputy Head (Academic) (<i>Jan. 2025</i>)
Mrs A Wynne	Assistant Head (Junior Department) (<i>Jan. 2025</i>)
Mr C Thorne	Assistant Head (Middle Department) (<i>resigned Aug 25</i>)
Mr B McManus	Assistant Head (Operational Logistics)
Mr I Kay	Assistant Head (Digital Development)
Mrs L Simmonds	Assistant Head (SEN)
Mrs J Gaine	Director of Marketing and Admissions (<i>Jul. 2025</i>)

The Governors determine the remuneration levels for the Head and Bursar after due consideration between the Chair, the Chair of the Finance Committee, the Head (in the case of the Bursar) and other Governors as may be appropriate. These are reviewed annually with due consideration given to not only sector benchmarking surveys, such as is available from AGBIS and other surveys from specialist accounting practices, but also to performance against objectives set.

The remuneration for all other members of the SLT is based upon a defined and published leadership salary scale, changes to which are recommended by the Head and Bursar as a constituent element of the staff remuneration review by Governors. Changes to individual remuneration may also be recommended to Governors following appraisal and performance against objectives set. Governors are invited to approve recommendations as part of the overall annual budgetary approval process or as otherwise appropriate.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS, ETHOS, AIMS, STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

Edge Grove is a Charitable Trust, the stated general object of which is the advancement and promotion of education as per the Articles of Association, as adopted on 4th September 2014. Fees are set at a level to ensure the financial viability of the School and at a level that is consistent with our aim of providing a first class education to boys and girls.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Furthermore, the Governors recognise that, under the Charities Act 2011, the charity must be able to demonstrate that its objects or aims are for the public benefit and do so by establishing and administering bursaries, grants and awards, and acting as the trustee and manager of property, endowments, bequests and gifts given or established in pursuit of these Objects.

Mission and Values

Edge Grove is a leading independent UK prep school for boys and girls aged 3-13.

Our Mission is that Edge Grove is a place where diversity and inclusion are celebrated, creating a warm and welcoming community where everyone - children, families and staff - feel valued and supported. Our vibrant outdoor environment, inspiring classrooms and passionate staff ensure our children have the freedom and space in which to grow. For each child it is the beginning of who they will become, what they will achieve and the difference they will make in the world.

Whatever their abilities, gender, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, all pupils develop our core values of Integrity, Independence and Inspiration.

INTEGRITY

Pupils feel healthy, safe, happy and proud to belong and be a unique part of the Edge Grove community. They enjoy friendship and fun, promote kindness, living and growing in alignment with the following self-elected 16 core Values:

Confidence	Unity	Creativity	Kindness
Passion	Responsibility	Integrity	Respect
Determination	Risk-taking	Trust	Humility
Diversity	Sportsmanship	Empathy	Tolerance

INDEPENDENCE

Pupils develop, through child-centred active learning, intellectual, physical and spiritual confidence and independence, self-motivation and agency across a broad range of academic, co-curricular and pastoral activities and experiences. They ask and answer questions, develop curiosity, a Growth Mind-set, passion and entrepreneurship.

INSPIRATION

Pupils hone the following transferable, lifelong World Economic Forum skills for future success and personal fulfilment:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Analytical thinking and innovation | 6. Creativity, originality and initiative |
| 2. Active learning and learning strategies | 7. Leadership and social influence |
| 3. Complex problem-solving | 8. Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation |
| 4. Critical thinking and analysis | 9. Emotional intelligence |
| 5. Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility | 10. Technology design and programming |

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Aims

The School aims to provide a secure and happy environment in which children feel safe, nurtured and valued. We promote high standards of academic achievement through innovative, reflective teaching, focussed assessment and a rigorous curriculum to ensure all pupils reach their full potential and develop their confidence, and thereby prepare them as effectively as possible for the next stage of their education.

The School strives not only to achieve academic success but also to provide a wide range of opportunities in a co-educational environment to enable pupils to discover and develop interests and expand their experience. We seek to promote a spiritual and moral awareness in our pupils based on the mission and values.

Primary Objectives

The primary objectives of the School to fulfil its aims are:

- to continue to seek opportunities to make its education and associated facilities accessible to the public, and young people in particular;
- to implement plans for the School's capital investment as set out in its Development Plan, which is reviewed and updated annually; and
- to continue to seek opportunities to make its education and associated facilities accessible to the public, and young people in particular.

Beneficiaries

As a registered charity, the School's immediate beneficiaries are its pupils who are able to take advantage of the wide and varied educational opportunities offered by the School. The School's high standards are founded on a genuine concern for the welfare and positive development of every child. Emphasis on courtesy and good manners is embedded in a real family atmosphere within the School, and parents are encouraged to be fully involved in the development of their own children's education and in the wider community life of the School. Pupils' and parents' views are fully taken into account in the shaping of school policy.

Public Benefit

Governors have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit to include the following:

- Bursary provision;
- Charitable giving;
- Local community links and partnerships;
- Provide greater expertise and access to facilities.

It is important to the School that access to the education we offer is not restricted to only those who can afford our fees. The School's policy for the award of scholarships and bursaries (reviewed annually by the Board of Governors) ensures that funds are made available to subsidise places at Edge Grove for deserving and talented children from families experiencing unforeseen or temporary financial hardship, but not to the exclusion of the much wider benefit. Those pupils who attend the School and who receive financial support contribute to the school community in a variety of ways, and so the benefit is not purely to these pupils but to the whole School and thus, in some cases, to the wider community.

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(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

An annual budget for means-tested bursaries is established by the Governors' Finance Committee, acting on behalf of the Board, as a core element of the annual budget process and individual applications are assessed by the School within that budget limit. The Board is pleased to note that it was able to continue to provide very significant levels of means-tested financial assistance with an annual value of £234,802 (2024: £208,506).

Fundraising

It is the intention of the School that all fundraising be carried out by the School's staff with assistance from parents, pupils and alumni in the running of specific fundraising events; the School will not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participants. Fundraising is monitored for compliance with appropriate regulations by the Bursar with overall oversight by the members of the governing body.

During this financial period, a total of £2,514 was raised and distributed to many different charities of the children's young enterprises, including; Royal British Legion, Bloom for Books, McMillan Cancer, Great Ormond Street and Cancer Research.

The Friends of Edge Grove made donations of equipment to the school, totaling over £8,400; blinds for the theatre, outdoor table tennis, lane ropes for the pool, beehives, mud kitchen, building blocks.

The School has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint regarding fundraising practices being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Bursar. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the governing body to determine what further action might be required.

The School does not currently subscribe to any specific fundraising standards or schemes for fundraising regulation but considers that it has set appropriate standards for the operation and management of its fundraising activities. In particular, the School considers that its processes and controls should ensure that vulnerable people and other members of the public are protected from any unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy and that no fundraising activities would be unreasonably persistent or place undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

STRATEGIC REPORT

When determining the strategies for the School's operation, Governors are both mindful of and act in good faith towards their corporate responsibilities across a range of areas and their duty to act in the way considered, in good faith, to be most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in doing so have regard (amongst other matters) to:

- the likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- the interests of the School's employees;
- the need to foster the School's business relationships with suppliers, parents and others;
- the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment;
- the desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Achievements and Performance

A measure of general operational performance is the number of leavers who went on to their chosen senior school. From year 8, 16 pupils moved on to a total of 9 senior schools. From year 6, 38 pupils moved on to 17 different schools, 2 stayed at Edge Grove, and 1 was to be home schooled. A total of 26 scholarships were awarded to pupils entered for different schools at both 11+ and 13+.

Understanding each child's individual educational journey begins with having clear, accurate insight into both potential and progress. Central to Edge Grove's commitment to a truly personalised education is a robust and carefully embedded framework for tracking and monitoring pupil development from EYFS through to Year 8.

Significant investment has been made in strengthening these systems, ensuring that each child's academic growth is measured consistently, objectively and meaningfully over time. This evidence-informed approach enables HoDs and teachers to plan with precision, deliver targeted and differentiated learning, and to respond swiftly where additional support or challenge is required. It also ensures that parents are kept well informed and able to engage confidently with their child's progress.

These rigorous assessment and monitoring practices sit at the heart of the School's wider reporting and tracking framework, through which the following key areas of growth and achievement during the 2024–25 academic year are evidenced:

1. EYFS Assessment

Assessment in the Early Years is rooted in a deep understanding of each child as an elementary learner and is central to ensuring a strong foundation for future success. Children are assessed at both the beginning and end of each academic year, informed by high-quality, continuous observations made by the EYFS team. These observations are systematically recorded using *Tapestry* and carefully mapped against the School's assessment framework. This approach ensures a coherent, consistent and developmentally appropriate picture of each child's progress, enabling early identification of strengths, next steps and any emerging needs.

2. GL Assessment – English and Maths

From Reception onwards, pupil progress in English and Maths is tracked using GL Assessment's *Progress Tests*. These nationally standardised assessments provide detailed diagnostic information that supports accurate benchmarking and informs targeted intervention where required. The data allows the School to monitor progress over time, evaluate the impact of teaching, and analyse outcomes across key pupil groups, including pupils with EAL, SEN, and by gender. This ensures that academic support is timely, precise and responsive to need.

3. GL PASS – Pupil Attitudes to Self and School

Recognising that academic success is closely linked to wellbeing and self-perception, the School uses GL's *Pupil Attitudes to Self and School (PASS)* survey across Years 1 to 8. PASS provides valuable insight into pupils' confidence, motivation, resilience and sense of belonging. These important pastoral insights play a vital role in informing pastoral provision, guiding academic planning, and supporting early intervention, ensuring that pupils are emotionally equipped to thrive alongside their academic development.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

4. Writing Assessment

Writing is assessed termly against clearly defined age-related expectations, offering a current and meaningful measure of progress that moves beyond reliance on historic National Curriculum levels. Outcomes are recorded on a bespoke Progression Grid, enabling teachers to track development with precision over time. This approach supports consistency in judgements, informs targeted teaching and intervention, and ensures that progress in writing is clearly evidenced and monitored across year groups.

Whole-School Academic Priorities for the Current Academic Year

The School has identified a number of key academic focus areas designed to enhance teaching effectiveness and improve pupil outcomes across all year groups:

1. Strengthening Phonics Provision

The ongoing implementation and rooting in of a comprehensive phonics programme across the Junior and Middle Departments to ensure consistency, rigour, and progression in early reading instruction.

2. Refining Assessment and Feedback Practices

A whole-school approach is being developed to create meaningful, child-centred systems for marking, assessment, and reporting - spanning Nursery to Year 8 - ensuring feedback is purposeful and developmental.

3. Harnessing Technology for Personalised Learning

AI-driven learning tools, including Atom Learning and Century Tech, are being integrated across English, Maths, Science, Non-Verbal Reasoning, and Verbal Reasoning to provide tailored support and challenge for every learner.

Screen-Free Week has again been approved by SLT for the summer term but requires enormous thought and planning. As with last year, this will require pupil, staff and parent buy-in, support and commitment.

4. Expanding on and enhancing the excellent work done in the English Department

Leadership of the English Department requires deeper consideration now former English Coordinator, Alice Wynne has been promoted to AHJD. Ideally subject leadership would be most effective with a team of three.

- a) Verbal Reasoning: continue to ensure that verbal reasoning lessons are timetabled for Year 3 and Year 4; longer than 30 mins for Year 5; and lessons in Year 6 Autumn Term.
- b) Year 3 and 4 English: A review of English units taught in Years 3 and 4 with a curriculum continuity, text types for writing, and investment in new, shorter texts.
- c) Enhancing Handwriting A renewed emphasis on handwriting is underway, with targeted strategies to raise standards and consistency across all year groups.
- d) Raising Standards in Spelling Spelling continues to be a whole-school development priority, with structured approaches in place to support improvement and retention.

5. Maths Department:

Junior Maths Challenge (aimed at Year 8 and below pupils) was completed successfully by all pupils in Year 7 and 8, and Top Set Year 6. 80% of pupils who took part in the challenge achieved Bronze, Silver or Gold.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Within the Junior Maths Challenge, two school records were beaten by two of our senior boys. The Intermediate Maths Challenge, aimed at pupils in Year 11, was completed by eight Year 8 pupils. Four pupils qualified for the national final.

Areas of growth:

- a) Must ensure non-verbal reasoning lessons are timetabled for Year 3 and Year 4; longer than 30 mins for Year 5; and lessons in Year 6 Autumn Term.
- b) Continue to monitor and review the new Edge Grove Maths Curriculum that was launched in September 2024. Feedback from teachers has been positive.

6. Curriculum Development in Humanities

The revised Humanities curriculum continues to be rolled out from Year 1 to Year 8. The aim being to realign and re-designed to offer greater coherence, depth, and relevance across History, Geography, and related disciplines.

7. Science Department: Some of the highlights and growth areas recorded in the past academic year include:

- a) Introducing the Year 3 and 4 children to the Science block rather than in the standard classrooms has proved successful in recent months.
- b) A series of activities for British Science Week were successfully conducted, spanning from Reception through Year 8.
- c) Participation in the Haileybury School STEM workshop which involved a number of Year 6 students.
- d) Hands-on first aid and CPR training for students in Years 5 through 8 during our free screen week.

Sport and the Performing Arts

This year has been one of impressive success across both sporting and creative endeavours, reflecting Edge Grove's commitment to nurturing well-rounded, confident, and capable pupils. Particularly noteworthy are the achievements in the performing arts, with the end of year production, *High School Musical* proving to be a blockbuster of note, playing to packed houses on eight separate occasions. Pupils of all ages benefit from a broad schedule of music tuition and appreciation classes, musical concerts, year group showcases, and whole-school productions, providing meaningful opportunities to participate, perform, and grow in confidence and self-expression. The performing, creative and visual arts continue to play central roles in our pupils' education.

Equally impressive achievements have been seen in the sport arenas. Several year groups have again demonstrated promising talent and commitment. Year 6 boys and girls have excelled across a variety of disciplines, while the Year 4 boys have impressed with their competitive spirit and consistently strong performances. The U11A cricket team's remarkable journey to the county cup final, narrowly losing to the eventual champions, was a highlight of the year. Table tennis has continued to be a particular strength, notably among Years 5 and 6, while cross country has seen Years 3 and 4 achieving outstanding results.

Success in table tennis extended to both district and county competitions, with the U11 and U13 boys' and girls' teams securing district victories, the U11 girls achieving a first-place finish at county level, and the U13 boys placing a commendable second. Building on these achievements, the School remains committed to fostering sporting excellence across a wider range of activities and year groups.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Scholastic success in the arts - illustrated through senior school art scholarships, outstanding external examination results, and achievements in music competitions - forms only part of a vibrant creative programme.

Together, these accomplishments in sport and the arts exemplify Edge Grove's continued all-round, holistic approach to education, ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to thrive both academically, holistically and personally.

Employment Policy

The School is an equal opportunities employer. All job applications, including those from individuals with disabilities, are given full and fair consideration, with appropriate attention paid to their training and employment needs. Although the number of School employees falls below the threshold for Gender Pay reporting requirements, Edge Grove is committed to ensuring that all staff remuneration is determined solely by the responsibilities of the role, rather than the personal characteristics of the employee.

The School actively maintains consultation with employees at all levels, with the aim of incorporating their views when making decisions that may impact their interests. Whole school, anonymous staff surveys have been used as a temperature check from time to time as well. Additionally, employees are kept informed of the School's financial and economic performance through regular, termly information sessions conducted by the Bursar, standard management channels, using a variety of communication methods.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

General Review

In the financial year 2024/25, gross fee income was £7,184,502 (2024: £7,458,987) a decrease of £274,485 (3.68%). Average pupil numbers decreased by 6.72% from 429 in the Summer 2024, to 402 in Autumn 25.

Cash balances generated from operating surpluses provided the funding that enabled £136,954 (2024: £166,212) to be allocated to capital projects designed to maintain and improve the School's facilities. Donations and legacies received or confirmed during the year amounted to £23,979 (2024: £12,138).

Overall, the Governors consider that the operating deficit of £12,319 (2024: Surplus of £118,098) represented a satisfactory performance under the prevailing circumstances including an unpredicted change of leadership in October 2024 and the closure of the School House Nursery and write off of its assets. The Governors consider that the future viability of the School's financial position and stability holds some potential challenges with regard to a number of factors, including decreasing pupil numbers and the economic and political climate.

As at 31 August 2025, net general unrestricted funds stood at £7,331,148 (2024: £7,358,289). These funds were wholly deployed in funding the School's premises, equipment and working capital. The balance of funds needed to finance these items has been provided through long term loans, secured on freehold properties. As at 31 August 2025 total borrowings were £2,253,486 (2024: £2,456,611). Net cash balances at the year-end totalled £916,001 (2024: £1,264,213), a decrease of £348,212.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Reserves Policy and Financial Viability

Each year a detailed budget and cash flow is produced for the following year and period performance is monitored against those figures. In setting the budget, the Governors' policy is to generate sufficient reserves each year to enable the School to invest in its infrastructure and fulfil its Development Plan, to support and service its borrowings, as well as to provide working capital and to ensure compliance with relevant banking covenants imposed as part of the School's bank borrowings. The School will utilise all of its reserves in meeting these aims and does not expect to generate free reserves over and above the level required to meet them. Annual cash surpluses representing the School's liquid resources are managed carefully in order to service its working capital requirements.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The School's strategy continues to be to focus upon the continued provision of its services to pupils, parents and staff alike whilst seeking to maintain adequate reserves for the future. During this period in question, the Governors, together with the School's Executive Management have maintained a close watch over all cash balances, both current and forecast, in a formal drive to ensure that the School remains a "going concern" and that loan covenants agreed with lenders remain intact.

Risk Management

The Governors consider the continued potential impact in all sectors of society (economic, political, cost of living crisis) upon the affordability of fees by parents across the independent sector as well as continued upward pressures on suppliers and staffing costs to be the principal risks faced by the school. Any further large decreases in pupils (on top of the net 27 from 2024 to 2025) may prove difficult to offset with cost reductions. They also consider the following areas as being potentially major risks:

- Failures of regulatory compliance across all areas but specifically in Safeguarding, Security or Health & Safety;
- Reputational damage from adverse publicity;
- Competition from other schools, both independent and maintained; an inability to attract and retain quality teaching staff.

The Board of Governors retains detailed consideration of risk management as its direct responsibility and has assessed the major risks to which the School is exposed. The risk management process identifies risks, assesses their impact and likelihood and, where necessary, recommends controls to mitigate and monitor those risks that are assessed as high.

The generic controls used by the School to minimise risk include:

- detailed terms of reference together with formal agendas for Committee and Board activity;
- strategic development planning, reviewed at least annually by the Board;
- comprehensive budgeting and management accounting;
- established organisational structures and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies including clear authorisation and approval levels; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

The Governors regularly review the effectiveness of current plans and strategies for managing all identified major risks for both the School and its subsidiary. All Governors' committees maintain risk management as a standing item on meeting agendas and each carries out a comprehensive continuous appraisal of the risks applicable to its specific area of responsibility. The Head and Bursar produce commentaries on the most serious risks; actions required to mitigate those risks are identified and progress on their implementation is carefully monitored within each committee. The Board will consider any 'red' risks at the full board committees and a formal Governors' Risk Register is formally endorsed by the Board each year.

The Board recognises that systems cannot provide absolute assurance that all possible risks have been identified or managed.

Safeguarding Risk Management

The overriding duty of charity trustees in safeguarding matters is the responsibility for ensuring that those benefiting from, or working with, their charity are not harmed in any way through contact with it. They have a legal duty to act prudently and this means that they must take all reasonable steps within their powers to ensure that this does not happen.

The Governors confirm that there have been no incidents in the period that required reporting to the Charity Commission and that they have:

- assessed the safeguarding risks that might arise from their charity's activities and operations;
- created, developed and put in place suitable policies and procedures to handle allegations and incidents;
- undertaken on-going monitoring to ensure effective implementation of those policies and procedures;
- taken steps to ensure that both the Board and staff working within the charity respond properly when allegations and incidents arise and report as necessary to the police and other agencies; and
- reviewed policies and procedures both periodically and following serious incidents, using their experience of particular incidents to manage and minimise the risk of something similar happening again by making any necessary changes to the charity's policies and procedures.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Primary Strategic Objectives

The School has recently rewritten its Strategic Plan (October 2025) and a new Development Plan will sit underneath this, determining the broad direction of the School's objectives and the operational process for implementing the objectives. The primary future plans for the School are set out in the core elements of the School's Strategic Vision. These are:

- to nurture and develop the character of each of our children, keeping them safe and happy, while instilling the values that will enable them to become confident, compassionate citizens and achieve their best in the world beyond our school.
- to value each child's individuality and tailor our approach so that each child can flourish and discover their unique talents and passions.
- to provide inspiring teaching, a relevant and broad curriculum and innovative use of technology to equip children with what they need to thrive.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

- to leverage our unique and magnificent community and environment - both physical and human in order to provide unparalleled opportunities for growth and ensure our children can fully experience everything Edge Grove offers.
- to focus primarily on the immediate financial health and stability of the School, with optimal cashflow and to generate funds to be released for capital spend on the maintenance of the estates and IT infrastructure.
- to maintain the capability of the School to offer education to children whose parents are unable to afford full fees.

Specific Objectives for 2025/26

The School will continue to offer a high quality, all round education in line with the three key elements of its longer term strategy and ethos and aims as detailed above. The Board of Governors has identified the following specific objectives for the forthcoming year 2025/26:

- 1) Ensure the school continues to provide educational excellence for every child in both academic and co-curricular activities.
- 2) Continue to improve the Edge Grove community as a whole including embedding a culture of safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion across the school by actively promoting practices that encourage respect for one another.
- 3) Increase the school's visibility within the independent school sector and wider community to grow pupil numbers and provide a variety of appropriate destination schools.
- 4) Ensure financial viability of school.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

Each of the Governors has confirmed that, insofar as they are aware, there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditors are unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

This report, including the Strategic Report, was approved by the Governors, as the Directors and Trustees of the charitable company, on 16th December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Mrs M Barnet
Chair of Governors

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors, who are also the Directors of Edge Grove School Trust Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Governors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Edge Grove School Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cashflow Statement and notes to the financial statements. 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, and we have fulfilled our 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 governor's 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 doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorized for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the governor's report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The governors are responsible for the other information. 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.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' 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 and the directors' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the governors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

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 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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative to do so.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit, in respect to fraud, are: to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses; and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and its management.

Our approach was as follows:

- We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general sector experience, and through discussion with the governors and other management (as required by auditing standards), and discussed with the governors and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations (see below);
- We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: health and safety; General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR); fraud; bribery and corruption, school inspections, Keeping Children Safe in Education, DBS checks, and employment law. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the governors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. The identified actual or suspected non-compliance was not sufficiently significant to our audit to result in our response being identified as a key audit matter.
- We considered the legal and regulatory frameworks directly applicable to the financial statements reporting framework (FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011) and the relevant tax compliance regulations in the UK.
- We considered the nature of the charitable company's operations, the control environment and financial performance.
- We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We considered the procedures and controls that the charitable company has established to address risks identified, or that otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud; and how senior management monitors those procedures and controls.

**EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Where the risk was considered to be higher, we performed audit procedures to address each identified fraud risk. These procedures included: testing manual journals; reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation; performing analytical procedures; and enquiring of management, and were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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 the 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 the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, or for the opinions we have formed.

TC Group

Mark Cummins FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of TC Group
Statutory Auditors
Office: Steyning, West Sussex

Dated: 24th February 2026

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations, grants and legacies	6	-	23,979	-	23,979	12,138
Other trading activities	7	175,251	-	-	175,251	124,464
Investments	8	56,113	-	-	56,113	52,146
Charitable activities	9	7,221,591	-	-	7,221,591	7,526,100
Other income	10	97,979	-	-	97,979	34,558
Total income		7,550,934	23,979	-	7,574,913	7,749,406
EXPENDITURE ON:						
	11					
Raising funds		173,804	-	-	173,804	207,945
Charitable activities		7,404,271	9,157	-	7,413,428	7,423,285
Total expenditure		7,578,075	9,157	-	7,587,232	7,631,230
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,141)	14,822	-	(12,319)	118,176
Fund balances at 1 September 2024	24	7,358,289	19,512	7,252	7,385,053	7,266,877
Fund balances at 31 August 2025	24	7,331,148	34,334	7,252	7,372,734	7,385,053

All income and gains for the period are recognised above. All of the company's activities are classified as continuing.

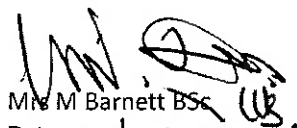
The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an Income and Expenditure Account under the Companies Act 2006.


There are no recognised gains or losses other than those reported on the Statement of Financial Activities.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	9,329,414	9,891,197
Investments	15	-	150,738
		<u>9,329,414</u>	<u>10,041,935</u>
Current assets			
Stock		6,584	9,719
Debtors	16	200,284	144,046
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>916,001</u>	<u>1,264,213</u>
		<u>1,122,869</u>	<u>1,417,978</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors due within one year	17	<u>(586,148)</u>	<u>(1,159,514)</u>
Net current assets		<u>536,721</u>	<u>258,464</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>9,866,135</u>	<u>10,300,399</u>
Long term liabilities			
Creditors due after one year	18	<u>(2,493,401)</u>	<u>(2,915,346)</u>
Net assets		<u>7,372,734</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>
Represented by:	24		
Restricted funds		7,252	7,252
Unrestricted funds:			
General funds		7,331,148	7,358,289
Designated funds		<u>34,334</u>	<u>19,512</u>
		<u>7,365,482</u>	<u>7,377,801</u>
		<u>7,372,734</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>

The accounts were approved by the Board on 9/12/25


Mrs M Barnett BSc
Date 5/1/26


Mrs W Kent
Date 10-1-26

Company Registration No. 00947085

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income/expenditure for the year	(12,319)	118,176	
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges	14 346,406	392,519	
Impairment charges	15 21,794	21,464	
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	8 (56,113)	(52,146)	
Finance charges	173,804	207,945	
Profit on disposal of subsidiary	(21,794)	-	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	352,453	-	
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	3,135	28,109	
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	17 (56,238)	69,178	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	18, 19 (791,223)	349,118	
Net cash provided by operating activities		(40,095)	1,134,363
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	8 56,113	52,146	
Proceeds on sale of subsidiary	150,616	-	
Finance charges	(173,804)	(207,945)	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	14 (136,954)	(166,212)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(104,029)	(322,011)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Capital element of hire purchase and finance leases	(963)	(3,397)	
Repayments of borrowing	(201,819)	(197,996)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(202,782)	(201,393)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(346,906)	610,959
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,258,017	647,058
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		911,111	1,258,017
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Cash at bank and in hand		916,001	1,264,213
Bank overdraft		(4,890)	(6,196)
Total cash and cash equivalents		911,111	1,258,017

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. Statutory information

The charity is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The registered office, company number and charity number are detailed in the Legal and Administrative Information.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006, The Charities Act 2011, in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP (FRS 102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

"After reviewing the charity's forecasts and projections, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the school. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £."

2.2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the school's accounting policies, the governors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised.

The governors do not consider that there are any critical estimates or areas of judgement that need to be brought to the attention of the readers of the financial statements.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2.3 Income

Fees receivable and charges for services, less any allowances, scholarships and bursaries granted by the school against those fees are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided. Where fees are received for a future service period they are included in deferred income, including those fees received under an advance fee payment scheme.

Investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Donations, legacies, grants and other voluntary income are accounted for as and when entitlement arises, the amount can be reliably measured and the economic benefit is considered probable.

Where a donor or an appeal has imposed restrictions, the income is credited to a restricted fund.

Rental income in the subsidiary company is accounted for under the accruals basis.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis with irrecoverable VAT included with the item to which it relates.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between expenditure categories and departments on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold land is not depreciated	
Freehold buildings	- 2% straight line
Leasehold buildings	- 2% straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment (including IT equipment at 25% straight line)	- 10% and 25% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% straight line
Leasehold improvements	- 5% straight line

Minor items of capital expenditure are written off to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

2.6 Investments

Fixed asset investment in the charity's subsidiary is included at cost less provision for impairment. The charity purchased the subsidiary to obtain rights to the lease of the nursery buildings. Accordingly the investment has been written down over the term of the lease. The subsidiary was sold in July 2025.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2.7 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

2.8 Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

2.9 Pensions

From the 1 September 2020 the school joined the Aviva APTIS scheme for Teachers. This is a defined contribution pension scheme. The school also contributes to personal pension schemes for its non-teaching staff.

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as expenditure in the statement of financial activities in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

2.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount.

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and any short term highly liquid investments. The governors seek to use short and medium term deposits where possible to maximise the return on monies held at the bank and to manage cash flow.

2.12 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds and unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the governors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and 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 charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific funds. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

3. Turnover

The turnover of the school is wholly attributable to the objects of the school as stated in the Governors' Report and is earned entirely within the UK.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

4. Net Income/(Expenditure)

This is stated after charging

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	346,406	392,519
Stock charged as an expense	(3,135)	(28,109)
Operating lease payments	107,749	83,419
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	14,700	14,000

5. Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

6. Income from donations, grants and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations	-	23,979	-	23,979	12,138
	-	23,979	-	23,979	12,138

7. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Lettings income	44,500	-	-	44,500	44,543
Rental income	130,751	-	-	130,751	79,921
	175,251	-	-	175,251	124,464

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

8. Income from investors

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable	56,113	-	-	56,113	52,146
	<u>56,113</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,113</u>	<u>51,146</u>

9. Income from charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross school fees	7,184,502	7,458,987
Less bursaries and allowances	(269,673)	(280,506)
Net school fees	<u>6,914,829</u>	<u>7,178,481</u>
Add:		
Registration fees	7,885	15,700
Extras income	73,336	56,056
Learning support income	1,538	18,715
Other ancillary income	224,003	257,148
	<u>7,221,591</u>	<u>7,526,100</u>

10. Other income

	2025 £	2024 £
Sundry income	<u>97,979</u>	<u>34,558</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

11. Analysis of expenditure

	Staff costs £	Depreciation & amortisation £	Other costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cost of raising funds:					
Financing costs	-	-	173,804	173,804	207,945
Total cost of raising funds	-	-	173,804	173,804	207,945
Charitable expenditure:					
Education					
Teaching	3,752,864	110,139	429,785	4,292,788	4,300,078
Welfare	189,054	-	586,346	775,400	848,891
Premises	252,784	236,267	930,773	1,419,824	1,303,714
Support and governance	602,764	-	322,652	925,416	970,602
Total charitable expenditure	4,797,466	346,406	2,269,556	7,413,428	7,423,285
Total expenditure	4,797,466	346,406	2,443,360	7,587,232	7,631,230

Analysis of support and governance costs:

	2025 £	2024 £
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration for audit services	16,700	14,400
Total governance costs	16,700	14,400
Support costs:		
Legal and professional fees relating to support	67,295	38,759
Support staff wages, national insurance and pension	602,764	611,770
Other support costs	238,657	305,673
	925,416	970,602

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

12. Staff costs

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Teaching	64	69
Welfare	3	6
Premises	6	7
Administration	12	13
	<u>85</u>	<u>95</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 119 (2024: 119).

The aggregate payroll costs for the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,854,763	3,874,084
Social security costs	394,782	392,248
Pension costs	547,921	550,512
	<u>4,797,466</u>	<u>4,816,844</u>

None of the governors received any remuneration or other benefits from the school or any connected body.

Wages and salaries include £20,469 (2024: £Nil) redundancy costs.

Staff earning in excess of £60,000 per annum in the following bands are:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,000 - £69,999	3	1
£70,000 - £79,999	1	2
£90,000 - £99,999	-	1
£120,000 - £129,999	1	-
£140,000 - £149,999	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

12. Staff costs (continued)

Of the employees whose emoluments exceed £60,000, 5 (2024: 5) have retirement benefits accruing under defined contribution schemes. Contributions payable by the charity to those schemes for higher paid employees were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes	89,282	71,979
	<u>89,282</u>	<u>71,979</u>

The key management personnel of the school are detailed in the Governors' Report and Legal and Administrative Information. In 2025 there are 9 such employees (2024: 10 employees).

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate employee benefits of key management personnel (including employer pension and NI contributions)	690,156	900,831
	<u>690,156</u>	<u>900,831</u>

13. Comparative statement of financial activities – 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	-	7,262	4,876	12,138
Other trading activities	124,464	-	-	124,464
Investments	52,146	-	-	52,146
Charitable activities	7,526,100	-	-	7,526,100
Other income	34,558	-	-	34,558
Total income	<u>7,737,268</u>	<u>7,262</u>	<u>4,876</u>	<u>7,749,406</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	207,945	-	-	207,945
Charitable activities	7,416,202	7,083	-	7,423,285
Total expenditure	<u>7,624,147</u>	<u>7,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,631,230</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>113,121</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>4,876</u>	<u>118,176</u>
Fund balance brought forward	7,245,168	19,333	2,376	7,266,877
Fund balances carried forward	<u>7,358,289</u>	<u>19,512</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property	Short Leasehold Property	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 September 2024	925,329	11,256,272	1,639,482	97,987	13,919,070
Additions	-	55,623	81,331	-	136,954
Disposals	-	(402,264)	(47,999)	-	(450,263)
At 31 August 2025	925,329	10,909,631	1,672,814	97,987	13,605,761
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	119,943	2,576,421	1,237,638	93,871	4,027,873
Charge for the year	14,237	222,030	108,002	2,137	346,406
Eliminated on disposal	-	(64,343)	(33,589)	-	(97,932)
At 31 August 2025	134,180	2,734,108	1,312,051	96,008	4,276,347
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	791,149	8,175,523	360,763	1,979	9,329,414
At 31 August 2024	805,386	8,679,851	401,844	4,116	9,891,197

Assets on finance leases and hire purchase (included above)

Cost	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment
Cost	£
At 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025	47,077
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2024	43,612
Charge for the year	1,485
At 31 August 2025	45,097
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	1,980
At 31 August 2024	3,465

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

15. Investments in subsidiaries

	2025 £
Cost	
At 1 September 2024	317,822
Disposals	(317,822)
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>
Impairment	
At 1 September 2024	167,084
Impairment in year	21,794
Eliminated on disposal	(188,878)
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>150,738</u>

The 100% investment in Edge Grove Nursery School Limited (company number 03830269, registered in England and Wales) was sold in July 2025 (purchased 19 December 2016).

16. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Fee debtors	22,774	12,156
Prepayments and accrued income	127,482	113,315
Other debtors	50,028	18,575
	<u>200,284</u>	<u>144,046</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

17. Creditors: due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	184,322	205,810
Finance leases and hire purchase	1,221	1,221
Trade creditors	10,788	84,839
Accruals	64,550	57,374
Fees in Advance	124,540	205,060
Advance fee payment scheme	56,461	426,023
Deposits	22,000	22,000
Other creditors	25,325	61,085
Other taxes and social security	96,941	96,102
	<u>586,148</u>	<u>1,159,514</u>

18. Creditors: due after one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank loans	2,069,164	2,250,801
Finance leases and hire purchase	971	1,934
Advance fee payment scheme	143,266	289,611
Deposits	280,000	373,000
	<u>2,493,401</u>	<u>2,915,346</u>

19. Advance fee payment scheme

	£
At 1 September 2024	715,634
New contracts	130,931
Amounts used to pay for fees	(646,838)
At 31 August 2025	<u>199,727</u>

Parents may enter into a contract to pay the school in advance for contributions towards tuition fees. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions on the receipt of notice. Assuming that the pupils remain at the school fees will be applied as follows:

	£
Within one year	56,461
Within 1 – 5 years	143,266
	<u>199,727</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

20. Analysis of secured debts

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans are wholly repayable in instalments as follows:		
Less than one year	179,432	199,614
In more than one year but less than five years	2,069,164	2,250,801
	<u>2,248,596</u>	<u>2,450,415</u>

The bank overdraft facility and loans are secured by a first land charge over 3 Horwood Cottages, 9 & 11 High Cross and 1 & 2 Roundbush Cottages along with a debenture in favour of Barclays Bank plc.

In October 2023 two bank loans were consolidated into one with a margin of 2.5%. This loan has a five year term and its repayments are calculated based on a twenty year repayment period. There is also a CBIL loan which has a floating interest rate with a margin of 2%. This CBIL loan is repayable in 2026. All loans are being repaid in monthly instalments.

Net obligations payable under hire purchase and lease contracts:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	1,221	1,221
Between one and five years	971	1,934
	<u>2,192</u>	<u>3,155</u>

21. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 August 2025 the school had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases payable as follows:

	Land & Buildings		Other	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	103,950	100,000	-	17,842
Between one and five years	405,900	400,000	-	-
Over five years	668,850	750,000	-	-
	<u>1,178,700</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,842</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

22. Share capital and control

The charity is limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital. In the event of a winding up each member guarantees to contribute an amount of no more than £1.

23. Related parties

During the current year one Governor was reimbursed expenses totalling £727 (2024: £1,084 by three Governors). No remuneration was provided to any Governors during the year.

Members of the close family of the key management personnel received remuneration of £3,915 (2024: £Nil).

Two members of key management personnel are parents of pupils attending the school during the year for whom fees were payable to the school. Fees payable and any discounts were charged and awarded on the same basis as for other parents and staff.

24. Summary of fund movements

	At 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenses £	At 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated Funds	19,512	23,979	(9,157)	34,334
General reserves	7,358,289	7,550,934	(7,578,075)	7,331,148
	<u>7,377,801</u>	<u>7,574,913</u>	<u>(7,587,232)</u>	<u>7,365,482</u>
Restricted Funds				
Bursary & Hardship funds	7,252	-	-	7,252
	<u>7,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,252</u>
Total funds	<u>7,385,053</u>	<u>7,574,913</u>	<u>(7,587,232)</u>	<u>7,372,734</u>

Designated funds:

The governors have designated funds raised by the Friends of Edge Grove and from other fund-raising activities toward future capital and maintenance projects.

Restricted funds:

The bursary fund represents donations from leavers towards future bursary provisions.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

25. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
31 August 2025				
Fixed assets	9,329,414	-	-	9,329,414
Current assets	1,081,283	34,334	7,252	1,122,869
Creditors: less than one year	(587,119)	-	-	(587,119)
Creditors: over one year	(2,492,430)	-	-	(2,492,430)
	<u>7,331,148</u>	<u>34,334</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,372,734</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
31 August 2024				
Fixed assets	10,041,935	-	-	10,041,935
Current assets	1,391,214	19,512	7,252	1,417,978
Creditors: less than one year	(1,159,514)	-	-	(1,159,514)
Creditors: over one year	(2,915,346)	-	-	(2,915,346)
	<u>7,358,289</u>	<u>19,512</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>

26. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at the year-end (2024: £nil).

Charity Registration No. 311054
Company Registration No. 00947085 (England and Wales)

**EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**GOVERNORS' REPORT, STRATEGIC REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Governors

Mr D A E Williams (resigned 3 December 2024)
 Mrs M Barnett (Chair)
 Mr P A Kendall (Deputy Chair)
 Ms A J Godfrey
 Mr D G Emkes
 Mr Z Khawaja
 Mr C E Lilley
 Mr A J Robson (resigned 4 September 2025)
 Mr I A Sheldon
 Mr J L Stevens
 Mrs S Maughan
 Mrs W Kent
 Mr A Aziz (resigned 5 December 2024)
 Mr G Burger
 Mr N Marchant
 Ms S Perry
 Mrs A Sinclair (appointed 19 September 2025)
 Mr M Redmart (appointed 19 September 2025)
 Mrs J Sutherland (appointed 19 September 2025)

Key Management Personnel

	Head	Mr E Balfour (to 17 October 2024) Mr RJP Stanley (appointed 17 October 2024)
	Head and Assistant Head (Staff Development)	Mr RJP Stanley (to 17 October 2024)
Deputy Head (Academic)		Mrs V Hodge (appointed 6 January 2025)
Senior Deputy Head (Pastoral)		Mrs M Wright (appointed 1 September 2024)
Bursar & Company Secretary		Mrs GP Dippenaar (to 14 December 2024)
Bursar & Clerk to Governors (Interim)		Mr TJR Petty (appointed 16 December 2024 to 21 April 2025)
Bursar & Company Secretary		Mrs D Taylor (appointed 22 April 2025)
Assistant Head (Junior Department)		Mrs E Balfour (to 17 October 2024)
Assistant Head (Junior Department)		Mrs A Wynne (appointed 1 January 2025)
Assistant Head (Middle School)		Mr C Thorne (appointed 1 September 2024)
Assistant Head (Digital Development)		Mr I Kay
Director of Marketing and Admissions		Mrs P Hopkins (to 17 March 2025)
Assistant Head (Co-Curricular)		Mr B McManus
Assistant Head (Learning Support)		Mrs L Simmonds (appointed 1 September 2024)
Director of Marketing & Admissions		Julia Gaine (appointed 14 July 2025)

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Charity Number	311054
Company Number	00947085
Registered Office & Principal Address	Edge Grove School Aldenham Village Watford Hertfordshire WD25 8NL
Auditors	TC Group The Courtyard Shoreham Road Upper Beeding Steyning West Sussex BN44 3TN
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 11 Bank Court, Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP1 1BX

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CONTENTS

	Page
Governors' Report (incorporating the Strategic Report)	1
Statement of Governors' Responsibilities	14
Auditor's Report	15
Statement of Financial Activities	19
Balance Sheet	20
Cash Flow Statement	21
Notes to the Financial Statement	22

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

The Governors present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2025, which also comply with the Companies Act 2006 requirement for a Directors' Report and Strategic Report.

The accounts comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Edge Grove ("the School") was founded in 1935. It became an incorporated charitable company in 1969, Edge Grove School Trust Ltd ("The Company"), charity registration number 311054, company registration number 00947085, with the liability of its members limited to £1 each by guarantee. The Registered Office and principal address is at the School. The Company is governed by its Articles of Association, adopted by special resolution on 4 September 2014.

The School

The School is a co-educational, independent preparatory day school for children between the ages of 3 and 13 years. Following the sale of the lease on the School House Nursery the whole School is now conveniently located on one site only, situated in 45 acres of Hertfordshire parkland, midway between Watford and Radlett.

The Head is a member of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS) and the School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS) and the Independent Schools Bursars' Association (ISBA). It is governed by a Board of Governors, who are also company directors and charity trustees.

Group Structure

The School is an independent single entity.

Governance and Organisational Management

The members of the Governing Body, as the company directors and the charity trustees, are legally responsible for the overall management and control of the School. The following served as Governors during the year in question:

Mrs M Barnett (Chair appointed 3/12/24)
Mr P A Kendall (Deputy Chair)
Mr D G Emkes
Ms A J Godfrey
Mr Z Khawaja
Mr C E Lilley
Mr A J Robson (resigned 04/09/25)
Mr I A Sheldon
Mr J L Stevens
Mrs S Maughan
Mrs W Kent
Mrs S R Perry

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Mr N Marchant
Mr G Burger

The Governors have no beneficial interest in the company. All of the Governors are members of the company and, as such, guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

The Governors determine the general strategy of the School. Effective governance is ensured through: firstly, the appointment of Governors with a range of relevant skills and knowledge as measured against agreed parameters; secondly, the efficient working of the Board's delegated committee structure (see below); and thirdly, through application of a risk management regime which seeks to cover all aspects of the governance task. The day-to-day management of the School is delegated to the Head and the Bursar who are supported by the Senior Leadership Team and the Senior Executive Team. Together these groups form the Key Management Personnel. The Head and Bursar attend all of the meetings of the Governing Board and its committees.

The Governors, assisted by the Head, select new members of the Board. Applications for the position of Governor are sought by word of mouth. The full Board of Governors meets at least 3 times per year. The Board is assisted by Committees which carry out close scrutiny of the Governors' responsibilities and which meet termly. The committee structure comprises: Education, Finance and Estates, and HR & Remuneration. These committees comprise Governors and, where applicable, other co-opted individuals. All the committees operate under terms of reference specified by the Board of Governors which ratifies the decisions of each committee.

The Chair and Deputy Chair of Governors are, ex-officio, members of all sub committees. The Board operates a strategic planning process of all Board Members rather than delegation to a specific committee and this meets at least annually. During the year in question, other Board members served on the individual committees as follows:

Finance & Estates: Mrs W Kent (Chair), Mrs Mr Z Khawaja, Mr D G Emkes, Mrs M Barnett, Mr A J Robson, Mr C E Lilley, Mr J L Stevens, Mrs S R Perry

Education: Mr I A Sheldon (Chair), Ms A J Godfrey, Mr G Burger, Mrs S Maughan, Mr N Marchant

HR & Remuneration: Ms A J Godfrey (Chair), Mrs W Kent, Mrs M Barnett, Mr P Kendall

Individual Governors held specific responsibilities for Safeguarding, Education, Health & Safety, Pastoral.

Governor Induction and Training

The induction and training of Governors is carried out in accordance with the School's policy on the subject, which also covers the process of appointing Governors. In addition to receiving a detailed Governors' 'Welcome Pack', new Governors attend a series of orientation visits and briefings aimed at familiarising them both with the detailed workings of the School and the responsibilities attaching to their role as trustees. Governors are also required to undergo online training in: Safeguarding, Online Safety, Prevent, GDPR & Cyber training and to be up to date with the most recent publication of Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Following their appointment, Governors are strongly urged to take advantage of the numerous external trustee training and information courses available, and a central record of such attendance is maintained. It is our policy that at least once per year, a joint staff and governor training day is arranged on a topic of mutual interest.

Related Parties

No Governor nor Key Management Personnel had any significant related transactions with the School during the year.

Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The School views all members of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) as being "Key Management Personnel" and Governors take deliberate steps to ensure that these personnel are fairly and appropriately remunerated.

Mr RJP Stanley	Head
Mrs DM Taylor	Bursar & Company Secretary (<i>Apr. 2025</i>)
Mrs M Wright	Senior Deputy Head (Pastoral) and DSL
Mrs V Hodge	Deputy Head (Academic) (<i>Jan. 2025</i>)
Mrs A Wynne	Assistant Head (Junior Department) (<i>Jan. 2025</i>)
Mr C Thorne	Assistant Head (Middle Department) (<i>resigned Aug 25</i>)
Mr B McManus	Assistant Head (Operational Logistics)
Mr I Kay	Assistant Head (Digital Development)
Mrs L Simmonds	Assistant Head (SEN)
Mrs J Gaine	Director of Marketing and Admissions (<i>Jul. 2025</i>)

The Governors determine the remuneration levels for the Head and Bursar after due consideration between the Chair, the Chair of the Finance Committee, the Head (in the case of the Bursar) and other Governors as may be appropriate. These are reviewed annually with due consideration given to not only sector benchmarking surveys, such as is available from AGBIS and other surveys from specialist accounting practices, but also to performance against objectives set.

The remuneration for all other members of the SLT is based upon a defined and published leadership salary scale, changes to which are recommended by the Head and Bursar as a constituent element of the staff remuneration review by Governors. Changes to individual remuneration may also be recommended to Governors following appraisal and performance against objectives set. Governors are invited to approve recommendations as part of the overall annual budgetary approval process or as otherwise appropriate.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS, ETHOS, AIMS, STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

Charitable Objects

Edge Grove is a Charitable Trust, the stated general object of which is the advancement and promotion of education as per the Articles of Association, as adopted on 4th September 2014. Fees are set at a level to ensure the financial viability of the School and at a level that is consistent with our aim of providing a first class education to boys and girls.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Furthermore, the Governors recognise that, under the Charities Act 2011, the charity must be able to demonstrate that its objects or aims are for the public benefit and do so by establishing and administering bursaries, grants and awards, and acting as the trustee and manager of property, endowments, bequests and gifts given or established in pursuit of these Objects.

Mission and Values

Edge Grove is a leading independent UK prep school for boys and girls aged 3-13.

Our Mission is that Edge Grove is a place where diversity and inclusion are celebrated, creating a warm and welcoming community where everyone - children, families and staff - feel valued and supported. Our vibrant outdoor environment, inspiring classrooms and passionate staff ensure our children have the freedom and space in which to grow. For each child it is the beginning of who they will become, what they will achieve and the difference they will make in the world.

Whatever their abilities, gender, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, all pupils develop our core values of Integrity, Independence and Inspiration.

INTEGRITY

Pupils feel healthy, safe, happy and proud to belong and be a unique part of the Edge Grove community. They enjoy friendship and fun, promote kindness, living and growing in alignment with the following self-elected 16 core Values:

Confidence	Unity	Creativity	Kindness
Passion	Responsibility	Integrity	Respect
Determination	Risk-taking	Trust	Humility
Diversity	Sportsmanship	Empathy	Tolerance

INDEPENDENCE

Pupils develop, through child-centred active learning, intellectual, physical and spiritual confidence and independence, self-motivation and agency across a broad range of academic, co-curricular and pastoral activities and experiences. They ask and answer questions, develop curiosity, a Growth Mind-set, passion and entrepreneurship.

INSPIRATION

Pupils hone the following transferable, lifelong World Economic Forum skills for future success and personal fulfilment:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Analytical thinking and innovation | 6. Creativity, originality and initiative |
| 2. Active learning and learning strategies | 7. Leadership and social influence |
| 3. Complex problem-solving | 8. Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation |
| 4. Critical thinking and analysis | 9. Emotional intelligence |
| 5. Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility | 10. Technology design and programming |

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Aims

The School aims to provide a secure and happy environment in which children feel safe, nurtured and valued. We promote high standards of academic achievement through innovative, reflective teaching, focussed assessment and a rigorous curriculum to ensure all pupils reach their full potential and develop their confidence, and thereby prepare them as effectively as possible for the next stage of their education.

The School strives not only to achieve academic success but also to provide a wide range of opportunities in a co-educational environment to enable pupils to discover and develop interests and expand their experience. We seek to promote a spiritual and moral awareness in our pupils based on the mission and values.

Primary Objectives

The primary objectives of the School to fulfil its aims are:

- to continue to seek opportunities to make its education and associated facilities accessible to the public, and young people in particular;
- to implement plans for the School's capital investment as set out in its Development Plan, which is reviewed and updated annually; and
- to continue to seek opportunities to make its education and associated facilities accessible to the public, and young people in particular.

Beneficiaries

As a registered charity, the School's immediate beneficiaries are its pupils who are able to take advantage of the wide and varied educational opportunities offered by the School. The School's high standards are founded on a genuine concern for the welfare and positive development of every child. Emphasis on courtesy and good manners is embedded in a real family atmosphere within the School, and parents are encouraged to be fully involved in the development of their own children's education and in the wider community life of the School. Pupils' and parents' views are fully taken into account in the shaping of school policy.

Public Benefit

Governors have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit to include the following:

- Bursary provision;
- Charitable giving;
- Local community links and partnerships;
- Provide greater expertise and access to facilities.

It is important to the School that access to the education we offer is not restricted to only those who can afford our fees. The School's policy for the award of scholarships and bursaries (reviewed annually by the Board of Governors) ensures that funds are made available to subsidise places at Edge Grove for deserving and talented children from families experiencing unforeseen or temporary financial hardship, but not to the exclusion of the much wider benefit. Those pupils who attend the School and who receive financial support contribute to the school community in a variety of ways, and so the benefit is not purely to these pupils but to the whole School and thus, in some cases, to the wider community.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

An annual budget for means-tested bursaries is established by the Governors' Finance Committee, acting on behalf of the Board, as a core element of the annual budget process and individual applications are assessed by the School within that budget limit. The Board is pleased to note that it was able to continue to provide very significant levels of means-tested financial assistance with an annual value of £234,802 (2024: £208,506).

Fundraising

It is the intention of the School that all fundraising be carried out by the School's staff with assistance from parents, pupils and alumni in the running of specific fundraising events; the School will not use professional fundraisers or have any commercial participants. Fundraising is monitored for compliance with appropriate regulations by the Bursar with overall oversight by the members of the governing body.

During this financial period, a total of £2,514 was raised and distributed to many different charities of the children's young enterprises, including; Royal British Legion, Bloom for Books, McMillan Cancer, Great Ormond Street and Cancer Research.

The Friends of Edge Grove made donations of equipment to the school, totaling over £8,400; blinds for the theatre, outdoor table tennis, lane ropes for the pool, beehives, mud kitchen, building blocks.

The School has in place procedures that would be followed in the event of a complaint regarding fundraising practices being received with the initial response being the responsibility of the Bursar. Any continuing issues would then be passed to the governing body to determine what further action might be required.

The School does not currently subscribe to any specific fundraising standards or schemes for fundraising regulation but considers that it has set appropriate standards for the operation and management of its fundraising activities. In particular, the School considers that its processes and controls should ensure that vulnerable people and other members of the public are protected from any unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy and that no fundraising activities would be unreasonably persistent or place undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

STRATEGIC REPORT

When determining the strategies for the School's operation, Governors are both mindful of and act in good faith towards their corporate responsibilities across a range of areas and their duty to act in the way considered, in good faith, to be most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in doing so have regard (amongst other matters) to:

- the likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- the interests of the School's employees;
- the need to foster the School's business relationships with suppliers, parents and others;
- the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment;
- the desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Achievements and Performance

A measure of general operational performance is the number of leavers who went on to their chosen senior school. From year 8, 16 pupils moved on to a total of 9 senior schools. From year 6, 38 pupils moved on to 17 different schools, 2 stayed at Edge Grove, and 1 was to be home schooled. A total of 26 scholarships were awarded to pupils entered for different schools at both 11+ and 13+.

Understanding each child's individual educational journey begins with having clear, accurate insight into both potential and progress. Central to Edge Grove's commitment to a truly personalised education is a robust and carefully embedded framework for tracking and monitoring pupil development from EYFS through to Year 8.

Significant investment has been made in strengthening these systems, ensuring that each child's academic growth is measured consistently, objectively and meaningfully over time. This evidence-informed approach enables HoDs and teachers to plan with precision, deliver targeted and differentiated learning, and to respond swiftly where additional support or challenge is required. It also ensures that parents are kept well informed and able to engage confidently with their child's progress.

These rigorous assessment and monitoring practices sit at the heart of the School's wider reporting and tracking framework, through which the following key areas of growth and achievement during the 2024–25 academic year are evidenced:

1. EYFS Assessment

Assessment in the Early Years is rooted in a deep understanding of each child as an elementary learner and is central to ensuring a strong foundation for future success. Children are assessed at both the beginning and end of each academic year, informed by high-quality, continuous observations made by the EYFS team. These observations are systematically recorded using *Tapestry* and carefully mapped against the School's assessment framework. This approach ensures a coherent, consistent and developmentally appropriate picture of each child's progress, enabling early identification of strengths, next steps and any emerging needs.

2. GL Assessment – English and Maths

From Reception onwards, pupil progress in English and Maths is tracked using GL Assessment's *Progress Tests*. These nationally standardised assessments provide detailed diagnostic information that supports accurate benchmarking and informs targeted intervention where required. The data allows the School to monitor progress over time, evaluate the impact of teaching, and analyse outcomes across key pupil groups, including pupils with EAL, SEN, and by gender. This ensures that academic support is timely, precise and responsive to need.

3. GL PASS – Pupil Attitudes to Self and School

Recognising that academic success is closely linked to wellbeing and self-perception, the School uses GL's *Pupil Attitudes to Self and School (PASS)* survey across Years 1 to 8. PASS provides valuable insight into pupils' confidence, motivation, resilience and sense of belonging. These important pastoral insights play a vital role in informing pastoral provision, guiding academic planning, and supporting early intervention, ensuring that pupils are emotionally equipped to thrive alongside their academic development.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

4. Writing Assessment

Writing is assessed termly against clearly defined age-related expectations, offering a current and meaningful measure of progress that moves beyond reliance on historic National Curriculum levels. Outcomes are recorded on a bespoke Progression Grid, enabling teachers to track development with precision over time. This approach supports consistency in judgements, informs targeted teaching and intervention, and ensures that progress in writing is clearly evidenced and monitored across year groups.

Whole-School Academic Priorities for the Current Academic Year

The School has identified a number of key academic focus areas designed to enhance teaching effectiveness and improve pupil outcomes across all year groups:

1. Strengthening Phonics Provision

The ongoing implementation and rooting in of a comprehensive phonics programme across the Junior and Middle Departments to ensure consistency, rigour, and progression in early reading instruction.

2. Refining Assessment and Feedback Practices

A whole-school approach is being developed to create meaningful, child-centred systems for marking, assessment, and reporting - spanning Nursery to Year 8 - ensuring feedback is purposeful and developmental.

3. Harnessing Technology for Personalised Learning

AI-driven learning tools, including Atom Learning and Century Tech, are being integrated across English, Maths, Science, Non-Verbal Reasoning, and Verbal Reasoning to provide tailored support and challenge for every learner.

Screen-Free Week has again been approved by SLT for the summer term but requires enormous thought and planning. As with last year, this will require pupil, staff and parent buy-in, support and commitment.

4. Expanding on and enhancing the excellent work done in the English Department

Leadership of the English Department requires deeper consideration now former English Coordinator, Alice Wynne has been promoted to AHJD. Ideally subject leadership would be most effective with a team of three.

- a) Verbal Reasoning: continue to ensure that verbal reasoning lessons are timetabled for Year 3 and Year 4; longer than 30 mins for Year 5; and lessons in Year 6 Autumn Term.
- b) Year 3 and 4 English: A review of English units taught in Years 3 and 4 with a curriculum continuity, text types for writing, and investment in new, shorter texts.
- c) Enhancing Handwriting A renewed emphasis on handwriting is underway, with targeted strategies to raise standards and consistency across all year groups.
- d) Raising Standards in Spelling Spelling continues to be a whole-school development priority, with structured approaches in place to support improvement and retention.

5. Maths Department:

Junior Maths Challenge (aimed at Year 8 and below pupils) was completed successfully by all pupils in Year 7 and 8, and Top Set Year 6. 80% of pupils who took part in the challenge achieved Bronze, Silver or Gold.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Within the Junior Maths Challenge, two school records were beaten by two of our senior boys. The Intermediate Maths Challenge, aimed at pupils in Year 11, was completed by eight Year 8 pupils. Four pupils qualified for the national final.

Areas of growth:

- a) Must ensure non-verbal reasoning lessons are timetabled for Year 3 and Year 4; longer than 30 mins for Year 5; and lessons in Year 6 Autumn Term.
- b) Continue to monitor and review the new Edge Grove Maths Curriculum that was launched in September 2024. Feedback from teachers has been positive.

6. Curriculum Development in Humanities

The revised Humanities curriculum continues to be rolled out from Year 1 to Year 8. The aim being to realign and re-designed to offer greater coherence, depth, and relevance across History, Geography, and related disciplines.

7. Science Department: Some of the highlights and growth areas recorded in the past academic year include:

- a) Introducing the Year 3 and 4 children to the Science block rather than in the standard classrooms has proved successful in recent months.
- b) A series of activities for British Science Week were successfully conducted, spanning from Reception through Year 8.
- c) Participation in the Haileybury School STEM workshop which involved a number of Year 6 students.
- d) Hands-on first aid and CPR training for students in Years 5 through 8 during our free screen week.

Sport and the Performing Arts

This year has been one of impressive success across both sporting and creative endeavours, reflecting Edge Grove's commitment to nurturing well-rounded, confident, and capable pupils. Particularly noteworthy are the achievements in the performing arts, with the end of year production, *High School Musical* proving to be a blockbuster of note, playing to packed houses on eight separate occasions. Pupils of all ages benefit from a broad schedule of music tuition and appreciation classes, musical concerts, year group showcases, and whole-school productions, providing meaningful opportunities to participate, perform, and grow in confidence and self-expression. The performing, creative and visual arts continue to play central roles in our pupils' education.

Equally impressive achievements have been seen in the sport arenas. Several year groups have again demonstrated promising talent and commitment. Year 6 boys and girls have excelled across a variety of disciplines, while the Year 4 boys have impressed with their competitive spirit and consistently strong performances. The U11A cricket team's remarkable journey to the county cup final, narrowly losing to the eventual champions, was a highlight of the year. Table tennis has continued to be a particular strength, notably among Years 5 and 6, while cross country has seen Years 3 and 4 achieving outstanding results.

Success in table tennis extended to both district and county competitions, with the U11 and U13 boys' and girls' teams securing district victories, the U11 girls achieving a first-place finish at county level, and the U13 boys placing a commendable second. Building on these achievements, the School remains committed to fostering sporting excellence across a wider range of activities and year groups.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Scholastic success in the arts - illustrated through senior school art scholarships, outstanding external examination results, and achievements in music competitions - forms only part of a vibrant creative programme.

Together, these accomplishments in sport and the arts exemplify Edge Grove's continued all-round, holistic approach to education, ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to thrive both academically, holistically and personally.

Employment Policy

The School is an equal opportunities employer. All job applications, including those from individuals with disabilities, are given full and fair consideration, with appropriate attention paid to their training and employment needs. Although the number of School employees falls below the threshold for Gender Pay reporting requirements, Edge Grove is committed to ensuring that all staff remuneration is determined solely by the responsibilities of the role, rather than the personal characteristics of the employee.

The School actively maintains consultation with employees at all levels, with the aim of incorporating their views when making decisions that may impact their interests. Whole school, anonymous staff surveys have been used as a temperature check from time to time as well. Additionally, employees are kept informed of the School's financial and economic performance through regular, termly information sessions conducted by the Bursar, standard management channels, using a variety of communication methods.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

General Review

In the financial year 2024/25, gross fee income was £7,184,502 (2024: £7,458,987) a decrease of £274,485 (3.68%). Average pupil numbers decreased by 6.72% from 429 in the Summer 2024, to 402 in Autumn 25.

Cash balances generated from operating surpluses provided the funding that enabled £136,954 (2024: £166,212) to be allocated to capital projects designed to maintain and improve the School's facilities. Donations and legacies received or confirmed during the year amounted to £23,979 (2024: £12,138).

Overall, the Governors consider that the operating deficit of £12,319 (2024: Surplus of £118,098) represented a satisfactory performance under the prevailing circumstances including an unpredicted change of leadership in October 2024 and the closure of the School House Nursery and write off of its assets. The Governors consider that the future viability of the School's financial position and stability holds some potential challenges with regard to a number of factors, including decreasing pupil numbers and the economic and political climate.

As at 31 August 2025, net general unrestricted funds stood at £7,331,148 (2024: £7,358,289). These funds were wholly deployed in funding the School's premises, equipment and working capital. The balance of funds needed to finance these items has been provided through long term loans, secured on freehold properties. As at 31 August 2025 total borrowings were £2,253,486 (2024: £2,456,611). Net cash balances at the year-end totalled £916,001 (2024: £1,264,213), a decrease of £348,212.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

Reserves Policy and Financial Viability

Each year a detailed budget and cash flow is produced for the following year and period performance is monitored against those figures. In setting the budget, the Governors' policy is to generate sufficient reserves each year to enable the School to invest in its infrastructure and fulfil its Development Plan, to support and service its borrowings, as well as to provide working capital and to ensure compliance with relevant banking covenants imposed as part of the School's bank borrowings. The School will utilise all of its reserves in meeting these aims and does not expect to generate free reserves over and above the level required to meet them. Annual cash surpluses representing the School's liquid resources are managed carefully in order to service its working capital requirements.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The School's strategy continues to be to focus upon the continued provision of its services to pupils, parents and staff alike whilst seeking to maintain adequate reserves for the future. During this period in question, the Governors, together with the School's Executive Management have maintained a close watch over all cash balances, both current and forecast, in a formal drive to ensure that the School remains a "going concern" and that loan covenants agreed with lenders remain intact.

Risk Management

The Governors consider the continued potential impact in all sectors of society (economic, political, cost of living crisis) upon the affordability of fees by parents across the independent sector as well as continued upward pressures on suppliers and staffing costs to be the principal risks faced by the school. Any further large decreases in pupils (on top of the net 27 from 2024 to 2025) may prove difficult to offset with cost reductions. They also consider the following areas as being potentially major risks:

- Failures of regulatory compliance across all areas but specifically in Safeguarding, Security or Health & Safety;
- Reputational damage from adverse publicity;
- Competition from other schools, both independent and maintained; an inability to attract and retain quality teaching staff.

The Board of Governors retains detailed consideration of risk management as its direct responsibility and has assessed the major risks to which the School is exposed. The risk management process identifies risks, assesses their impact and likelihood and, where necessary, recommends controls to mitigate and monitor those risks that are assessed as high.

The generic controls used by the School to minimise risk include:

- detailed terms of reference together with formal agendas for Committee and Board activity;
- strategic development planning, reviewed at least annually by the Board;
- comprehensive budgeting and management accounting;
- established organisational structures and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies including clear authorisation and approval levels; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

The Governors regularly review the effectiveness of current plans and strategies for managing all identified major risks for both the School and its subsidiary. All Governors' committees maintain risk management as a standing item on meeting agendas and each carries out a comprehensive continuous appraisal of the risks applicable to its specific area of responsibility. The Head and Bursar produce commentaries on the most serious risks; actions required to mitigate those risks are identified and progress on their implementation is carefully monitored within each committee. The Board will consider any 'red' risks at the full board committees and a formal Governors' Risk Register is formally endorsed by the Board each year.

The Board recognises that systems cannot provide absolute assurance that all possible risks have been identified or managed.

Safeguarding Risk Management

The overriding duty of charity trustees in safeguarding matters is the responsibility for ensuring that those benefiting from, or working with, their charity are not harmed in any way through contact with it. They have a legal duty to act prudently and this means that they must take all reasonable steps within their powers to ensure that this does not happen.

The Governors confirm that there have been no incidents in the period that required reporting to the Charity Commission and that they have:

- assessed the safeguarding risks that might arise from their charity's activities and operations;
- created, developed and put in place suitable policies and procedures to handle allegations and incidents;
- undertaken on-going monitoring to ensure effective implementation of those policies and procedures;
- taken steps to ensure that both the Board and staff working within the charity respond properly when allegations and incidents arise and report as necessary to the police and other agencies; and
- reviewed policies and procedures both periodically and following serious incidents, using their experience of particular incidents to manage and minimise the risk of something similar happening again by making any necessary changes to the charity's policies and procedures.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Primary Strategic Objectives

The School has recently rewritten its Strategic Plan (October 2025) and a new Development Plan will sit underneath this, determining the broad direction of the School's objectives and the operational process for implementing the objectives. The primary future plans for the School are set out in the core elements of the School's Strategic Vision. These are:

- to nurture and develop the character of each of our children, keeping them safe and happy, while instilling the values that will enable them to become confident, compassionate citizens and achieve their best in the world beyond our school.
- to value each child's individuality and tailor our approach so that each child can flourish and discover their unique talents and passions.
- to provide inspiring teaching, a relevant and broad curriculum and innovative use of technology to equip children with what they need to thrive.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCORPORATING THE STRATEGIC REPORT)

- to leverage our unique and magnificent community and environment - both physical and human in order to provide unparalleled opportunities for growth and ensure our children can fully experience everything Edge Grove offers.
- to focus primarily on the immediate financial health and stability of the School, with optimal cashflow and to generate funds to be released for capital spend on the maintenance of the estates and IT infrastructure.
- to maintain the capability of the School to offer education to children whose parents are unable to afford full fees.

Specific Objectives for 2025/26


The School will continue to offer a high quality, all round education in line with the three key elements of its longer term strategy and ethos and aims as detailed above. The Board of Governors has identified the following specific objectives for the forthcoming year 2025/26:

- 1) Ensure the school continues to provide educational excellence for every child in both academic and co-curricular activities.
- 2) Continue to improve the Edge Grove community as a whole including embedding a culture of safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion across the school by actively promoting practices that encourage respect for one another.
- 3) Increase the school's visibility within the independent school sector and wider community to grow pupil numbers and provide a variety of appropriate destination schools.
- 4) Ensure financial viability of school.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

Each of the Governors has confirmed that, insofar as they are aware, there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditors are unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

This report, including the Strategic Report, was approved by the Governors, as the Directors and Trustees of the charitable company, on 16th December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
Mrs M Barnet
Chair of Governors

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors, who are also the Directors of Edge Grove School Trust Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Governors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Edge Grove School Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cashflow Statement and notes to the financial statements. 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, and we have fulfilled our 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 governor's 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 doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorized for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, including the governor's report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The governors are responsible for the other information. 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.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions 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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' 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 and the directors' report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies' regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the governors' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

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 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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative to do so.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED (LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit, in respect to fraud, are: to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses; and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and its management.

Our approach was as follows:

- We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general sector experience, and through discussion with the governors and other management (as required by auditing standards), and discussed with the governors and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations (see below);
- We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: health and safety; General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR); fraud; bribery and corruption, school inspections, Keeping Children Safe in Education, DBS checks, and employment law. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the governors and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. The identified actual or suspected non-compliance was not sufficiently significant to our audit to result in our response being identified as a key audit matter.
- We considered the legal and regulatory frameworks directly applicable to the financial statements reporting framework (FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011) and the relevant tax compliance regulations in the UK.
- We considered the nature of the charitable company's operations, the control environment and financial performance.
- We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.
- We considered the procedures and controls that the charitable company has established to address risks identified, or that otherwise prevent, deter and detect fraud; and how senior management monitors those procedures and controls.

**EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Where the risk was considered to be higher, we performed audit procedures to address each identified fraud risk. These procedures included: testing manual journals; reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation; performing analytical procedures; and enquiring of management, and were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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 the 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 the charitable company's members, as a body, for our audit work, or for the opinions we have formed.

TC Group

Mark Cummins FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of TC Group
Statutory Auditors
Office: Steyning, West Sussex

Dated: 24th February 2026

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations, grants and legacies	6	-	23,979	-	23,979	12,138
Other trading activities	7	175,251	-	-	175,251	124,464
Investments	8	56,113	-	-	56,113	52,146
Charitable activities	9	7,221,591	-	-	7,221,591	7,526,100
Other income	10	97,979	-	-	97,979	34,558
Total income		7,550,934	23,979	-	7,574,913	7,749,406
EXPENDITURE ON:						
	11					
Raising funds		173,804	-	-	173,804	207,945
Charitable activities		7,404,271	9,157	-	7,413,428	7,423,285
Total expenditure		7,578,075	9,157	-	7,587,232	7,631,230
Net income/(expenditure)		(27,141)	14,822	-	(12,319)	118,176
Fund balances at 1 September 2024	24	7,358,289	19,512	7,252	7,385,053	7,266,877
Fund balances at 31 August 2025	24	7,331,148	34,334	7,252	7,372,734	7,385,053

All income and gains for the period are recognised above. All of the company's activities are classified as continuing.

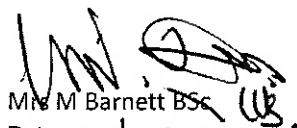
The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an Income and Expenditure Account under the Companies Act 2006.


There are no recognised gains or losses other than those reported on the Statement of Financial Activities.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	9,329,414	9,891,197
Investments	15	-	150,738
		<u>9,329,414</u>	<u>10,041,935</u>
Current assets			
Stock		6,584	9,719
Debtors	16	200,284	144,046
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>916,001</u>	<u>1,264,213</u>
		<u>1,122,869</u>	<u>1,417,978</u>
Current Liabilities			
Creditors due within one year	17	<u>(586,148)</u>	<u>(1,159,514)</u>
Net current assets		<u>536,721</u>	<u>258,464</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>9,866,135</u>	<u>10,300,399</u>
Long term liabilities			
Creditors due after one year	18	<u>(2,493,401)</u>	<u>(2,915,346)</u>
Net assets		<u>7,372,734</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>
Represented by:	24		
Restricted funds		<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,252</u>
Unrestricted funds:			
General funds		7,331,148	7,358,289
Designated funds		<u>34,334</u>	<u>19,512</u>
		<u>7,365,482</u>	<u>7,377,801</u>
		<u>7,372,734</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>

The accounts were approved by the Board on 9/12/25


Mrs M Barnett BSc
Date 5/1/26


Mrs W Kent
Date 10-1-26

Company Registration No. 00947085

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income/expenditure for the year	(12,319)	118,176	
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation charges	14 346,406	392,519	
Impairment charges	15 21,794	21,464	
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	8 (56,113)	(52,146)	
Finance charges	173,804	207,945	
Profit on disposal of subsidiary	(21,794)	-	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	352,453	-	
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	3,135	28,109	
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	17 (56,238)	69,178	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	18, 19 (791,223)	349,118	
Net cash provided by operating activities		(40,095)	1,134,363
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	8 56,113	52,146	
Proceeds on sale of subsidiary	150,616	-	
Finance charges	(173,804)	(207,945)	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	14 (136,954)	(166,212)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(104,029)	(322,011)
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Capital element of hire purchase and finance leases	(963)	(3,397)	
Repayments of borrowing	(201,819)	(197,996)	
Net cash used in investing activities		(202,782)	(201,393)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(346,906)	610,959
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,258,017	647,058
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		911,111	1,258,017
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
Cash at bank and in hand		916,001	1,264,213
Bank overdraft		(4,890)	(6,196)
Total cash and cash equivalents		911,111	1,258,017

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. Statutory information

The charity is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The registered office, company number and charity number are detailed in the Legal and Administrative Information.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006, The Charities Act 2011, in accordance with the Charities' Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP (FRS 102)) and Financial Reporting Standard 102.

The charitable company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

"After reviewing the charity's forecasts and projections, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the school. Monetary amounts in the financial statements are rounded to the nearest £."

2.2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the school's accounting policies, the governors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised.

The governors do not consider that there are any critical estimates or areas of judgement that need to be brought to the attention of the readers of the financial statements.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2.3 Income

Fees receivable and charges for services, less any allowances, scholarships and bursaries granted by the school against those fees are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided. Where fees are received for a future service period they are included in deferred income, including those fees received under an advance fee payment scheme.

Investment income is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Donations, legacies, grants and other voluntary income are accounted for as and when entitlement arises, the amount can be reliably measured and the economic benefit is considered probable.

Where a donor or an appeal has imposed restrictions, the income is credited to a restricted fund.

Rental income in the subsidiary company is accounted for under the accruals basis.

2.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis with irrecoverable VAT included with the item to which it relates.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include the audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between expenditure categories and departments on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly.

2.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold land are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold land is not depreciated	
Freehold buildings	- 2% straight line
Leasehold buildings	- 2% straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment (including IT equipment at 25% straight line)	- 10% and 25% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% straight line
Leasehold improvements	- 5% straight line

Minor items of capital expenditure are written off to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

2.6 Investments

Fixed asset investment in the charity's subsidiary is included at cost less provision for impairment. The charity purchased the subsidiary to obtain rights to the lease of the nursery buildings. Accordingly the investment has been written down over the term of the lease. The subsidiary was sold in July 2025.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2.7 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

2.8 Leasing and hire purchase commitments

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

2.9 Pensions

From the 1 September 2020 the school joined the Aviva APTIS scheme for Teachers. This is a defined contribution pension scheme. The school also contributes to personal pension schemes for its non-teaching staff.

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognised as expenditure in the statement of financial activities in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

2.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount.

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and any short term highly liquid investments. The governors seek to use short and medium term deposits where possible to maximise the return on monies held at the bank and to manage cash flow.

2.12 Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in a transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

2.13 Fund accounting

General funds and unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the governors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and 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 charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific funds. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

3. Turnover

The turnover of the school is wholly attributable to the objects of the school as stated in the Governors' Report and is earned entirely within the UK.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

4. Net Income/(Expenditure)

This is stated after charging

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	346,406	392,519
Stock charged as an expense	(3,135)	(28,109)
Operating lease payments	107,749	83,419
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	14,700	14,000

5. Taxation

The charitable company is registered as a charity and all of its income falls within the exemptions under Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.

6. Income from donations, grants and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donations	-	23,979	-	23,979	12,138
	-	23,979	-	23,979	12,138

7. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Lettings income	44,500	-	-	44,500	44,543
Rental income	130,751	-	-	130,751	79,921
	175,251	-	-	175,251	124,464

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

8. Income from investors

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Interest receivable	56,113	-	-	56,113	52,146
	<u>56,113</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>56,113</u>	<u>51,146</u>

9. Income from charitable activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Gross school fees	7,184,502	7,458,987
Less bursaries and allowances	(269,673)	(280,506)
Net school fees	<u>6,914,829</u>	<u>7,178,481</u>
Add:		
Registration fees	7,885	15,700
Extras income	73,336	56,056
Learning support income	1,538	18,715
Other ancillary income	224,003	257,148
	<u>7,221,591</u>	<u>7,526,100</u>

10. Other income

	2025 £	2024 £
Sundry income	<u>97,979</u>	<u>34,558</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

11. Analysis of expenditure

	Staff costs £	Depreciation & amortisation £	Other costs £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Cost of raising funds:					
Financing costs	-	-	173,804	173,804	207,945
Total cost of raising funds	-	-	173,804	173,804	207,945
Charitable expenditure:					
Education					
Teaching	3,752,864	110,139	429,785	4,292,788	4,300,078
Welfare	189,054	-	586,346	775,400	848,891
Premises	252,784	236,267	930,773	1,419,824	1,303,714
Support and governance	602,764	-	322,652	925,416	970,602
Total charitable expenditure	4,797,466	346,406	2,269,556	7,413,428	7,423,285
Total expenditure	4,797,466	346,406	2,443,360	7,587,232	7,631,230

Analysis of support and governance costs:

	2025 £	2024 £
Governance costs:		
Auditors' remuneration for audit services	16,700	14,400
Total governance costs	16,700	14,400
Support costs:		
Legal and professional fees relating to support	67,295	38,759
Support staff wages, national insurance and pension	602,764	611,770
Other support costs	238,657	305,673
	925,416	970,602

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

12. Staff costs

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Teaching	64	69
Welfare	3	6
Premises	6	7
Administration	12	13
	<u>85</u>	<u>95</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was 119 (2024: 119).

The aggregate payroll costs for the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,854,763	3,874,084
Social security costs	394,782	392,248
Pension costs	547,921	550,512
	<u>4,797,466</u>	<u>4,816,844</u>

None of the governors received any remuneration or other benefits from the school or any connected body.

Wages and salaries include £20,469 (2024: £Nil) redundancy costs.

Staff earning in excess of £60,000 per annum in the following bands are:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,000 - £69,999	3	1
£70,000 - £79,999	1	2
£90,000 - £99,999	-	1
£120,000 - £129,999	1	-
£140,000 - £149,999	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

12. Staff costs (continued)

Of the employees whose emoluments exceed £60,000, 5 (2024: 5) have retirement benefits accruing under defined contribution schemes. Contributions payable by the charity to those schemes for higher paid employees were:

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes	89,282	71,979
	<u>89,282</u>	<u>71,979</u>

The key management personnel of the school are detailed in the Governors' Report and Legal and Administrative Information. In 2025 there are 9 such employees (2024: 10 employees).

	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate employee benefits of key management personnel (including employer pension and NI contributions)	690,156	900,831
	<u>690,156</u>	<u>900,831</u>

13. Comparative statement of financial activities – 31 August 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income from:				
Donations and legacies	-	7,262	4,876	12,138
Other trading activities	124,464	-	-	124,464
Investments	52,146	-	-	52,146
Charitable activities	7,526,100	-	-	7,526,100
Other income	34,558	-	-	34,558
Total income	<u>7,737,268</u>	<u>7,262</u>	<u>4,876</u>	<u>7,749,406</u>
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	207,945	-	-	207,945
Charitable activities	7,416,202	7,083	-	7,423,285
Total expenditure	<u>7,624,147</u>	<u>7,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,631,230</u>
Net movement in funds	<u>113,121</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>4,876</u>	<u>118,176</u>
Fund balance brought forward	7,245,168	19,333	2,376	7,266,877
Fund balances carried forward	<u>7,358,289</u>	<u>19,512</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property	Short Leasehold Property	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
At 1 September 2024	925,329	11,256,272	1,639,482	97,987	13,919,070
Additions	-	55,623	81,331	-	136,954
Disposals	-	(402,264)	(47,999)	-	(450,263)
At 31 August 2025	925,329	10,909,631	1,672,814	97,987	13,605,761
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	119,943	2,576,421	1,237,638	93,871	4,027,873
Charge for the year	14,237	222,030	108,002	2,137	346,406
Eliminated on disposal	-	(64,343)	(33,589)	-	(97,932)
At 31 August 2025	134,180	2,734,108	1,312,051	96,008	4,276,347
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	791,149	8,175,523	360,763	1,979	9,329,414
At 31 August 2024	805,386	8,679,851	401,844	4,116	9,891,197

Assets on finance leases and hire purchase (included above)

Cost	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment
Cost	£
At 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025	47,077
Depreciation	
At 1 September 2024	43,612
Charge for the year	1,485
At 31 August 2025	45,097
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	1,980
At 31 August 2024	3,465

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

15. Investments in subsidiaries

	2025 £
Cost	
At 1 September 2024	317,822
Disposals	(317,822)
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>
Impairment	
At 1 September 2024	167,084
Impairment in year	21,794
Eliminated on disposal	(188,878)
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	<u>-</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>150,738</u>

The 100% investment in Edge Grove Nursery School Limited (company number 03830269, registered in England and Wales) was sold in July 2025 (purchased 19 December 2016).

16. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Fee debtors	22,774	12,156
Prepayments and accrued income	127,482	113,315
Other debtors	50,028	18,575
	<u>200,284</u>	<u>144,046</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

17. Creditors: due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	184,322	205,810
Finance leases and hire purchase	1,221	1,221
Trade creditors	10,788	84,839
Accruals	64,550	57,374
Fees in Advance	124,540	205,060
Advance fee payment scheme	56,461	426,023
Deposits	22,000	22,000
Other creditors	25,325	61,085
Other taxes and social security	96,941	96,102
	<u>586,148</u>	<u>1,159,514</u>

18. Creditors: due after one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank loans	2,069,164	2,250,801
Finance leases and hire purchase	971	1,934
Advance fee payment scheme	143,266	289,611
Deposits	280,000	373,000
	<u>2,493,401</u>	<u>2,915,346</u>

19. Advance fee payment scheme

	£
At 1 September 2024	715,634
New contracts	130,931
Amounts used to pay for fees	(646,838)
At 31 August 2025	<u>199,727</u>

Parents may enter into a contract to pay the school in advance for contributions towards tuition fees. The money may be returned subject to specific conditions on the receipt of notice. Assuming that the pupils remain at the school fees will be applied as follows:

	£
Within one year	56,461
Within 1 – 5 years	143,266
	<u>199,727</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

20. Analysis of secured debts

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans are wholly repayable in instalments as follows:		
Less than one year	179,432	199,614
In more than one year but less than five years	2,069,164	2,250,801
	<u>2,248,596</u>	<u>2,450,415</u>

The bank overdraft facility and loans are secured by a first land charge over 3 Horwood Cottages, 9 & 11 High Cross and 1 & 2 Roundbush Cottages along with a debenture in favour of Barclays Bank plc.

In October 2023 two bank loans were consolidated into one with a margin of 2.5%. This loan has a five year term and its repayments are calculated based on a twenty year repayment period. There is also a CBIL loan which has a floating interest rate with a margin of 2%. This CBIL loan is repayable in 2026. All loans are being repaid in monthly instalments.

Net obligations payable under hire purchase and lease contracts:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	1,221	1,221
Between one and five years	971	1,934
	<u>2,192</u>	<u>3,155</u>

21. Commitments under operating leases

At 31 August 2025 the school had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases payable as follows:

	Land & Buildings		Other	
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	103,950	100,000	-	17,842
Between one and five years	405,900	400,000	-	-
Over five years	668,850	750,000	-	-
	<u>1,178,700</u>	<u>1,250,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,842</u>

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

22. Share capital and control

The charity is limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital. In the event of a winding up each member guarantees to contribute an amount of no more than £1.

23. Related parties

During the current year one Governor was reimbursed expenses totalling £727 (2024: £1,084 by three Governors). No remuneration was provided to any Governors during the year.

Members of the close family of the key management personnel received remuneration of £3,915 (2024: £Nil).

Two members of key management personnel are parents of pupils attending the school during the year for whom fees were payable to the school. Fees payable and any discounts were charged and awarded on the same basis as for other parents and staff.

24. Summary of fund movements

	At 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenses £	At 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds				
Designated Funds	19,512	23,979	(9,157)	34,334
General reserves	7,358,289	7,550,934	(7,578,075)	7,331,148
	<u>7,377,801</u>	<u>7,574,913</u>	<u>(7,587,232)</u>	<u>7,365,482</u>
Restricted Funds				
Bursary & Hardship funds	7,252	-	-	7,252
	<u>7,252</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,252</u>
Total funds	<u>7,385,053</u>	<u>7,574,913</u>	<u>(7,587,232)</u>	<u>7,372,734</u>

Designated funds:

The governors have designated funds raised by the Friends of Edge Grove and from other fund-raising activities toward future capital and maintenance projects.

Restricted funds:

The bursary fund represents donations from leavers towards future bursary provisions.

EDGE GROVE SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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

25. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £
31 August 2025				
Fixed assets	9,329,414	-	-	9,329,414
Current assets	1,081,283	34,334	7,252	1,122,869
Creditors: less than one year	(587,119)	-	-	(587,119)
Creditors: over one year	(2,492,430)	-	-	(2,492,430)
	<u>7,331,148</u>	<u>34,334</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,372,734</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
31 August 2024				
Fixed assets	10,041,935	-	-	10,041,935
Current assets	1,391,214	19,512	7,252	1,417,978
Creditors: less than one year	(1,159,514)	-	-	(1,159,514)
Creditors: over one year	(2,915,346)	-	-	(2,915,346)
	<u>7,358,289</u>	<u>19,512</u>	<u>7,252</u>	<u>7,385,053</u>

26. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at the year-end (2024: £nil).



Audit Findings Report
Edge Grove School Trust Limited
Year Ended 31 August 2025
Presented to the Governors and Management Team

Contents

1. Introduction and Coverage	1
2. Independence	2
3. The Audit Process	3
4. Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices and Financial Reporting	5
5. Audit and Accounting Issues Identified During the Audit	6
6. Audit Misstatements	7
Appendix i Letter of Representation	8
Appendix ii Financial Performance Report	12
Appendix iii – Emerging issues	15
1. FRS102 Periodic Review/Revisions to the SORP	
2. Post VAT – the challenges facing independent schools	
3. Companies House Identity Checks	

Your contacts in connection with this report are:

Mark Cummins – Charities & Education Partner
markcummins@TC-Group.com

Adam Webb – Senior Audit Assistant
adamwebb@TC-Group.com

1. Introduction and Coverage

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

The purpose of this report is to set out certain matters that came to our attention during the course of the audit of Edge Grove School Trust Limited for the year ended 31 August 2025.

In order to comply with the provisions of International Standards on Auditing we are required to report to you our audit findings and in particular:

- The nature and scope of the audit work we have undertaken;
- Views about the qualitative aspects of your accounting practices and financial reporting;
- Unadjusted and adjusted misstatements;
- Matters specifically required by Auditing Standards to be communicated to those charged with governance (such as fraud and error);
- Expected modifications to our auditor's report;
- Material weaknesses in the accounting and internal control systems; and
- Any other relevant and material matters relating to the audit.

LIMITATIONS

Our audit procedures, which have been designed to enable us to express an opinion on the Financial Statements, have included an examination of the transactions and the controls thereon of the school. The work that we have done was not primarily directed towards identifying weaknesses in the school's accounting systems other than those that would affect our audit opinion, nor to the detection of fraud.

We have included in this report only those matters that have come to our attention as a result of our normal audit procedures and, consequently, our comments should not be regarded as a comprehensive record of all weaknesses that may exist or improvements that could be made.

To a certain extent the content of this paper comprises general information that has been provided by, or is based on discussions with, management and staff. Except to the extent necessary for the purposes of the audit, this information has not been independently verified.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and Financial Statements. TC Group, as auditors of Edge Grove School Trust Limited, are responsible for forming an opinion on the Financial Statements.

This report is to be regarded as confidential to the Trustees and is intended for use by them and staff of the school only. No responsibility is accepted to any other person in respect of the whole or part of its contents. Before this report, or any part of it, is disclosed to a third party our consent must be obtained.

2. Independence

Auditing Standards require us to communicate at least once a year regarding all relationships between TC Group and the school that may reasonably be thought to have a bearing on our independence.

We have reviewed our independence and confirm that TC Group is independent within the meaning of regulatory and professional requirements. In particular the objectivity of our partner, Mark Cummins, and his audit team is not impaired.

Our review included consideration of whether:

- The firm is dependent on the school as a client due to the significance of the audit fee to the firm;
- The firm is owed significant overdue fees;
- There is any actual or threatened litigation between the firm and the school;
- Any benefits have been received by the audit team which are not modest;
- The firm has any mutual business interest with the school;
- Any members of the audit team have any personal or family connections with the school or trustees; or
- Independence is impaired through the provision of services other than the statutory audit.

As part of our evaluation of the firm's independence and objectivity in connection with the audit we have identified some factors which could potentially affect our independence or objectivity, for which we have applied appropriate safeguards. These are detailed below, and we are satisfied that the safeguards implemented are sufficient to mitigate any threat to our independence and objectivity.

Threat to objectivity and independence	Safeguard implemented
Self review threat from our assistance with the preparation of the financial statements.	The financial statements are reviewed by a partner separate to the audit engagement team. The financial statements are also reviewed and approved by the Governors.
Self review and management threat from processing journal adjustments.	Journal adjustments (and unadjusted journals) are approved by the Trustees in writing.
Self review threat from the preparation of the corporation tax computation and return.	Tax computations are prepared and reviewed by a specialist tax adviser, independent of the audit.
Familiarity threat from the Audit Responsible Individual having acted on the audit for more than 10 years.	Cyclical EQR performed in line with TC Group policy.

3. The Audit Process

SCOPE

As auditors we are responsible for forming and expressing an opinion on whether the financial statements of the school show a true and fair view of the state of the school's affairs at 31 August 2025.

Our audit work is designed to provide the required assurance that the financial statements are free from material error. However, our audit of the financial statements is not a comprehensive report covering all systems and controls.

AUDIT APPROACH

Our general audit approach was based on a thorough understanding of the school's business and determined by our assessment of the audit risk. In particular this included:

- An evaluation of the school's internal control environment; and
- Substantive testing on significant transactions and material account balances.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Danielle Taylor, Emma Kuis and team for all of their support and assistance during the audit.

The audit work on the financial statements is now substantially complete and we anticipate issuing an unqualified audit opinion for the year ended 31 August 2025 for the school, following:

- Receipt of approved financial statements signed by the Board;
- Receipt of a signed letter of representation; and
- Receipt of the signed adjusted and unadjusted misstatements schedules to confirm the Trustees are in agreement with the accounting treatment of these.

We consider that the audit approach adopted will provide the trustees with the required confidence that a thorough and robust audit has been carried out.

Matters arising from our audit that we wish to bring to your attention are set out in Section 5.

MATERIALITY

We apply the concept of materiality in planning and performing the audit, and in evaluating the effect of identified misstatements on the audit and the impact of uncorrected misstatements.

We have assessed materiality for this assignment by considering the total income of the school. Where individual errors, or accumulated errors found during the course of the audit, are in excess of materiality, these are discussed with you and adjustments are made to the financial statements.

3. The Audit Process

AUDIT MISSTATEMENTS

As part of the requirements of International Standards on Auditing we are required to report any audit misstatements identified by our work which have been adjusted in the accounts. These are detailed in section 6 of this report.

We are also required to separately report any audit misstatements identified which are unadjusted, other than those which are "clearly trivial" to users of the Financial Statements. These are also set out in Section 6.

RISK OF FRAUD AND ERROR IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We are required under international auditing standards to consider fraud risk throughout the audit. In particular we must consider management arrangements for preventing and detecting fraud and error.

Fraud risks may include asset sales at under value, suppliers over billing for goods or services, misappropriation of assets and cheque frauds, as well as manipulation of financial results.

This work is now complete and has not identified any matters which we wish to draw to your attention.

LETTER OF REPRESENTATION

We have included a letter of representation (Appendix I) for your review and approval. It is important that this is reviewed and approved by 'those charged with governance'.

4. Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices and Financial Reporting

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial Reporting Standard 102 requires that entities should review their accounting policies regularly to ensure that they are appropriate to their particular circumstances for the purpose of giving a true and fair view.

We have reviewed the school's accounting policies, as stated in the financial statements, and confirm that they are appropriate to provide relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable information.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

We are required to focus on the identification and assessment of the risks of material misstatement associated with related party relationships and transactions.

We are required as an audit team to discuss the risks of fraud associated with related parties and to perform specific procedures on any related party transactions outside the normal course of business.

Transactions with related parties have been adequately disclosed in the accounts.

ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

As auditors, we are aware that the selected basis of an accounting estimate may have a significant impact on the financial statements so in our work we need to identify all accounting estimates and the basis of the estimate and, where we consider there to be a high estimation uncertainty, we must ensure our audit work challenges the basis of the estimate.

We are also required to consider the outcome of accounting estimates in prior periods as a basis for our risk assessment in the current year.

The most significant accounting estimates concern depreciation of fixed assets, income cut off and the basis and calculation of the provision for bad and doubtful debts.




We have reviewed these accounting estimates for the school and conclude that they have been calculated on a basis that is consistent with our knowledge of the school and the sector as a whole.

GOING CONCERN

We have considered the school's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approving the accounts. We are pleased to report that there is no modification to our audit report. Whilst a deficit is budgeted for 2025/26, the school has sufficient working capital to finance the budgeted deficit.

5. Audit and Accounting Issues Identified During the Audit

We have prioritised our recommendations into the following categories:

-  - matters that we consider fundamental and recommend addressing as soon as possible
-  - matters we consider significant that should be addressed within a reasonable timeframe
-  - matters that would improve overall control or promote a more efficient practice

1.1 UPDATE ON PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

Nothing to report.

1.2 CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS

1. Companies House & Charity Commission Updates

Issue	Our work highlighted that Companies House and Charity Commission records were not updated to include all director / governor appointments and resignations.
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Recommendation	We recommend that Companies House and the Charity Commission is updated for all appointments and resignations as soon as possible. Future appointments and resignations should be updated within 14 days (a Companies House requirement).
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Response

- These matters are limited to those which we have concluded are of sufficient importance to merit being reported to you.
- As the purpose of the audit is for us to express an opinion on the school's financial statements, you will appreciate that our audit cannot necessarily be expected to disclose all matters that may be of interest to you and, as a result, the matters reported may not be the only ones which exist.
- As part of our work, we considered internal control relevant to the preparation of the financial statements, such that we were able to design appropriate audit procedures.
- This work was not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control.

6. Audit Misstatements

A summary of the unadjusted/adjusted misstatements identified during the course of our work is set out below.

We have not disclosed below those items that we consider to be 'clearly trivial' in the context of our audit. For this purpose we consider 'clearly trivial' to be any matter less than £7,550. We advised management of all misstatements and agreed with them whether or not adjustments to the accounts should be made.

	<i>Increase or (decrease) to surplus</i>	<i>Increase or (decrease) to Net Assets</i>
Adjusted Audit Misstatements	£	£
Reclassification of PAYE liability from trade creditors (£96,941)	-	-
Reclassification of prepayment balances from trade creditors (£23,811)	-	-
Gross up restricted and designated income	23,979	23,979
Gross up restricted and designated expenditure	(9,157)	(9,157)
To accrue for fees in lieu debtors	10,650	10,650
Total adjusted misstatements	25,472	25,472

There were no unadjusted misstatements.

We approve the accounting treatment of the above adjusted misstatements.

Governor _____

Date _____

On behalf of the Board

Appendix i Letter of Representation

TC Group
The Courtyard
Shoreham Road
Upper Beeding
Steyning
West Sussex
BN44 3TN

Dear Sirs

During the course of your audit of our financial statements for Edge Grove School Trust Limited for the year ended 31 August 2025, the following representations were made to you by management and Trustees.

1. We acknowledge as Trustees our responsibilities under the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 for preparing Financial Statements in accordance with the applicable accounting framework (SORP 2019 - FRS102) and for making accurate representations to you as auditors.
2. We confirm that in our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view and in particular that where any additional information must be disclosed in order to give a true and fair view that information has in fact been disclosed.
3. We confirm that all accounting records have been made available to you for the purposes of your audit, in accordance with your terms of engagement, and that all transactions undertaken by the school have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records. All other records and related information, including minutes of all management and Trustees' meetings, have been made available to you. We have given you unrestricted access to persons within the school in order to obtain evidence and have provided any additional information that you have requested for the purposes of your audit.
4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control systems to prevent and detect fraud and error. We have disclosed to you the results of our risk assessment that the financial statements may be misstated as a result of fraud. We have disclosed to you all instances of known or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving management, employees who have a significant role in internal control or others that could have a material effect on the financial statements. We have also disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by current or former employees, analysis, regulators or others.
5. The effects of uncorrected misstatements (as set out in the audit findings report) are immaterial both individually and in total.
6. The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.

Appendix i Letter of Representation

7. The school has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the school's assets, except for those that are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
8. We have recorded or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities, both actual and contingent, and have disclosed in the notes to the financial statements all guarantees that we have given to third parties.
9. We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and where relevant the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.
10. The methods, data and significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, and their related disclosures, are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement and disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework.
11. We confirm that the school has had, at no time during the year, any arrangement, transaction or agreement to provide credit facilities (including loans, quasi-loans or credit transactions) for Trustees, nor to guarantee nor provide security for such matters, except as already disclosed in the accounts.
12. We have disclosed to you all claims in connection with litigation that have been, or are expected to be, received and such matters, as appropriate, have been properly accounted for, and disclosed in, the Financial Statements and that these have been accounted for in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework.
13. We confirm that we are not aware of any possible or actual instances of non-compliance with those laws and regulations which provide a legal framework within which the school conducts its activities and which are central to the school's ability to conduct its activities, except as explained to you and as disclosed in the financial statements.
14. We confirm that there have been no events since the balance sheet date which require disclosing or which would materially affect the amounts in the financial statements, other than those already disclosed or included in the financial statements.
15. We confirm that the school has not contracted for any capital expenditure other than as disclosed in the financial statements.
16. We believe that the school's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the school's needs. We also confirm our plans for future action(s) required to enable the school to continue as a going concern are feasible. We have considered a period of twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the school's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

Appendix i Letter of Representation

17. We confirm that all related party relationships and transactions have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the applicable accounting framework.
18. We confirm that the related party relationships and transactions set out below are a complete list of such relationships and transactions and that we are not aware of any further related parties or transactions:

Party	Relationship	Nature of transaction
I A Sheldon	Governor	None
P A Kendall	Governor	None
A J Godfrey	Governor	None
C E Lilley	Governor	None
A J Robson (resigned 04/09/2024)	Governor	None
J L Stevens	Governor	None
Z M Khawaja	Governor	None
D A E Williams (resigned 03/12/2024)	Governor	None
D G Emkes	Governor	None
S Maughan	Governor	None
W Kent	Governor	None
A Aziz (resigned 05/12/2024)	Governor	None
M Barnett	Governor	None
G Burger	Governor	None
N Marchant	Governor	None
S Perry	Governor	None

19. We acknowledge our legal responsibilities regarding disclosure of information to you as auditors and confirm that:
- So far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information that you as auditors are unaware of; and
 - Each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that you are aware of that information.
20. We confirm that we have reviewed the UK Sanctions list and confirm that to our knowledge the school has not had any transactions with any entity connected to those listed. We confirm we have complied with the requirements of the UK sanctions regime throughout the financial year and subsequently.
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-uk-sanctions-list>)

Appendix i Letter of Representation

We confirm that the above representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and expertise (and, where appropriate of supporting documentation) sufficient to satisfy ourselves that we can properly make these representations to you and that to the best of our knowledge and belief they accurately reflect the representations made to you by the trustees during the course of the audit.

Yours faithfully

Signed on behalf of the Board of Governors:

..... Governor

.....Date

On behalf of the School's Executive Management:

..... Bursar & Company Secretary

.....Date

Appendix ii Financial Performance Report

Year Ended 31 August 2025

This financial performance report has been prepared to assist governors in understanding the school's financial performance and building up a year on year comparison. It includes some Key Performance Indicators, ones which we think are fundamental for schools. It is not a benchmarking report comparing the school to others.



Results are significantly outside normal expectations

Results are outside normal expectations, but see above

Satisfactory

Pupil Numbers

		Pupil Numbers			
		395	429	438	497
		2025	2024	2023	2022
		£	£	£	£
SCHOOL FEES	Gross Fees	7,184,502	7,458,987	6,997,262	7,740,984
	Bursaries, Scholarships and Discounts	(269,673)	(280,506)	(356,271)	(477,825)
	Net Fees	6,914,829	7,178,481	6,640,991	7,263,159
	Extras	306,762	347,619	303,005	375,743
	% Increase/(decrease) in Total Net Fees	(4%)	8%	(9%)	3%
	Bursaries, Scholarships and Discounts as a % of Gross Fee	4%	4%	5%	6%
	Average Net Fee Per Pupil Including Extras	18,283	17,543	15,854	15,370
SCHOOL COSTS	Total Costs	7,587,232	7,631,308	7,501,544	7,409,062
	Total teaching staff costs	3,752,864	3,766,097	4,082,556	3,927,367
	Teaching Numbers	64	69	77	78
	Average Cost of Employment per Teacher	58,639	54,581	53,020	50,351
	% Increase/(decrease) in Total Teaching Staff Costs	(1%)	(8%)	4%	8%
	Total Other Costs (All Costs Excluding Teaching Staff Costs)	3,834,368	3,865,211	3,418,988	3,481,695
	% Increase/(decrease) in Other Costs	(1%)	13%	(2%)	8%
	Total Teaching Staff Costs as a % of Net Fees	54%	53%	62%	54%
	Average Cost Per Pupil	19,208	17,789	17,127	14,908

Appendix ii Financial Performance Report

SCHOOL SURPLUS	Net Surplus / (deficit) for the year	(12,319)	118,176	(352,074)	427,632
	Net Surplus Before Depreciation	334,087	510,695	75,174	880,154
	Net Surplus Before Depreciation as a % of Net Fees	5%	7%	1%	12%
	Surplus/(deficit) Per Pupil Based on Average Net Fee Less Average Total Cost Per Pupil	(925)	(246)	(1,273)	462

Appendix ii Financial Performance Report

SCHOOL FEES KEY POINTS



This year there was a 9% reduction in pupils from 429 to 395, however despite this, net fees only decreased by 4%, attributable to fee increases and a reduction in bursaries, scholarships, and discounts awarded. The fee increase was also offset by introduced VAT in January 2025, where some of the impact was absorbed by the School in the Spring and Summer terms.



Average net fee per pupil has increased by £740 (4%).

SCHOOL COSTS KEY POINTS



Total costs have decreased by £44,076 (0.6%). This compares to an increase in 2024 (1.7%).



Other costs have decreased by £30,843 (0.8%). However, with the £352,782 loss on the disposal of the nursery building fixed assets removed from this, the true cost saving is much greater at £383,625 (9.9%). This compares to an increase in 2024 (11.6%). The main contributing factors for the decrease are seen in premises costs for maintenance and electricity. Other costs areas have been managed well, especially in light of inflation, with cost cutting seen to have been implemented and also VAT now being claimed back where applicable.



Teaching staff costs as a % of net fees has increased slightly to 54%, which is primarily impacted by the reduction in pupil numbers being in a greater proportion than the reduction in teaching staff costs. The % is below (positively) our recommended % (maximum) for prep schools which is around 55%.



The average cost per pupil increased by 7% in 2025 (2024: 4% increase) which needs to be reviewed and considered by recognising a significant amount of costs are relatively fixed or marginal per pupil and include the loss of the nursery building fixed asset disposals, as well as the impact of VAT.

SCHOOL SURPLUS KEY POINTS



The school reports an overall net deficit for the year of £12,319. This is a decrease of £130,417 as 2024 produced a surplus. The main contributor is the decrease in fee income (4%), and £352,782 loss on disposal of the nursery building fixed assets which reduced the overall costs savings to only 0.6%.



Net surplus before depreciation was at £334,087 in 2025, which resulted in a 4.8% return, compared to 7.1% in 2024. We recommend that the school should aim for a minimum return of 13%-15% due to bank loans to ensure the financial model of the school remains strong.



The school recorded a deficit per pupil of £925 for the year to August 2025 which is an decline on 2024 which recorded a deficit per pupil of £246.

EMERGING ISSUES

1. FRS 102 PERIODIC REVIEW | REVISIONS TO THE SORP

The Financial Reporting Council (FRC) has issued Amendments to FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The amendments will affect all UK GAAP reporters and are effective for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2026. Whenever UK GAAP is amended The Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) is also redrafted to align with these changes. The SORP is also amended for any recent feedback received. These changes are expected to be published in October 2025 and be effective from January 2026.

Early adoption is permitted providing that all amendments are adopted at the same time. The principal changes that relate to your school are listed below along with their potential impact.

The first year the changes will apply to you is year ending 31 August 2027.

EMERGING ISSUE	WHAT IS CHANGING?	IMPLICATIONS FOR EDGE GROVE SCHOOL
Lease accounting	Lessees will now generally be required to recognise most leases on the balance sheet. This removes the previous distinction between operating and finance leases. Exemptions may be given for short-term (less than 12 months) or low value leases.	Edge Grove School's current operating leases will be required to be recorded as a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the present value of future lease payments. Rental expenses under operating leases will be replaced by the depreciation of the right-of-use asset and an interest expense over the lease term. In year of transition no restated of the prior year is required.
Revenue from contracts with customers	The way in which revenue from contracts with customer is recognised is changing from the existing risk and rewards based model to a new five step model aligned with IFRS 15. The five steps are: (i) Identify the contracts with the customer; (ii) Identify the performance obligations; (iii) Determine the transaction price; (iv) Allocate the transaction price to performance obligations; and (v) Recognise revenue when performance obligations are satisfied.	The changes to revenue recognition will have limited impact due to the nature of income at Edge Grove School

EMERGING ISSUE	WHAT IS CHANGING?	IMPLICATIONS FOR EDGE GROVE SCHOOL
<p>Three tier reporting framework based on income levels</p>	<p>The new three tier system is designed to align more closely with the Companies Acts reporting standards for small, medium and large companies.</p> <p>Tier 1 – Charities with gross income of up to £500,000 who apply accrual accounting.</p> <p>Tier 2 – Charities with income between £500,000 and £15m.</p> <p>Tier 3 – Charities with incomes above £15m</p>	<p>The majority of these changes will impact the Trustees Annual Report.</p> <p>As Edge Grove School have income between £500,000 and £15m, tier 2 rules will apply.</p> <p>Charities in tiers 2 and 3 must now explain the impact they are making and the long-term effect of their activities.</p> <p>Charities in tier 3 must now include sustainability reporting and provide a summary of how they are managing and responding to environmental, governance and social matters. This is also encouraged for charities in tier 1 and 2.</p> <p>Disclosure around the Charities reserves is also expected to be tightened with disclosure where a difference between reserve policy and level of reserves requiring increased disclosure.</p>
<p>Cash flow statement</p>	<p>Charities who are deemed small based on section 7 of FRS 102 are now exempt from publishing a cash flow statement.</p>	<p>As Edge Grove School has a balance sheet total greater than £7.5m and average employees greater than 50, the school does not qualify as a small entity. Therefore, a cash flow statement will continue to be a requirement.</p>

2. POST VAT – THE CHALLENGES FACING INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

General

VAT could be the final nail in the coffin for some schools
Focus on understanding what the 'new normal' is
Focus on customer quality - the right parents (who can afford the fees)
Pupil registrations

- Where they come from
- Why they choose other schools
- Tracking is key
- Finger on the pulse re competitors

Everyone in the school to play their part in the marketing
Years 7 and 8 in Prep schools are vulnerable
Schools need to give confidence to parents that their child will flourish
There is huge competition - schools have to be more bespoke and clear in their specific message
Mergers is a hot topic

Costs

Costs still increasing
Cost management is crucial
Increases in National Insurance and business rates a double wammy for schools
Managing costs % increase in line with fee increase
Is it time for a comprehensive cost review?
Is the school receiving value for money?
Is zero based budgeting the way forward?

Fees

Affordability is different from value for money. Schools offer value but no longer affordable for some
WAKE UP - Value for money is a new priority
Think about parents and what they think they are paying for. Reassuringly expensive is a forceful offering, but to gain parents trust schools need to offer an individual and bespoke service
Is it time to reconsider school fees?

- The need to control fee rises
- The need to win back first-time buyers
- The need to maintain excellence and quality
- The need to constantly communicate the value and values of the education provided

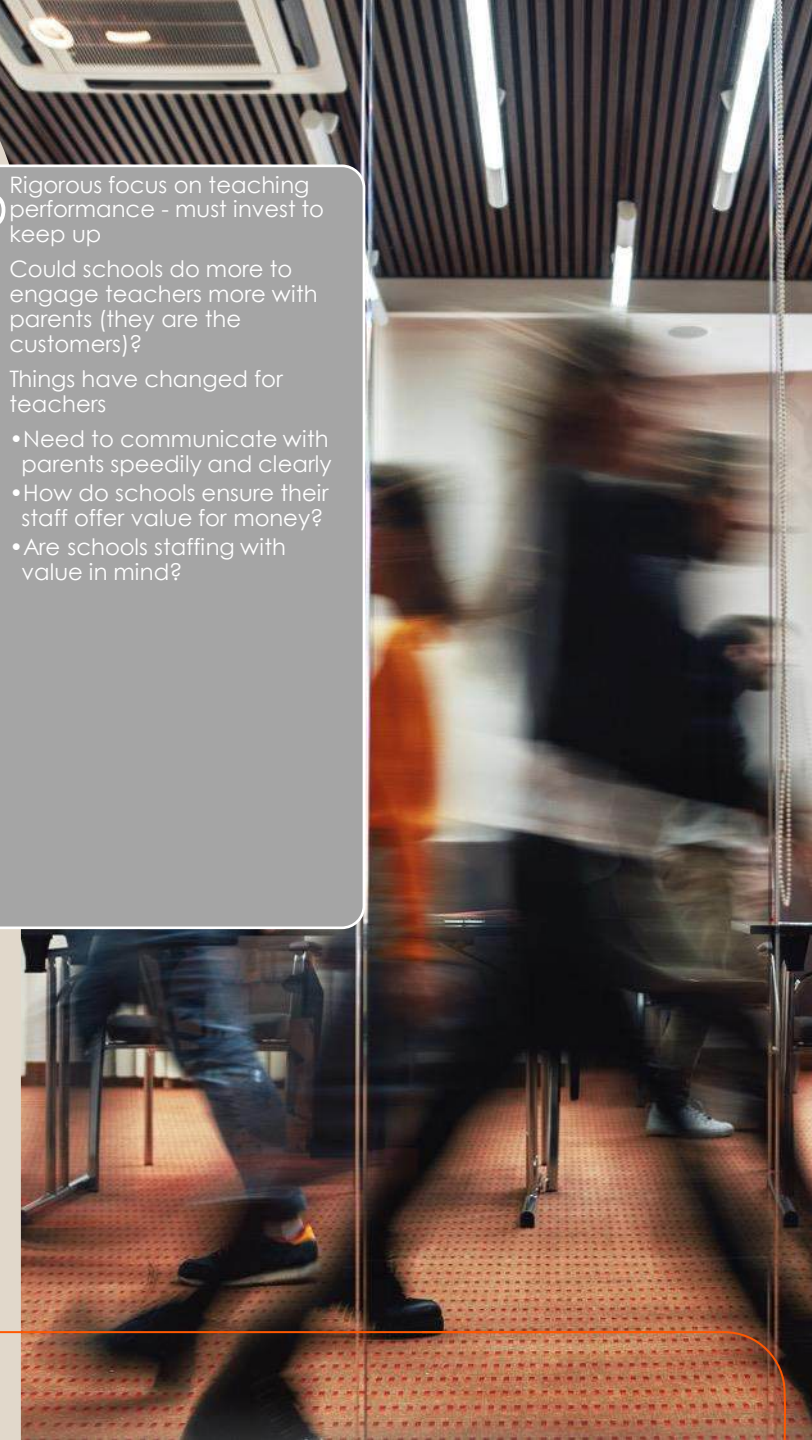
Teaching

Rigorous focus on teaching performance - must invest to keep up
Could schools do more to engage teachers more with parents (they are the customers)?
Things have changed for teachers

- Need to communicate with parents speedily and clearly
- How do schools ensure their staff offer value for money?
- Are schools staffing with value in mind?

WHAT IS A SCHOOL'S TOP PRIORITY?

- What is the 'new normal'
- Value for money
- Exceptional professionalism
- Outstanding customer service
 - Affordability
 - Reassurance
 - Distinctive quality



3. COMPANIES HOUSE IDENTITY CHECKS START AUTUMN 2025

Companies House are due to introduce a new identity verification process from November 2025 to help deter those wishing to use companies for illegal purposes. The new identification process will be mandatory for all companies' directors and People with Significant Control (PSCs) on both incorporation and appointment.

WHO DO THE CHANGES AFFECT?

The changes will affect both new and existing limited companies and other legal entities including LLPs, limited partnerships, and directors of overseas companies registered with Companies House.

WHEN DO THE CHANGES TAKE EFFECT?

On the 5 August 2025, Companies House confirmed that directors and PSCs of companies will be required to verify their identities from Tuesday 18 November 2025.

WHO NEEDS TO VERIFY THEIR IDENTITY?

Anyone setting up, running, owning or controlling a company in the UK will need to verify their identity to prove they are who they claim to be.

- **New companies:** All directors and People with Significant Control (PSCs) will need to complete identity verification.
- **Existing companies:** All directors (or equivalent) and PSCs will have a transition period to verify their identity with Companies House.

Anyone acting on behalf of a company will also need to verify their identity before they can file information on behalf of the company at Companies House.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

- **New companies:** A verification statement must be provided at incorporation confirming the identities of all directors have been verified. You won't be able to incorporate a company without all directors being verified.
- **Existing companies:** Directors must, at the same time as delivering the annual Confirmation Statement to Companies House, provide a verification statement.
- **Existing PSCs:** Existing PSCs will need to verify their identity in line with an appointed day within 12 months of 18 November 2025.



3. COMPANIES HOUSE IDENTITY CHECKS START AUTUMN 2025

WHO CAN VERIFY ME AND HOW?

There will be two ways to verify your identity.

Once verified, users will have one account where they can access all Companies House services, across all companies for which they're authorised to act for. This means, where an individual has more than one role, or is registered with multiple companies, they don't have to complete the verification process multiple times.

Verifying your identity directly with Companies House:

Companies House will introduce a service to verify your identity using standard ID documents, such as a passport. There'll be a range of support and services available to help you complete this process, including a verification system which links a photo of your face with the photo on your ID document.

Verifying your identity through an authorised agent:

Companies House authorised agents, also known as Authorised Corporate Service Providers (ACSPs), are individuals or organisations that undertake anti-money laundering supervised activity, such as company formation agents, solicitors and accountants.

WHAT HAPPENS IF VERIFICATION IS NOT COMPLETED?

Verification will be mandatory. Failure to verify would constitute an offence, punishable by a financial penalty or fine.

Without verification, you'll also be unable to:

- Make any filings
- Start a new company or entity
- Register as an ACSP (also known as a Companies House authorised agent)

