

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 325064

Details

Other names	LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL (DEDHAM) LIMITED, LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL (DEDHAM) LIMITED AT DEDHAM IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX
Status	Registered
Legal form	Charitable company
Company number	01141073
Registered	1974-06-11
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Littlegarth School Horkesley Park Park Road Nayland Colchester CO6 4JR
Phone	01206262354
Email	bursar@littlegarth.essex.sch.uk
Website	www.littlegarth.essex.sch.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE AND PROVIDE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION AND IN CONNEXION THEREWITH TO CONDUCT CARRY ON OR ACQUIRE AND DEVELOP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM OR ELSEWHERE ANY BOARDING OR DAY SCHOOLS FOR THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF EITHER OR BOTH SEXES.

Activities: The School is an educational charity to benefit the public by providing first class primary education to children between the ages of 2.5 and 11 independent of the State system. We aim to inspire a life long love of learning, enable each pupil to develop a range of talents and encourage self confidence. We offer an environment where each child can develop and fulfil his or her potential.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Essex
- Suffolk

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£4,530,433	£4,501,224	£4,550,427	68
2024-07-31	£4,460,212	£4,419,590	£4,521,218	67
2023-07-31	£4,172,152	£3,960,458	£4,480,596	68
2022-07-31	£3,891,219	£3,721,410	£4,268,902	65
2021-07-31	£3,587,748	£3,288,039	£4,099,093	65
2020-07-31	£3,223,664	£3,109,485	£3,799,384	68

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
James Keohane	Chair	2022-09-22
Ashley Blows		2025-09-18
Charles Cryer		2024-02-29
Dr Yashshree Uttarwar		2025-06-16
Harriet Oliver		2023-09-01
Hilary Vipond		2024-02-29
Jayne Gee		2022-09-01
John King		2025-09-18
Maria Frances Oats		2018-04-18
Richard Clegg		2022-11-03
Simon Stafford		2023-09-01

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 325064

Accounts



LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Registered number: 1141073
Charity number: 325064

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

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LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Directors, Governors and Charity Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable Company, the Charity, are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also referred to as the Governors throughout this report. They are collectively referred to as the Governors, Board of Governors and Littlegarth School Governors.

The following Governors have served in office throughout the year except where indicated:

Mr J Keohane	
Mr A Blows	(appointed 18 September 2025)
Mr R Clegg	
Mr C Cryer	
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J King	(appointed 18 September 2025)
Dr H Mahadevappa	(resigned 31 December 2024)
Mrs M McKenna	(resigned 17 June 2025)
Mrs M Oats	
Mrs H Oliver	
Mr S Stafford	
Dr Y Uttarwar	(appointed 16 June 2025)
Mrs H Vipond	

HR, Risk & Governance Committee:

Mrs M Oats	(Chair from 1 September 2024)
Mr A Blows	(appointed 18 September 2025)
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J Keohane	
Mrs M McKenna	(Chair until 1 September 2024)
	(resigned 17 June 2025)
Mrs H Oliver	

Prior to the 2024/25 academic year this committee was split out into two separate committees, the Audit committee, which was chaired by Mrs McKenna, and the Human Resources committee which was chaired by Mrs Oats.

Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Mr S Stafford	(Chair)
Mr C Cryer	
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J Keohane	
Mr J King	(appointed 18 September 2025)
Mrs M McKenna	(resigned 17 June 2025)

Education Committee:

Mrs H Vipond	(Chair)
Mr R Clegg	
Dr H Mahadevappa	(resigned 31 December 2024)
Dr Y Uttarwar	(appointed 16 June 2025)

The members of the Committees are appointed by the Board of Governors. The Board is a self-appointing body. Service on the Board is for a term of four years. Retiring Governors can be re-elected for a further period of four years.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate the day-to day management of the School to the Head who in turn manages with her senior staff team comprising:

Head	Mrs K Uttley
Deputy Head Academic	Miss H Smith
Deputy Head Pastoral	Mr K Dawes
Bursar	Miss J Ward
Head of Early Years	Mrs Elmakahleh

The Bursar is also Clerk to the Governors

Address:

The School address is:

Horkesley Park
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

Telephone: 01206 262332
E-mail: office@littlegarth.org
Website: www.littlegarth.org

Advisors:

SOLICITORS

Ellisons Solicitors
Headgate Court
Head Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1NP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

MHA Audit Services LLP
910 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex
CO4 9YQ

BANKERS

NatWest Bank PLC
25 High Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1DG

Barclays Bank PLC
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE87 2BB

REGISTERED OFFICE

Horkesley Park
Park Road
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

The Littlegarth School Governors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2025 and confirm they comply with the requirements of Company and Charity legislation, the memorandum and articles of association and the Charities SORP FRS 102, as appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable Company, founded in 1958, registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 325064. Governors and Executive Officers are listed on pages 1 and 1a. The principal address of the Charity and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1a. The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales and the registration number is 1141073.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to promote and to provide for the advancement of education of children. Within these objects, the Charity also has to maintain its assets, the School buildings, and provide necessary funding for the development of the School's facilities and bursaries for those in need. All other Objects listed are subsidiary to this Object. In the furtherance of this Object the Directors, as the charity Trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

OUR AIMS

Within the objects above, the aim of the School is to provide a high-quality day-school independent education for children from the age of two and a half to eleven. It does not discriminate on the grounds of ability at the time of entry. It seeks to prepare children academically, socially and spiritually for progress into secondary education within an environment where each pupil can develop and fulfil his or her potential, helping to build self-confidence. It seeks to give as wide and general an education as possible, to develop artistic and sporting skills and to treat every child as an Individual.

Littlegarth School actively supports the attainment of the highest standards in the Independent Schools sector, partly through networking with other schools and partly through sharing good practice for the evaluation of quality and performance improvement methods. We also work closely with local schools in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the School.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Board continues to promote the high academic development of all pupils, so that those leaving the School are equipped to progress to secondary schools of their choice. There were 263 pupils during the year with a further 32 in the Nursery. The School continues to promote itself through active marketing. Taster days have continued to be successful and interest from parents remains strong. We believe this position will be maintained through monitoring and enhancing the academic and teaching standards for which the School has become known.

Academic

Initiatives to enhance academic standards have centred on the development of strategies to ensure that all our pupils experience the best possible learning environment. The progress of all children is reviewed through regular formative and summative assessment, as detailed in the School's Teaching and Learning policy and the Assessment policy. We ensure that the curriculum is appropriate to the needs of the children and meets the requirements of a wide range of external examinations in Year 6. Evaluation of teaching and learning has been rigorous, with the assessment system firmly embedded to monitor the progress and attainment of all pupils. The School continues to seek to provide an outstanding breadth of experience across the curriculum and balance academic achievements with a strong emphasis on sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic and social skills. A programme of staff professional development is designed to ensure that knowledge and skills are up to date and well suited to the School's continuing aim for excellence.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic (continued)

Academic results were again excellent during the year with all Year 6 children gaining places in secondary schools of their choice. The ranges of schools that Littlegarth children move on to are generally grammar schools in Colchester, independent day and boarding schools and comprehensive schools. The School was again highly successful this year. 39 leavers were offered a total of 66 academic, sport, music, art, drama and/or all-round awards, and 7 children gained places at grammar schools through the competitive 11+ examinations.

Performing Arts

The Performing Arts at Littlegarth goes from strength to strength and continues to offer a wide range of opportunities to all pupils, and to push some of our most talented pupils to achieve the best they possibly can while in our care.

Last year the high standards of performance and the range of opportunities were maintained and built upon.

We have been able to invest money into our stock of musical instruments and now have a year group set of glockenspiels that Year 1 use in their music lessons. Year 4 and 6 have been learning ukulele with 50 new ukuleles. And, last year, we hired a set of samba drums from the Essex Music Service that allowed every pupil in the school to learn and play music from a different culture. Year 2 learnt to play the recorder in class and Year 3, the violin. Years 5 & 6 have been developing their digital music skills, learning to create and manipulate music on GarageBand on their iPads.

We are moving towards the goal of every pupil having lessons on a different musical instrument each year throughout their time at the school, learning to read music and performing to their peers.

There are currently over 150 peripatetic music lessons taking place at Littlegarth in a single week and 54% of pupils in years 1-6 are taking music lessons. A further 51 pupils take Speech and Drama lessons and over 40 pupils take part in dance clubs after school. Our Peris continue to provide further opportunities to our pupils with additional ensembles: Guitar Ensemble, Woodwind and Recorder Ensembles, String Group, Little Choir and 2 African Drumming groups.

Our Teatime Recital series continues with 6 regular concerts across the year last year, giving opportunities for pupils to perform to a small audience of staff, parents and other pupils. We also had a special Leavers Teatime Recital for Year 6 pupils in the summer term that really showcased the talent of our children and showed off the high standard of musical achievement that they have been able to attain while attending our school. This year we have enjoyed a special Lunchtime Piano Recital from one of our most talented pupils, attended by over 50 staff and pupils.

Our events programme continued with our annual Carol Service, where all pupils from years 3 to 6 performed in a massed choir at St James' Church, Nayland, singing in 3-part harmony with a live band. Our Christmas Concert saw performances from a number of years groups showcasing their new instrumental skills, learnt in music lessons. The School Orchestra performed at the concert but also accompanied the school at our Harvest Assembly and Remembrance Assemblies.

Year 3 took part in a Performing Arts Workshop with singing group, Wise Woman and, as well as creating and performing their own songs, and visited landmarks in Bures and Wiston to learn about a local dragon legend.

Our Big Show last year was Lion King Jr and featured 67 pupils performing on a custom-built stage with professional lighting, sound and a 12-piece live band.

The summer term saw Year 4 perform Oliver! Jr in the drama studio, that was successfully converted into a miniature theatre for the event, and Year 6 performed A Midsummer Night's Dream outside in different locations around the school grounds.

Our summer concert, Littlefest: Move Your Feet, included performances from all of Years 1,2,3 and 5 and culminated in a massed performance of Better When I'm Dancing performed by the whole school singing and playing instruments.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Performing Arts (continued)

Our challenge this year is to maintain and develop our offer, building on the previous year's successes, and ensuring that the current staff can deliver this ambitious programme of events and opportunities whilst attaining the high standards expected by children, parents and the wider school community.

Sport

We have seen many successes across the board in all sports this year at inter-schools fixtures, regional qualifiers and national championships. This year we have continued to find the balance between sport for all and achieving excellence at all levels and age groups. We have worked closely with state sector primary schools and further developed the curriculum provision. Detailed below are the achievements throughout the academic year:

Football

ISA U11A National Football – ranked 5th Nationally and 3rd Regionally

Rugby

U11 ISA Rugby National winners for the 4th consecutive year

U10 ISA Rugby National - 3rd place

U11 St Joseph's National Tournament – 1st place

U11 IAPS Rugby Champions

U11 Roslyn Park National Rugby 7's

Hockey

U11A ISA National Hockey Plate runners up (10th out of 32)

Netball

U11A IAPS Regional Netball – plate runners up (regionally)

U10 ISA Netball – 3rd regionally

Cross Country

Junior Eastern X-Country and Overall winners Regionally (6 children going to Nationals) 2 in top 10 at Nationals

East Anglian Cross-Country Championship (Year 2 and Year 4 combined team - 1st)

Swimming

ISA regional swimming champions for past 19 years - 6 children qualified for Nationals (3 children = 1st at Nationals)

IAPS National Swimming Finals (1 individual and 1 relay team competing at Nationals)

Triathlon

Two pupils ranked in the top five Nationally in ISA Triathlon.

Cricket

Orwell Park Cricket Tournament– U11A Girls reached 2 finals (IAPS & ESCA)

Orwell Park Cricket Tournament – U11A Boys 1st

Athletics

21 medals at regional athletics in June (8 x gold, 9 x silver and 4 x bronze), 11 children going to Nationals (4 x medals 3 x gold and 1 x bronze)

Golf

Our team reached the ISGA Junior Finals at Radley College (Regional won)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Community access

Littlegarth School remains committed to supporting and engaging with the wider community. Over the past academic year, we once again hosted a successful community fun run, continued our involvement with the Dedham Dark Skies initiative, and as in previous years held our popular Christmas and Summer Fetes.

We also hosted a number of charity events and continued to build our relationship with the Colchester Indian Association to stage part of their annual Navratri dance festival. In addition, we strengthened partnerships with West Bergholt Cricket Club and Bergholt Heath Football Club, further developing opportunities for local collaboration.

Partnerships with local state schools

Littlegarth continued to host and chair termly meetings of the Multi Schools Council, a network of over 50 local primary, secondary, and special schools working to challenge perceptions around SEND and mental health. We remain the only independent school represented in the group.

Pupils also took part in the third annual Diversity Day at Prested Hall, engaging with peers from other schools to discuss topics of shared importance.

We continued to act as a training hub for Forest School provision, supporting colleagues from local primary schools. Our strong links with Heathlands Primary School, Nayland Primary School and Bures Primary school also developed further, particularly through shared sports fixtures, use of facilities, and joint coaching sessions.

Charitable Giving

During the year £3,435 was raised for a variety of charities, £1,815 of which was donated to Read for Good.

Grant making policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in enabling existing parents who have had a significant change in financial circumstance to continue their child's education at the School. The School awards a number of bursaries on a means tested basis. These are funded out of income from fees as the School has no restricted funds to pay for such bursaries. Applications for bursaries have to be submitted annually. The total value of bursaries awarded during the year was £18,066 (2024: £42,922).

Facilities

A number of improvements have also been made to our facilities, the key items being as detailed below.

- The construction of a sports pavilion which is ongoing
- The replacement of fire doors

Friends of Littlegarth

The School benefits from the generosity of a thriving network of Friends of Littlegarth School who have helped with fundraising and activities, giving many hours of voluntary support during the year. The Governors greatly appreciate and gladly acknowledge this. This year's events included a parent versus staff cricket match, a summer fete, a fund-raising dinner for parents and staff, a barn dance, a disco for the children, a firework display in the Autumn, a Christmas bazaar and Christmas parties for the children.

Marketing

The School retains its high standing in the local community as a result of its academic, sporting and artistic performance, and standard of pastoral care. There continues to be strong competition for private schooling in the area and Colchester remains a relatively affluent community as a result of its proximity to London, and the City in particular; the demand for high quality private education remains buoyant.

The School remains a member of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), and the Independent School Bursars Association (ISBA).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

FUTURE PLANS

The Governors intend to continue their current strategy of maintaining the School's position in a competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for our pupils. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant aim whilst maintaining the breadth and depth of the education provided.

The Head and senior staff continue to review the curriculum to ensure that the education remains appropriate for our pupils' development.

Our future plans are financed primarily from fee income and from our reserves. The Governors maintain an equitable balance ensuring our current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils in the same way as our current pupils benefit today from the investment made in the past. Maintaining and developing the fabric and facilities of the School are central to our strategy.

OUR FINANCES

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year of £29.2k (2024: 40.6k), which was ahead of forecast.

The principal source of income is fees accounting for 98% of the School's income. The Governors are continuing their strategy of deploying all net incoming resources for investment in the educational purposes and fabric of the School.

As a charity the parents of our pupils have the comfort that all the income of the School must be applied for educational purposes.

In addition to the very substantial benefits our School brings to our pupils, the local community and society through the education we offer, our bursary programme creates a social benefit.

Developments and Maintenance

Property repairs and maintenance costs amounted to £183k during the year and include grounds maintenance works of £32k, various electrical works totalling £28.5k including fixed wiring testing, and £18k on items which were replaced after being damaged in the site sheds fire in November 2023, covered by insurance.

Fixed asset additions amounted to £221.9k and include spend of £15.8k on replacement items following the site sheds fire, £76.2K on the pavilion, £38.4k on new fire doors, £38.1k on new IT equipment including £23k on a new server, and £8.8k on the fitting of steel fixings to the library block external wooden cladding.

Fixed assets, net of depreciation, decreased by £66.9k during the year.

Reserves and Financial Health

The Governors regularly review the financial expenditure and resources as part of the effective stewardship of the School.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into new School buildings and there is a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils.

The loan balance of £1,090k at 31 July 2025 comprises loan facilities obtained in 2017/18 (£1,400k on draw down), to help finance the development of the School's new teaching block.

The School's reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted income reserves to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the event of revenue shortfalls. Free reserves are that part of the School's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the School's purposes. Free reserves exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use net of the bank loans used to finance those assets.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Reserves and Financial Health (continued)

In normal circumstances the School's target is sufficient free reserves to cover between two and four months' operating expenditure. In exceptional circumstances the Governors may need to draw down on reserves to fund development activity. At 31 July there were free reserves of £852,975 which represents over two and a quarter months of expenditure (2024: free reserves of £1,006,325 representing three months of operating expenditure). The Governors recognise that as a result of the investment in buildings for the future benefit of the School and related borrowing arrangements there will be limited free reserves for the foreseeable future. The Governors are satisfied that external finance facilities are sufficient to provide working capital and an adequate safety net for the School.

Government Legislation

The School was required to register for VAT and apply VAT on relevant fee income from January 2025 onwards. The School also lost its charitable rates relief from April 2025 and employer's national insurance costs increased from the same period. The Governors have performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into account all available information.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the School, the Governors have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to going concern. As such, the Governors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Investment Policy

The School has an investment policy, which is reviewed annually by the Governors, that seeks to maximise the utilisation of the School's assets.

Remuneration Policy

Remuneration is set by the Board, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly individual contributions to the School's success. The School participates in benchmarking surveys to inform appropriate pay levels.

OUR ETHOS, STRATEGY AND POLICIES

Our Governors are responsible for setting a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils, their continued high levels of academic and co-curricular achievement and to widen further access to the education our School provides. In taking this strategy we:

- Review and benchmark the School's academic syllabus, teaching practices and examination results
- Ensure the range of co-curricular activities available to our pupils is stimulating and challenging
- Invest in the technology and the infrastructure of our School
- Co-operate and share resources with local schools

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society

Littlegarth School is a charity which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our 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.

We welcome pupils from all backgrounds. To admit prospective pupils, we need to be satisfied that our School will be able to educate and develop each pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. The economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability. We make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society (continued)

In March 2025, the School fully met the requirements of a compliance inspection and achieved an excellent report on educational quality from the Independent Schools' Inspectorate.

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through parent evenings in addition to the traditional half year and end of year reports. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year through informal contacts and through our newsletter. Pupils have a Form Teacher responsible for pastoral care and academic development.

Our School community is based upon respect, good manners, and fair play. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that is free from disruption, violence, and any form of harassment. We expect our pupils to treat members of staff, visitors and each other with courtesy and co-operation.

ACCESS POLICY

We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives. Our bursary policy together with our 'Teaching Links' programme contribute to a widening of access to the education we offer and the facilities we enjoy.

Teaching Links

Our School is a part of a wider community, and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our School also offers a resource to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our 'Teaching Links' programme of cooperation and joint working with local state junior and secondary schools.

Bursary policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure that children whose families have had significant changes to their financial circumstances can continue to access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, for example in the case of redundancy.

In assessing means we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

In the year we awarded two bursaries at an average of £9,033 each, providing 84% and 38% fee remission.

OTHER POLICIES ON ASSISTANCE

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Littlegarth School and a school fee plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than two children at the School.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company is governed by its Memorandum, revised on 20 February 1974, and Articles of Association, revised on 26 August 2005.

The Governors, who are also the charity Trustees, are responsible for the overall management and control of the Littlegarth School and meet four times a year. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by the Senior Management Team. The School Bursar is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Governors and their Committees, preparation of papers and management accounts and the review of matters arising.

In line with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 the Governors, in their role as directors, act in good faith, the success of the School, and in doing so have regard amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- (b) the interests of the School's employees,
- (c) the need to foster the School's relationships with suppliers, parents and others,
- (d) the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment,
- (e) the desirability of the School maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct in the operation of its activities, and
- (f) the need to act fairly in their dealings with the stakeholders of the School

The achievement of the above objectives is reflected within this report.

Governing Body

The Governors are listed on page 1. All Governors are members of the Association of Littlegarth School Limited in accordance with the governing documents.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. Any expenses reimbursed are disclosed in note 8 to the financial statements. No Governor or person connected with a Governor received any benefit from means tested bursaries awarded to our pupils.

Organisational Management

The Board determines the overall strategy and general policy of the School and approves strategic plans, regulatory matters, major items of capital expenditure and financing matters.

All Governors have access to the advice and services of the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that the Board and its committees are provided with papers of sufficient quality to enable the Governors to consider matters in good time for meetings and enable them to discharge their duties effectively.

The work of implementing a number of the Board's policies is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which holds three meetings during the year. Other principal committees cover HR, Risk & Governance and Educational matters. Both meet termly before a full Board meeting. The Head, Deputy Heads, Bursar, and other senior staff attend these meetings as appropriate.

The day to day running of the School is delegated to the Head, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day-to-day administration of the School is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

Key management personnel

The Governors consider that they, together with the Head, the Deputy Heads, the Bursar and the senior staff comprise the Key Management Personnel and are listed on Page 1a.

Risk Management

Littlegarth School Governors are responsible for the identification, evaluation and management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed consideration of risks is delegated to the appropriate sub-committees, with oversight at each full governors' meeting. Risks are identified, assessed and controls established. A formal review of the Company's risk management processes is undertaken annually. Through this procedure the Governors satisfy themselves that major risks identified have been mitigated wherever possible and practicable.

The key controls used by the Company include:

- formal agendas for all Committee and Board meetings;
- detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- clear authorisation and approval levels for ordering and invoicing of goods and services; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately identified and managed.

The main risks that the Governors have identified and have implemented plans to manage those risks are:

- Reputation. The School's success is built on its reputation for the education and well-being of our pupils. We manage this risk through safeguarding policies, staff recruitment policies, pastoral support for both pupils and staff and active identification and resolution of health and safety related issues.
- Money. Our ability to continue is reliant on pupil fees and the ability to pay bills as they fall due. This risk is managed by marketing activity, having a reputation for academic and all-round excellence and active cash-flow management. As noted on page 1h, the School was required to register for VAT in 2024/25, it lost its charitable rates relief from April 2025, and employer's national insurance costs increased from that period. The School put plans in place to mitigate the impact of these changes.
- Curriculum. Academic excellence requires the most able teachers with state-of-the-art facilities delivering the curriculum to able students. We manage this by combining attractive salaries with additional allowances paid for Mathematics and English staff and other staff with extra responsibilities, on-going investment in our estate and an approach to enrolment that works with supportive parents whose children have an appetite for learning.
- Teachers' pension scheme. As a result of informal discussions with staff during the year the risk of escalating employer pension contribution costs has been mitigated.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

GOVERNORS AND CHARITY TRUSTEES

Governor Recruitment and Training

The Governing Body appoints new Trustees, their terms of service set in accordance with the governing documents. Their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills, experience and local availability are taken into account in the appointment process.

The Governing body requires breadth and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently. When recruiting new trustees, the important attribute is a passion for the work of our School and an understanding of education as a holistic and rounded experience of personal growth. In making their recommendations for potential new trustees, Governors seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the Governing Body reflects the diverse nature of the Society in which it operates and includes the following competencies.

- A Governor with a legal background
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background
- A Governor with education experience
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs

A Governor may have one or more of these skills.

New Governors are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including Board policies and procedures. The School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), which provides professional support as required.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of Littlegarth School Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantors at 31 July 2025 was 11 (2024:10). The Governors are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

The auditor, MHA Audit Services LLP, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees of Littlegarth School Limited on 8th December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Keohane (Chair of Governors)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Littlegarth School Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st July 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 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 we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1k and 1l 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 in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework 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 but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's governors, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Governors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Cara Miller ACCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of MHA Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Colchester, United Kingdom
Essex
CO4 9YQ

Date: 21 January 2026

MHA is the trading name of MHA Audit Services LLP, a limited liability partnership in England and Wales (registered number OC455542).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Note	2025 Unrestricted Funds £	2025 Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Charitable Activities-					
Academic and other fees	2	4,316,335	125,000	4,441,335	4,334,807
Donations and events		373	15,962	16,335	79,203
Investment income	4	72,763	-	72,763	46,202
Total income		4,389,471	140,962	4,530,433	4,460,212
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities-	5a &	2,903,384	-	2,903,384	2,848,002
Provision of education	5b	1,576,706	21,134	1,597,840	1,571,588
Total expenditure		4,480,090	21,134	4,501,224	4,419,590
Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers		(90,619)	119,828	29,209	40,622
Transfers between funds		71,860	(71,860)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(18,759)	47,968	29,209	40,622
Opening Fund Balances		4,648,521	(127,303)	4,521,218	4,480,596
Closing Fund Balances	15	4,629,762	(79,335)	4,550,427	4,521,218

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains and losses other than those stated above.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	4,787,180	4,854,112
Investments	11	2	2
		4,787,182	4,854,114
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		53,118	50,916
Debtors	12	187,485	105,314
Cash at bank and in hand		1,460,525	1,655,073
		1,701,128	1,811,303
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(893,965)	(1,055,011)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		807,163	756,292
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,594,345	5,610,406
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(1,043,918)	(1,089,188)
NET ASSETS		4,550,427	4,521,218
RESTRICTED FUNDS		(79,335)	(127,303)
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General fund	16	4,629,762	4,648,521
TOTAL FUNDS		4,550,427	4,521,218

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime were approved by the Trustees on 8th December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Keohane
Chair
Registered number: 1141073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Note	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	17		65,592		999,598
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Interest received		44,133		28,067	
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		7,000		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(221,863)		(495,976)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(170,730)		(467,909)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Repayment of borrowings		(43,492)		(70,383)	
Interest paid		(45,918)		(48,234)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(89,410)		(118,617)
CHANGE IN CASH IN THE PERIOD			(194,548)		413,072
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD			1,655,073		1,242,001
CASH AT THE END OF THE PERIOD			1,460,525		1,655,073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address and principal place of business is the school, at Horkesley Park, Colchester, CO6 4JR.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (September 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional and presentational currency of the School, and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements include the results of the charitable company only, and do not include its wholly-owned dormant subsidiary. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet.

Littlegarth School Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable and charges for educational services and income from extra curricula and extramural activities during the year are accounted for in the year in which the service is provided.

Donations

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the Charity are credited to Unrestricted Funds upon receipt.

Government grants

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the School has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional activity categories. Overhead and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on an appropriate basis. The VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise the cost of running the Charity, including strategic planning for future development and also internal and external audit, any legal advice for the Governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the costs of Board and Committee meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Pensions

The Charity contributes to the Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme at rates set by the Scheme Actuary and advised to the Board by the Scheme Administrator. The scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme and it is not possible to identify which part of the assets and liabilities of the scheme are attributable to the School. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The School also runs a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff and a stakeholder pension scheme for other members of staff. The contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities when made.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest received on bank balances is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Going Concern

As detailed in the Governors' report, VAT was applied to applicable fee income from January 2025, and from April 2025 there was a loss of charitable rates relief and increase in employer's national insurance costs. Having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's projected cash flows, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Assets under construction	nil
Freehold land	nil
Freehold buildings	50 years, 25 years, 20 years or 15 years
Freehold buildings – equipment	10 years
Leased equipment	Over the period of the lease
School equipment	Over 3 to 8 years (baby grand piano depreciated over 20 years)

Items costing less than £500 are written off as an expense as acquired.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is computed on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less the estimated cost of disposal.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Academic and other fees

	2025	2024
	£	£
Academic fees (note 3)	3,774,454	3,712,179
Non-academic fees	150,039	156,881
Lunches and milk	283,072	273,792
Miscellaneous	230,224	189,123
Hire of facilities	3,546	2,832
	4,441,335	4,334,807

Miscellaneous income above includes insurance receipts of £125,000 (2024: £88,500) in respect of the site fire.

	2025	2024
	£	£
3 Academic fees		
Gross fees	3,857,033	3,825,967
Less: Total bursaries and staff remission	(82,579)	(113,788)
	3,774,454	3,712,179

	2025	2024
	£	£
4 Income from other operating income		
Incidental rental income	28,630	18,135
Bank deposit interest	44,133	28,067
	72,763	46,202

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities – Provision of Education

		2025	2024
		£	£
5a	Teaching and care of children		
	Salaries – academic	1,965,466	1,960,095
	Salaries – catering	134,729	117,116
	Pension costs	394,837	350,042
	Lesson materials	60,929	64,811
	Other direct costs	231,989	243,836
	Lunches and milk	115,434	112,102
		2,903,384	2,848,002
		2025	2024
		£	£
5b	Support costs		
	Support staff	417,516	377,551
	Pension costs	24,681	22,570
	Other direct costs	10,579	9,077
	Heating and lighting	120,275	114,727
	Cleaning	107,627	114,090
	Property repairs	183,389	227,266
	Insurances	46,909	38,648
	Service charges and rates	72,792	30,804
	Hire of office equipment	7,027	8,063
	Depreciation	287,154	251,698
	Advertising	17,661	17,484
	Subscriptions	3,895	4,424
	Telephone charges	4,952	4,558
	ICT costs	73,495	80,148
	Printing postage and stationery	14,210	20,613
	Sundry expenditure	26,541	21,676
	Bank charges	2,643	2,276
	Bank loan interest	45,918	48,234
	Fees in advance discount	14,306	1,316
	Bad debt write off / movement in provision	(3,650)	16,053
	Legal and professional fees	38,283	80,152
	Irrecoverable VAT	32,425	-
	(Profit) / loss on Disposal of fixed assets	(5,358)	28,218
	Staff expenditure	18,026	22,036
	Governance costs (note 6)	36,544	29,906
		1,597,840	1,571,588

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
6 Governance costs		
Salaries	14,524	13,897
Audit fee	13,780	13,200
Audit fees – TPA and disbursements	1,620	-
Other costs	6,620	2,809
	36,544	29,906
7 Net income for the period	2025 £	2024 £
This is stated after crediting:		
Rental income	28,630	18,135
Interest receivable	44,133	28,067
and after charging:		
Staff costs (note 8)	2,951,753	2,841,270
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– audit	14,000	11,000
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT – TPS audit	1,025	935
Operating leases:		
Hire of assets other than plant & machinery	7,027	8,063
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10):		
Owned assets	287,154	251,698
(Profit) / loss on disposal of fixed assets	(5,358)	28,218
8 Staff costs	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	2,244,822	2,177,487
Supply staff salaries	43,430	71,938
Social security costs	243,983	219,234
Pension costs	419,518	372,611
	2,951,753	2,841,270
	2025 £	2024 £
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	478,012	465,601

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

8 Staff costs (continued)

Average monthly employee headcount:

	2025 Number	2024 Number
Academic staff	47	47
Non-academic staff	21	20
	68	67

The following number of employees earned in excess of £60,000
(excluding pension contributions and employer's NI):

£60,000 – £70,000	1	1
£70,001 – £80,000	1	1
£80,001 – £90,000	-	-
£90,001 – £100,000	1	1

One of the employees above (2024: two) is accruing benefits under a defined benefit retirement scheme. Employer pension contributions for employees who earned in excess of £60,000 total £59,315 (2024: £54,959)

Governors

No emoluments were paid to the Governors in the current or preceding period.

Governors' expenses

No expenditure was reimbursed to Governors in the year (2024: £76 was reimbursed to one Governor).

Leaving gifts totalling £304 were given to two Governors who retired from their roles in the year (2024: Cost of £296 for gifts to two departing Governors).

9 Taxation

As a consequence of the Company's charitable status the Company has no liability to corporation tax.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	School Equipment	Assets under Construction	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
1 August 2024	5,651,605	1,407,283	105,301	7,164,189
Additions	58,694	104,081	59,088	221,863
Disposals	-	(55,255)	-	(55,255)
Transfers	164,389	-	(164,389)	-
31 July 2025	5,874,688	1,456,109	-	7,330,797
Depreciation				
1 August 2024	1,489,699	820,378	-	2,310,077
Charge for the year	119,764	167,390	-	287,154
Disposals	-	(53,614)	-	(53,614)
31 July 2025	1,609,463	934,154	-	2,543,617
Net book amount				
31 July 2025	4,265,225	521,955	-	4,787,180
1 August 2024	4,161,906	586,905	105,301	4,854,112

11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited

	Investments £
Cost and Net Book Value	
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	2

The investment comprises 2 ordinary shares in Littlegarth Services Limited, a company incorporated in England. The Company owns 100% of its subsidiary. Littlegarth Services Limited is currently dormant.

	2025 £	2024 £
12 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	21,055	36,000
Other debtors	20,803	245
Prepayments and accrued income	145,627	69,069
	187,485	105,314

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Bank loans (secured, see note 14)	45,815	44,037
Trade creditors	150,390	139,188
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	2	2
Other taxation and social security	61,856	58,183
Accruals	26,779	43,137
Deferred income – fees received in advance	461,925	639,416
Other creditors	147,198	131,048
	893,965	1,055,011
	2025 £	2024 £
14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other liabilities		
Bank loans (secured)	1,043,918	1,089,188
Maturity of debt		
In one year or less, or on demand	45,814	44,037
In more than one year but not more than two years	47,694	45,839
In more than two years but not more than five years	143,187	140,319
In more than five years	853,035	903,030
	1,089,730	1,133,225

The bank loans and overdraft are secured by a first legal charge over the Company's freehold property and a mortgage debenture over all assets of the Company.

15	Analysis of Funds	Fund Balances 1 August 2024 £	Net Income for the year £	Expenditure for the year £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balance 31 July 2025 £
	Unrestricted Fund	4,648,521	4,389,471	(4,480,090)	71,860	4,629,762
	Restricted Funds – Pavilion	14,173	15,962	-	(56,014)	(25,879)
	Restricted Funds - Fire	(141,476)	125,000	(21,134)	(15,846)	(53,456)
		4,521,218	4,530,433	(4,501,224)	-	4,550,427

Donations totalling £15,962 were received in the year to 31 July 2025 to help fund a cricket pavilion. Income from insurers was received for items lost in the site and costume store sheds fire. The transfers from the restricted to unrestricted funds represent the reimbursement of the unrestricted fund for capital spend funded by the restricted funds. The balances carried forward on the restricted pavilion and fire funds at the year-end will be reimbursed by the parents' association and insurers respectively.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

16	Analysis of assets between funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
		£	£	£
	Fixed assets	4,787,182	-	4,787,182
	Current assets	1,701,128	-	1,701,128
	Current liabilities	(814,630)	(79,335)	(893,965)
	Long term liabilities	(1,043,918)	-	(1,043,918)
		4,629,762	(79,335)	4,550,427

17	Notes to the statement of cash flows	2025	2024
		£	£
	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating Activities		
	Net income for the reporting period	29,209	40,622
	Adjusted for:		
	Depreciation charges	287,154	251,698
	Interest received	(44,133)	(28,067)
	Interest paid	45,918	48,234
	(Profit) / loss on disposal of fixed assets	(5,359)	28,218
	Increase in stocks	(2,202)	(1,191)
	(Increase) / Decrease in debtors	(82,171)	26,941
	(Decrease) / Increase in creditors	(162,824)	633,143
	Net cash flow from operating activities	65,592	999,598

	At start of year	Cash flows	At end of year
	£	£	year £
Analysis of changes in net funds			
Cash at bank and in hand	1,655,073	(194,548)	1,460,525
Debt due within one year	(44,037)	(1,778)	(45,815)
Debt due after one year	(1,089,188)	45,270	(1,043,918)
	521,848	(151,056)	370,792

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2025

17 Notes to the statement of cash flows (continued)

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds	2025 £	2024 £
(Decrease) / increase in cash in the period	(194,548)	413,072
Cash outflow from decrease in debt	43,492	70,383
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows	(151,056)	483,455
Net funds brought forward	521,848	38,393
Net funds carried forward	370,792	521,848

18 Pension commitments

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (England and Wales) ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £378,393 (2024: £346,394) and at the year-end £36,512 (2024: £42,070) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2014. Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

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

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

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million

The result of this valuation was implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028. A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation can be found on the Teachers' Pension website.

From 1 January 2025 the school provided staff who were eligible to be a member of the TPS with the alternative option of being a member of the APTIS defined contribution scheme. Employer contributions of up to 23% of pensionable salary were made to this scheme. Staff can request to take a proportion of the School's pension contribution as a non-pensionable, taxable allowance. This is subject to the School making an employer pension contribution of no less than 5% or the minimum auto-enrolment contribution required at any given time, if higher. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the scheme of £12,002 (2024: £NIL) and at the year-end £4,496 (2024: £NIL) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2025

18 Pension commitments (continued)

Contributions are also made for a member of the non-teaching staff to a defined contribution scheme at a rate of two times the employees' contribution subject to a cap of 10%.

Contributions for all other members of staff who are eligible to join are made to NEST, the workplace pension scheme set up by the Government. Pension contributions to this scheme were made at 5% of the employees' eligible salary from 1 April 2020.

The pension scheme charge for the other pension schemes in the year amounted to £29,123 (2024: £26,217) including a year-end provision of £6,254 (2024: £5,893).

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

19 Related party transactions

At the year-end the Company owed £2 to Littlegarth Services Limited, a dormant subsidiary, (2024: £2). There were no donations from trustees or other related parties in the year (2024: £NIL). During the year there was one pupil who was a child of a governor (2024: three pupils). The fees paid for these pupils were at the standard rate with no discounts applied.

20 Leasing commitments

At the year end the Company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-

Expiry date:

Within 1 year

Between 2-5 years

2025

£

6,605

11,657

2024

£

7,720

17,535

21 Capital commitments

The School had capital commitments of £nil at the year-end (2024: £21,240).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 325064

Accounts



LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Registered number: 1141073
Charity number: 325064

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

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LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Directors, Governors and Charity Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable Company, the Charity, are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also referred to as the Governors throughout this report. They are collectively referred to as the Governors, Board of Governors and Littlegarth School Governors.

The following Governors have served in office throughout the year except where indicated:

Mr J Keohane	
Mr D Burden	(resigned 5 July 2024)
Mr R Clegg	
Mrs J Gee	
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	
Mrs H Oliver	
Mr S Stafford	
Mrs C Stevens	(resigned 5 July 2024)
Mr C Cryer	(appointed 29 February 2024)
Mrs H Vipond	(appointed 29 February 2024)

HR, Risk & Governance Committee:

Mrs M Oats	(Chair from 1 September 2024)
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J Keohane	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs H Oliver	

Prior to the 2024/25 academic year this committee was split out into two separate committees, the Audit committee, which was chaired by Mrs McKenna, and the Human Resources committee which was chaired by Mrs Oats.

Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Mr S Stafford	(Chair from 6 July 2024)
Mr D Burden	(Chair until 5 July 2024)
Mr C Cryer	(appointed 29 February 2024)
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J Keohane	
Mrs M McKenna	

Education Committee:

Mrs H Vipond	(Chair from 6 July 2024)
Mrs C Stevens	(Chair until 5 July 2024)
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mr R Clegg	

The members of the Committees are appointed by the Board of Governors. The Board is a self-appointing body. Service on the Board is for a term of four years. Retiring Governors can be re-elected for a further period of four years.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate the day-to day management of the School to the Head who in turn manages with her senior staff team comprising:

Head	Mrs K Uttley
Deputy Head Academic	Miss H Smith
Deputy Head Pastoral	Mr K Dawes
Bursar	Miss J Ward
Head of Early Years	Mrs Elmakahleh

The Bursar is also Clerk to the Governors

Address:

The School address is:

Horkesley Park
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

Telephone: 01206 262332
E-mail: office@littlegarth.org
Website: www.littlegarth.org

Advisors:

SOLICITORS

Ellisons Solicitors
Headgate Court
Head Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1NP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

MHA
910 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex
CO4 9YQ

BANKER

NatWest Bank PLC
25 High Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1DG

REGISTERED OFFICE

Horkesley Park
Park Road
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

The Littlegarth School Governors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 and confirm they comply with the requirements of Company and Charity legislation, the memorandum and articles of association and the Charities SORP FRS 102, as appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable Company, founded in 1958, registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 325064. Governors and Executive Officers are listed on pages 1 and 1a. The principal address of the Charity and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1a. The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales and the registration number is 1141073.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to promote and to provide for the advancement of education of children. Within these objects, the Charity also has to maintain its assets, the School buildings, and provide necessary funding for the development of the School's facilities and bursaries for those in need. All other Objects listed are subsidiary to this Object. In the furtherance of this Object the Directors, as the charity Trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

OUR AIMS

Within the objects above, the aim of the School is to provide a high-quality day-school independent education for children from the age of two and a half to eleven. It does not discriminate on the grounds of ability at the time of entry. It seeks to prepare children academically, socially and spiritually for progress into secondary education within an environment where each pupil can develop and fulfil his or her potential, helping to build self-confidence. It seeks to give as wide and general an education as possible, to develop artistic and sporting skills and to treat every child as an Individual.

Littlegarth School actively supports the attainment of the highest standards in the Independent Schools sector, partly through networking with other schools and partly through sharing good practice for the evaluation of quality and performance improvement methods. We also work closely with local schools in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the School.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Board continues to promote the high academic development of all pupils, so that those leaving the School are equipped to progress to secondary schools of their choice. There were 267 (budget: 269) pupils during the year with a further 49 (budget: 50) in the Nursery. The School continues to promote itself through active marketing. Taster days have continued to be successful and interest from parents remains strong. We believe this position will be maintained through monitoring and enhancing the academic and teaching standards for which the School has become known.

Academic

Initiatives to enhance academic standards have centred on the development of strategies to ensure that all our pupils experience the best possible learning environment. The progress of all children is reviewed through regular formative and summative assessment, as detailed in the School's Teaching and Learning policy and the Assessment policy. We ensure that the curriculum is appropriate to the needs of the children and meets the requirements of a wide range of external examinations in Year 6. Evaluation of teaching and learning has been rigorous, with the assessment system firmly embedded to monitor the progress and attainment of all pupils. The School continues to seek to provide an outstanding breadth of experience across the curriculum and balance academic achievements with a strong emphasis on sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic and social skills. A programme of staff professional development is designed to ensure that knowledge and skills are up to date and well suited to the School's continuing aim for excellence.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic (continued)

Academic results were again excellent during the year with all Year 6 children gaining places in secondary schools of their choice. The ranges of schools that Littlegarth children move on to are generally grammar schools in Colchester, independent day and boarding schools and comprehensive schools. The School was again highly successful this year. 33 leavers were offered a total of 46 academic, sport, music, art, drama and/or all-round awards, and 6 children gained places at grammar schools through the competitive 11+ examinations.

The Arts

The Music department has continued to thrive at Littlegarth, with children exploring singing, music-making and a broad curriculum that encompasses orchestral music, traditional music from around the world, composition, jazz, pop, theatre music and much more. Over 150 individual music lessons are taught by our peripatetic tutors each week, with a huge variety of instruments being learned by pupils. We are proud to count amongst our ranks budding students in a wide range of instruments as well as a number of singers. A wide range of singing and instrumental ensembles complement our musical programme; ensembles perform at least twice a year at major School events, in July each year we host a delightful open-air Summer Concert, attended by the whole School and over 200 guests, at which there are performances by all School ensembles, every child in Reception and Years 1-5, and a number of soloists from Years 3-6. In addition, our Christmas Concert and Carol Services continue to be calendar highlights for staff, children, and the wider Littlegarth community, and we were also delighted to produce our first ever Performing Arts Showcase in July, sharing not only songs and musical pieces, but also poetry, prose, Speech and Drama pieces, and ballet performances.

Further performance opportunities are provided to children with our popular tea-time concerts, hosted by our Year 6 Music Prefects. In 2023/24 we were delighted to produce nine such concerts. Pupils also have numerous opportunities to perform in School assemblies. Children also perform in significant numbers in the annual talent show.

We also achieved National success in Performing Arts this year, notably becoming a finalist in the National Children's Theatre Awards for our production of 'Beauty and the Beast'.

Drama continues to go from strength to strength at Littlegarth. Pre-prep children performed brilliant Nativity productions in December 2023, while older pupils enjoyed performing in a major musical production. The production featured a cast of 40 children from Years 4-6, selected by audition, allowing our most passionate and able performers to push themselves and showcase their talents in an all-new temporary theatre space created within the Sports Hall, accompanied by a professional band of musicians, with extensive and professional-grade sound and lighting design. Nearly 20 children from Years 5 and 6 also took the opportunity to support the production as members of the Backstage team, helping with props, stage management, and more.

Every child in Year 3 took part in a three-day Performing Arts Workshop in February 2024, during which they explored ensemble performance, poetry, ballet, commercial and jazz dance, comedy and improvisation, and singing, with bespoke workshops led by a variety of West End and exciting theatre professionals. The Workshop culminated in a well-received performance to parents and peers. Soon after, it was Year 4's turn to shine, with every child in Year 4 working extremely hard to put together a stage performance of Nemo in April. To round off a busy and highly successful year of drama and performing Year 6 delighted us all with a truly dynamic performance of William Shakespeare's Macbeth, complete with additional songs.

The Drama department continues to be ably supported in the costume and design department, and by the IT and Art/Design & Technology departments who provide vital resources and expertise to ensure productions achieve the highest possible standard.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Sport

We have seen many successes across the board in all sports this year at inter-schools fixtures, regional qualifiers and national championships. This year we have continued to find the balance between sport for all and achieving excellence at all levels and age groups. We have worked closely with state sector primary schools and further developed the curriculum provision. Detailed below are the achievements throughout the academic year:

Football

IAPS U11A National Football Finals at Millfield

Rugby

U10 & U11 ISA Rugby National winners

U9 Hockey & Rugby Festival (1st & 2nd in Hockey and 1st & 3rd in Rugby)

U10 Rugby Champions @ Tonbridge

U11 Rugby undefeated @ New Hall Rugby Festival

Hockey

U11A ISA National Hockey Bowl winners

U9 Hockey & Rugby Festival (1st & 2nd in Hockey and 1st & 3rd in Rugby)

Netball

U11A ISA Regional Netball Winners – through to Nationals (6th in the country)

U11A ISA National Netball 6th in the country - Warwick

U10 ISA Netball – 2nd

Cross Country

ISA Regional X-Country (hosted at Littlegarth)

ISA National X-Country – Worksop College (7 children, 2 achieving places in the top 10)

East Anglian Cross-Country Championship (2 silvers and a bronze)

Swimming

ISA Regional & National Swimming (6 children qualified for Nationals)

IAPS Regional Swimming @ Culford

IAPS National Swimming - boys relay team 5th, George Golding 4th in Breaststroke)

Triathlon

National Triathlon @ Ipswich High School (17 members)

Cricket

Orwell Park Cricket Tournament– U11A Girls reached semi final

Orwell Park Cricket Tournament – U11A Boys 2nd

Athletics

Regionals at Melbourne Athletics Stadium and Nationals at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham:

8 Gold, 9 silver and 10 bronze medals were awarded at the Regional competition at which 10 children qualified for the Nationals. The children achieved the following successes at Nationals:

Year 5 Long Jump – 1st

Relay Team – 2nd

600m – 2nd

Horse Riding

National Schools Equestrian Association Grass roots championships: the team came 2nd overall

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Community access

Littlegarth School are proud to continue their involvement in wider community events and educational provision. During the last academic year, we hosted a community fun run, continued our work with the Dedham dark skies initiative and were delighted to once again run our Christmas and summer fetes for both the School and wider community. In addition, we hosted various charity events which were open to all, stepped in at the last minute to provide a venue for the Colchester Indian Association to host four of the nine days of an annual dance festival called Navratri, and built stronger ties with West Bergholt Cricket Club and Bergholt Heath Football Club.

Partnerships with local state schools

Littlegarth hosted and chaired the termly meetings for the Multi Schools Council. This is a group made up of over 50 local state primary, secondary and special educational schools that was set up to help break down perceptions towards children with SEND and mental health difficulties in schools and their wider communities; we continue to be the only independent school in attendance. Littlegarth attended the second annual 'diversity day' hosted at Prested Hall. This once again gave our pupils the opportunity to work with a range of pupils from other schools to discuss the issues which really affect them.

We continued to be a hub for Forest School training for colleagues from other local primary schools.

In addition, our strong links with Heathlands Primary School and Nayland Primary School, particularly in the area of sports provision continue to grow. Once again schools have used our facilities for matches and joined us for coaching in a variety of sports throughout the year.

Charitable Giving

During the year, £13,165 was raised for a variety of charities, £9,715 of which was donated to St Helena Hospice.

Grant making policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in enabling existing parents who have had a significant change in financial circumstance to continue their child's education at the School. The School awards a number of bursaries on a means tested basis. These are funded out of income from fees as the School has no restricted funds to pay for such bursaries. Applications for bursaries have to be submitted annually. The total value of bursaries awarded during the year was £42,922 (2023: £47,730).

Facilities

A number of improvements have also been made to our facilities, the key items being as detailed below.

- The construction of a sports pavilion which is ongoing
- The replacement of fire doors

Friends of Littlegarth

The School benefits from the generosity of a thriving network of Friends of Littlegarth School who have helped with fundraising and activities, giving many hours of voluntary support during the year. The Governors greatly appreciate and gladly acknowledge this. This year's events included a parent versus staff cricket match, a summer fete, a fund-raising dinner for parents and staff, a disco for the children, a firework display in Autumn, a Christmas bazaar and Christmas parties for the children.

Marketing

The School retains its high standing in the local community as a result of its academic, sporting and artistic performance, and standard of pastoral care. There continues to be strong competition for private schooling in the area and Colchester remains a relatively affluent community as a result of its proximity to London, and the City in particular; the demand for high quality private education remains buoyant.

The School remains a member of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), and the Independent School Bursars Association (ISBA).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FUTURE PLANS

The Governors intend to continue their current strategy of maintaining the School's position in a competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for our pupils. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant aim whilst maintaining the breadth and depth of the education provided.

The Head and senior staff continue to review the curriculum to ensure that the education remains appropriate for our pupils' development.

Our future plans are financed primarily from fee income and from our reserves. The Governors maintain an equitable balance ensuring our current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils in the same way as our current pupils benefit today from the investment made in the past. Maintaining and developing the fabric and facilities of the School are central to our strategy.

OUR FINANCES

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year of £40.6k (2023: £211.7k), which was in line with the forecast surplus of £41.8k.

The principal source of income is fees accounting for 97% of the School's income. The Governors are continuing their strategy of deploying all net incoming resources for investment in the educational purposes and fabric of the School.

As a charity the parents of our pupils have the comfort that all the income of the School must be applied for educational purposes.

In addition to the very substantial benefits our School brings to our pupils, the local community and society through the education we offer, our bursary programme creates a social benefit.

Developments and Maintenance

Property repairs and maintenance costs amounted to £227.3k during the year and include grounds maintenance works of £55.1k, various electrical works totalling £36.4k, including fixed wiring testing, and £28k on items which were replaced after being damaged in the site sheds fire in November 2023, covered by insurance.

Fixed asset additions amounted to £496k and include spend of £191k on replacement items following the site sheds fire, £105k on the pavilion, £61k on new fire doors, and £32.8k on new IT equipment including iPads for Years 3 and 4.

Fixed assets, net of depreciation, increased by £216.1k during the year.

Reserves and Financial Health

The Governors regularly review the financial expenditure and resources as part of the effective stewardship of the School.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into new School buildings and there is a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils.

The loan balance of £1,133k at 31 July 2024 comprises loan facilities obtained in 2017/18 (£1,400k on draw down), to help finance the development of the School's new teaching block.

The School's reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted income reserves to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the event of revenue shortfalls. Free reserves are that part of the School's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the School's purposes. Free reserves exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use net of the bank loans used to finance those assets.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Reserves and Financial Health (continued)

In normal circumstances the School's target is sufficient free reserves to cover between two and four months' operating expenditure. In exceptional circumstances the Governors may need to draw down on reserves to fund development activity. At 31 July there were free reserves of £927,632 which represent two and a half months of expenditure (2023: free reserves of £1,006,325 representing three months of operating expenditure). The Governors recognise that as a result of the investment in buildings for the future benefit of the School and related borrowing arrangements there will be limited free reserves for the foreseeable future. The Governors are satisfied that external finance facilities are sufficient to provide working capital and an adequate safety net for the School.

Government Legislation

The School is required to register for VAT and apply VAT on relevant fee income from January 2025 onwards. The School will also lose its charitable rates relief from April 2025 and employer's national insurance costs will increase from that period. The Governors have performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into account all available information.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the School, the Governors have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to going concern. As such, the Governors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Investment Policy

The School has an investment policy, which is reviewed annually by the Governors, that seeks to maximise the utilisation of the School's assets.

Remuneration Policy

Remuneration is set by the Board, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly individual contributions to the School's success. The School participates in benchmarking surveys to inform appropriate pay levels.

OUR ETHOS, STRATEGY AND POLICIES

Our Governors are responsible for setting a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils, their continued high levels of academic and co-curricular achievement and to widen further access to the education our School provides. In taking this strategy we:

- Review and benchmark the School's academic syllabus, teaching practices and examination results
- Ensure the range of co-curricular activities available to our pupils is stimulating and challenging
- Invest in the technology and the infrastructure of our School
- Co-operate and share resources with local schools

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society

Littlegarth School is a charity which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our 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.

We welcome pupils from all backgrounds. To admit prospective pupils, we need to be satisfied that our School will be able to educate and develop each pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. The economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability. We make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society (continued)

At the beginning of March 2022, the School fully met the requirements of a compliance inspection from the Independent Schools' Inspectorate. In the last full Independent Schools' Inspectorate report in May 2017, the overall achievement and personal development of the pupils was described as "excellent". The Independent Schools Inspectorate carried out an Intermediate Inspection on the Early Years Foundation Stage in June 2014 and described the overall quality and standards of the EYFS provision as "excellent".

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through parent evenings in addition to the traditional half year and end of year reports. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year through informal contacts and through our newsletter. Pupils have a Form Teacher responsible for pastoral care and academic development.

Our School community is based upon respect, good manners, and fair play. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that is free from disruption, violence, and any form of harassment. We expect our pupils to treat members of staff, visitors and each other with courtesy and co-operation.

ACCESS POLICY

We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives. Our bursary policy together with our 'Teaching Links' programme contribute to a widening of access to the education we offer and the facilities we enjoy.

Teaching Links

Our School is a part of a wider community, and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our School also offers a resource to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our 'Teaching Links' programme of cooperation and joint working with local state junior and secondary schools.

Bursary policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure that children whose families have had significant changes to their financial circumstances can continue to access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, for example in the case of redundancy.

In assessing means we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

The bursary awards were 100% remission of fees. In the year we awarded three bursaries at an average of £14,307 each.

OTHER POLICIES ON ASSISTANCE

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Littlegarth School and a school fee plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than two children at the School.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company is governed by its Memorandum, revised on 20 February 1974, and Articles of Association, revised on 26 August 2005.

The Governors, who are also the charity Trustees, are responsible for the overall management and control of the Littlegarth School and meet four times a year. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by the Senior Management Team. The School Bursar is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Governors and their Committees, preparation of papers and management accounts and the review of matters arising.

In line with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 the Governors, in their role as directors, act in good faith, the success of the School, and in doing so have regard have regard, amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- (b) the interests of the School's employees,
- (c) the need to foster the School's relationships with suppliers, parents and others,
- (d) the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment,
- (e) the desirability of the School maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct in the operation of its activities, and
- (f) the need to act fairly in their dealings with the stakeholders of the School

The achievement of the above objectives is reflected within this report.

Governing Body

The Governors are listed on page 1. All Governors are members of the Association of Littlegarth School Limited in accordance with the governing documents.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. Any expenses reimbursed are disclosed in note 8 to the financial statements. No Governor or person connected with a Governor received any benefit from means tested bursaries awarded to our pupils.

Organisational Management

The Board determines the overall strategy and general policy of the School and approves strategic plans, regulatory matters, major items of capital expenditure and financing matters.

All Governors have access to the advice and services of the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that the Board and its committees are provided with papers of sufficient quality to enable the Governors to consider matters in good time for meetings and enable them to discharge their duties effectively.

The work of implementing a number of the Board's policies is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which holds three meetings during the year. Other principal committees cover HR, Risk & Governance and Educational matters. Both meet termly before a full Board meeting. The Head, Deputy Heads, Bursar, and other senior staff attend these meetings as appropriate.

The day to day running of the School is delegated to the Head, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day-to-day administration of the School is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff.

Key management personnel

The Governors consider that they, together with the Head, the Deputy Heads, the Bursar and the senior staff comprise the Key Management Personnel and are listed on Page 1a.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Risk Management

Littlegarth School Governors are responsible for the identification, evaluation and management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed consideration of risks is delegated to the appropriate sub-committees, with oversight at each full governors' meeting. Risks are identified, assessed and controls established. A formal review of the Company's risk management processes is undertaken annually. Through this procedure the Governors satisfy themselves that major risks identified have been mitigated wherever possible and practicable.

The key controls used by the Company include:

- formal agendas for all Committee and Board meetings;
- detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- clear authorisation and approval levels for ordering and invoicing of goods and services; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately identified and managed.

The main risks that the Governors have identified and have implemented plans to manage those risks are:

- Reputation. The School's success is built on its reputation for the education and well-being of our pupils. We manage this risk through safeguarding policies, staff recruitment policies, pastoral support for both pupils and staff and active identification and resolution of health and safety related issues.
- Money. Our ability to continue is reliant on pupil fees and the ability to pay bills as they fall due. This risk is managed by marketing activity, having a reputation for academic and all-round excellence and active cash-flow management. As noted on page 1g, the School is required to register for VAT in 2024/25, it will lose its charitable rates relief from April 2025, and employer's national insurance costs will increase from that period. The School has plans in place to mitigate the impact of these changes.
- Curriculum. Academic excellence requires the most able teachers with state-of-the-art facilities delivering the curriculum to able students. We manage this by combining attractive salaries with additional allowances paid for Mathematics and English staff and other staff with extra responsibilities, on-going investment in our estate and an approach to enrolment that works with supportive parents whose children have an appetite for learning.
- Teachers' pension scheme. As a result of informal discussions with staff during the year the risk of escalating employer pension contribution costs has been mitigated.

GOVERNORS AND CHARITY TRUSTEES

Governor Recruitment and Training

The Governing Body appoints new Trustees, their terms of service set in accordance with the governing documents. Their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills, experience and local availability are taken into account in the appointment process.

The Governing body requires breadth and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently. When recruiting new trustees, the important attribute is a passion for the work of our School and an understanding of education as a holistic and rounded experience of personal growth. In making their recommendations for potential new trustees, Governors seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the Governing Body reflects the diverse nature of the Society in which it operates and includes the following competencies.

- A Governor with a legal background
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background
- A Governor with education experience
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Governor Recruitment and Training (continued)

A Governor may have one or more of these skills.

New Governors are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including Board policies and procedures. The School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), which provides professional support as required.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of Littlegarth School Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantors at 31 July 2024 was 10 (2023:8). The Governors are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

The auditor, MHA, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees of Littlegarth School Limited on 2 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Keohane (Chair of Governors)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Littlegarth School Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st July 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st July 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor'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 we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1k and 1l 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 in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework 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 but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's governors, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Governors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Cara Miller ACCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of MHA, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Colchester, United Kingdom
Essex
CO4 9YQ

Date: 1 April 2025

MHA is the trading name of MacIntyre Hudson LLP, a limited liability partnership in England and Wales (registered number OC312313).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Note	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Charitable Activities-					
Academic and other fees	2	4,246,307	88,500	4,334,807	4,108,668
Donations and events		1,208	77,995	79,203	39,825
Investment income	4	46,202	-	46,202	23,659
Total income		4,293,717	166,495	4,460,212	4,172,152
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities-	5a				
Provision of education	5b	4,374,689	44,901	4,419,590	3,960,458
Total expenditure		4,374,689	44,901	4,419,590	3,960,458
Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers		(80,972)	121,594	40,622	211,694
Transfers between funds		288,722	(288,722)	-	-
Net movement in funds		207,750	(167,128)	40,622	211,694
Opening Fund Balances		4,440,771	39,825	4,480,596	4,268,902
Closing Fund Balances	15	4,648,521	(127,303)	4,521,218	4,480,596

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains and losses other than those stated above.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	4,854,112	4,638,052
Investments	11	2	2
		4,854,114	4,638,054
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		50,916	49,725
Debtors	12	105,314	132,255
Cash at bank and in hand		1,655,073	1,242,001
		1,811,303	1,423,981
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,055,011)	(448,741)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		756,292	975,240
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,610,406	5,613,294
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(1,089,188)	(1,132,698)
NET ASSETS		4,521,218	4,480,596
RESTRICTED FUNDS		(127,303)	39,825
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General fund	16	4,648,521	4,440,771
TOTAL FUNDS		4,521,218	4,480,596

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime were approved by the Trustees on 2 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Keohane
Chair
Registered number: 1141073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	17		999,598		495,371
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Interest received		28,067		12,612	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(495,976)		(162,040)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(467,909)		(149,428)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Increase in borrowings		-		345,000	
Repayment of borrowings		(70,383)		(437,482)	
Interest paid		(48,234)		(47,669)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(118,617)		(140,151)
CHANGE IN CASH IN THE PERIOD			413,072		205,792
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD			1,242,001		1,036,209
CASH AT THE END OF THE PERIOD			1,655,073		1,242,001

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address and principal place of business is the school, at Horkesley Park, Colchester, CO6 4JR.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (September 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional and presentational currency of the School, and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements include the results of the charitable company only, and do not include its wholly-owned dormant subsidiary. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet.

Littlegarth School Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable and charges for educational services and income from extra curricula and extramural activities during the year are accounted for in the year in which the service is provided.

Donations

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the Charity are credited to Unrestricted Funds upon receipt.

Government grants

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the School has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional activity categories. Overhead and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on an appropriate basis. The VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise the cost of running the Charity, including strategic planning for future development and also internal and external audit, any legal advice for the Governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the costs of Board and Committee meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Pensions

The Charity contributes to the Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme at rates set by the Scheme Actuary and advised to the Board by the Scheme Administrator. The scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme and it is not possible to identify which part of the assets and liabilities of the scheme are attributable to the School. In accordance with FRS102 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The School also runs a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff and a stakeholder pension scheme for other members of staff. The contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities when made.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest received on bank balances is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Going Concern

As detailed in the Governors' report, following the recent change of government, VAT will be applied to applicable fee income from January 2025, and from April 2025 there will be a loss of charitable rates relief and increase in employer's national insurance costs. Having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's projected cash flows, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Assets under construction	nil
Freehold land	nil
Freehold buildings	50 years, 25 years, 20 years or 15 years
Freehold buildings – equipment	10 years
Leased equipment	Over the period of the lease
School equipment	Over 3 to 8 years (baby grand piano depreciated over 20 years)

Items costing less than £500 are written off as an expense as acquired.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is computed on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less the estimated cost of disposal.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Academic and other fees

	2024	2023
	£	£
Academic fees (note 3)	3,712,179	3,489,634
Non-academic fees	156,881	167,059
Lunches and milk	273,792	263,317
Miscellaneous	189,123	185,403
Hire of facilities	2,832	3,255
	4,334,807	4,108,668

Miscellaneous income above includes insurance receipts of £88,500 in respect of the site fire (2023: £100,000 was received in respect of loss of earnings during the first COVID lockdown).

	2024	2023
	£	£
3 Academic fees		
Gross fees	3,825,967	3,594,626
Less: Total bursaries and staff remission	(113,788)	(104,992)
	3,712,179	3,489,634

	2024	2023
	£	£
4 Investment income		
Incidental rental income	18,135	11,047
Bank deposit interest	28,067	12,612
	46,202	23,659

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities – Provision of Education

		2024	2023
		£	£
5a	Teaching and care of children		
	Salaries – academic	1,960,095	1,799,136
	Salaries – catering	117,116	114,859
	Pension costs	350,042	318,855
	Lesson materials	64,811	60,852
	Other direct costs	243,836	210,253
	Lunches and milk	112,102	104,416
		2,848,002	2,608,371
		2024	2023
		£	£
5b	Support costs		
	Support staff	377,551	353,821
	Pension costs	22,570	19,743
	Other direct costs	9,077	7,396
	Heating and lighting	114,727	118,012
	Cleaning	114,090	98,235
	Property repairs	227,266	187,731
	Insurances	38,648	33,770
	Service charges and rates	30,804	13,312
	Hire of office equipment	8,063	5,350
	Depreciation	251,698	238,735
	Advertising	17,484	13,447
	Subscriptions	4,424	5,166
	Telephone charges	4,558	4,611
	ICT costs	80,148	76,712
	Printing postage and stationery	20,613	16,094
	Sundry expenditure	21,676	25,023
	Bank charges	2,276	2,214
	Bank loan interest	48,234	48,338
	Fees in advance discount	1,316	-
	Bad debt write off / movement in provision	16,053	4,388
	Legal and professional fees	80,152	26,376
	Loss / (Profit) on Disposal of fixed assets	28,218	10,121
	Staff expenditure	22,036	15,349
	Governance costs (note 6)	29,906	28,143
		1,571,588	1,352,087

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
6 Governance costs		
Salaries	13,897	13,024
Audit fee	13,200	12,000
Other costs	2,809	3,119
	29,906	28,143
7 Net income for the period	2024 £	2023 £
This is stated after crediting:		
Rental income	18,135	11,047
Interest receivable	28,067	12,612
and after charging:		
Staff costs (note 8)	2,841,270	2,619,467
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT – audit	11,000	10,000
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT – TPS audit	935	850
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT – other services	-	950
Operating leases:		
Hire of assets other than plant & machinery	8,063	5,350
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10):		
Owned assets	251,698	238,735
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	28,218	10,121
8 Staff costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	2,177,487	2,031,443
Supply staff salaries	71,938	43,589
Social security costs	219,234	205,807
Pension costs	372,611	338,598
	2,841,270	2,619,437
	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	465,601	442,557

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2024

8 Staff costs (continued)

Average monthly employee headcount:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Academic staff	47	47
Non-academic staff	20	21
	67	68

The following number of employees earned in excess of £60,000 (excluding pension contributions and employer's NI):

£60,000 – £70,000	1	-
£70,001 – £80,000	1	1
£80,001 – £90,000	-	1
£90,001 – £100,000	1	-

One of the employees above is accruing benefits under a defined benefit retirement scheme. Employer pension contributions for employees who earned in excess of £60,000 total £54,959 (2023: £37,027)

Governors

No emoluments were paid to the Governors in the current or preceding period.

Governors' expenses

Travel expenditure of £76 was reimbursed to one Governor in the year (2023: £NIL).

Leaving gifts totalling £296 were given to two Governors who retired from their roles in the year (2023: Cost of £825 for gifts to three departing Governors).

9 Taxation

As a consequence of the Company's charitable status the Company has no liability to corporation tax.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2024

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	School Equipment	Assets under Construction	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
1 August 2023	5,514,714	1,211,339	-	6,726,053
Additions	156,199	234,476	105,301	495,976
Disposals	(19,308)	(38,532)	-	(57,840)
31 July 2024	5,651,605	1,407,283	105,301	7,164,189
Depreciation				
1 August 2023	1,388,909	699,092	-	2,088,001
Charge for the year	114,478	137,220	-	251,698
Disposals	(13,688)	(15,934)	-	(29,622)
31 July 2024	1,489,699	820,378	-	2,310,077
Net book amount				
31 July 2024	4,161,906	586,905	105,301	4,854,112
1 August 2023	4,125,805	512,247	-	4,638,052

11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited

	Investments £
Cost and Net Book Value	
At 1 August 2023 and 31 July 2024	2

The investment comprises 2 ordinary shares in Littlegarth Services Limited, a company incorporated in England. The Company owns 100% of its subsidiary. Littlegarth Services Limited is currently dormant.

	2024 £	2023 £
12 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	36,000	49,565
Other debtors	245	19,780
Prepayments and accrued income	69,069	62,910
	105,314	132,255

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Bank loans (secured, see note 14)	44,037	70,910
Trade creditors	139,188	94,822
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	2	2
Other taxation and social security	58,183	54,045
Accruals	43,137	72,642
Deferred income – fees received in advance	639,416	23,461
Other creditors	131,048	132,859
	1,055,011	448,741
	2024 £	2023 £
14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other liabilities		
Bank loans (secured)	1,089,188	1,132,698
Maturity of debt		
In one year or less, or on demand	44,037	70,910
In more than one year but not more than two years	45,839	44,061
In more than two years but not more than five years	140,319	142,814
In more than five years	903,030	945,823
	1,133,225	1,203,608

The bank loans and overdraft are secured by a first legal charge over the Company's freehold property and an unscheduled mortgage debenture over all assets of the Company.

15 Analysis of Funds	Fund Balances 1 August 2023 £	Net Income for the year £	Expenditure for the year £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balance 31 July 2024 £
Unrestricted Fund	4,440,771	4,293,717	(4,374,689)	288,722	4,648,521
Restricted Funds – Pavilion	39,825	76,055	-	(101,707)	14,173
Restricted Funds - Fire	-	90,440	(44,901)	(187,015)	(141,476)
	4,480,596	4,460,212	(4,419,590)	-	4,521,218

£101,707 of the donations received to date for the cricket pavilion have been spent on the pavilion structure. The deficit on the fire fund is due to part of the insurance monies for the fire being received after the year end. Transfers from the restricted funds to the unrestricted fund represent reimbursement for capital expenditure relating to the restricted funds.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2024

16	Analysis of assets between funds	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
	Fixed assets	4,854,114	-	4,854,114
	Current assets	1,811,303	-	1,811,303
	Current liabilities	(927,708)	(127,303)	(1,055,011)
	Long term liabilities	(1,089,188)	-	(1,089,188)
		<u>4,648,521</u>	<u>(127,303)</u>	<u>4,521,218</u>

		2024 £	2023 £
17	Notes to the statement of cash flows		
	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating Activities		
	Net income for the reporting period	40,622	211,694
	Adjusted for:		
	Depreciation charges	251,698	238,735
	Interest received	(28,067)	(12,612)
	Interest paid	48,234	47,669
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	28,218	10,121
	(Increase) / Decrease in stocks	(1,191)	2,148
	Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	26,941	(30,772)
	Increase in creditors	633,143	28,388
	Net cash flow from operating activities	999,598	495,371
	Analysis of changes in net funds		
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,242,001	1,655,073
	Debt due within one year	(70,910)	(44,037)
	Debt due after one year	(1,132,698)	(1,089,188)
		<u>38,393</u>	<u>521,848</u>

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2024

17 Notes to the statement of cash flows (continued)

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds	2024 £	2023 £
Increase in cash in the period	413,072	205,792
Cash outflow from decrease in debt	70,383	92,482
Change in net funds resulting from cash flows	483,455	298,274
Net funds / (debt) brought forward	38,393	(259,881)
Net funds carried forward	521,848	38,393

18 Pension commitments

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (England and Wales) ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £346,394 (2023: £315,878) and at the year-end £42,070 (2023: £36,639) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2014. Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

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

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

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million

The result of this valuation was implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028. A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation can be found on the Teachers' Pension website.

Contributions are also made for a member of the non-teaching staff to a defined contribution scheme at a rate of two times the employees' contribution subject to a cap of 10%.

Contributions for all other members of staff who are eligible to join are made to NEST, the workplace pension scheme set up by the Government. Pension contributions to this scheme were made at 5% of the employees' eligible salary from 1 April 2020. The pension scheme charge for the other pension schemes in the year amounted to £26,217 (2023: £22,720) including a year-end provision of £5,893 (2023: £5,168).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2024

18 Pension commitments (continued)

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

19 Related party transactions

At the year-end the Company owed £2 to Littlegarth Services Limited, a dormant subsidiary, (2023: £2). There were no donations from trustees or other related parties in the year (2023: £NIL). During the year there were three pupils who were children of governors (2023: one pupil). The fees paid for these pupils were at the standard rate with no discounts applied.

20 Leasing commitments

At the year end the Company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-

Expiry date:

Within 1 year

Between 2-5 years

2024

£

7,720

17,535

2023

£

7,435

24,028

21 Capital commitments

The School had capital commitments of £21,240 at the year-end (2023: £NIL).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 325064

Accounts



LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Registered number: 1141073
Charity number: 325064

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

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LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Directors, Governors and Charity Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable Company, the Charity, are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also referred to as the Governors throughout this report. They are collectively referred to as the Governors, Board of Governors and Littlegarth School Governors.

The following Governors have served in office throughout the year except where indicated:

Mr J Henderson	(Chair - resigned 31 July 2023)
Mr J Keohane	(Chair – appointed 1 August 2023)
Mr D Burden	
Mr R Clegg	(appointed 3 November 2022)
Mrs C Clouston	(resigned 27 December 2022)
Mrs J Gee	
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	
Mrs H Oliver	(appointed 1 September 2023)
Mr S Stafford	(appointed 1 September 2023)
Mrs D Stanton	(resigned 31 July 2023)
Mrs C Stevens	
Mrs W-F Thompson	(resigned 31 July 2023)

Audit Committee:

Mrs M McKenna	(Chair)
Mr J Henderson	(resigned 31 July 2023)
Mr J Keohane	(appointed 1 August 2023)
Mrs M Oats	

Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Mr D Burden	(Chair)
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J Henderson	(resigned 31 July 2023)
Mr J Keohane	(appointed 1 August 2023)
Mrs M McKenna	
Mr S Stafford	(appointed 1 September 2023)

Human Resources Committee:

Mrs M Oats	(Chair)
Mrs C Clouston	(resigned 27 December 2022)
Mrs H Oliver	(appointed 1 September 2023)
Mr J Keohane	(appointed 2 January 2023, resigned 31 August 2023)
Mrs J Gee	(appointed 1 August 2023)
Mrs W-F Thompson	(resigned 31 July 2023)

Education Committee:

Mrs D Stanton	(Chair – resigned 31 July 2023)
Mrs C Stevens	(Chair – appointed 1 August 2023)
Mrs C Clouston	(resigned 27 December 2022)
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mr R Clegg	(appointed 3 November 2022)

The members of the Committees are appointed by the Board of Governors. The Board is a self-appointing body. Service on the Board is for a term of four years. Retiring Governors can be re-elected for a further period of four years.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate the day-to day management of the School to the Head who in turn manages with her senior staff team comprising:

Head	Mrs K Uttley
Deputy Head Academic	Miss H Smith
Deputy Head Pastoral	Mr K Dawes
Bursar	Miss J Ward
Head of Early Years	Mrs Elmakahleh

The Bursar is also Clerk to the Governors

Address:

The School address is:

Horkesley Park
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

Telephone: 01206 262332
E-mail: office@littlegarth.org
Website: www.littlegarth.org

Advisors:

SOLICITORS

Ellisons Solicitors
Headgate Court
Head Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1NP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

MHA
910 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex
CO4 9YQ

BANKER

NatWest Bank PLC
25 High Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1DG

REGISTERED OFFICE

Horkesley Park
Park Road
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

The Littlegarth School Governors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 and confirm they comply with the requirements of Company and Charity legislation, the memorandum and articles of association and the Charities SORP FRS 102, as appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable Company, founded in 1958, registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 325064. Governors and Executive Officers are listed on pages 1 and 1a. The principal address of the Charity and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1a. The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales and the registration number is 1141073.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to promote and to provide for the advancement of education of children. Within these objects, the Charity also has to maintain its assets, the School buildings, and provide necessary funding for the development of the School's facilities and bursaries for those in need. All other Objects listed are subsidiary to this Object. In the furtherance of this Object the Directors, as the charity Trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

OUR AIMS

Within the objects above, the aim of the School is to provide a high-quality day-school independent education for children from the age of two and a half to eleven. It does not discriminate on the grounds of ability at the time of entry. It seeks to prepare children academically, socially and spiritually for progress into secondary education within an environment where each pupil can develop and fulfil his or her potential, helping to build self-confidence. It seeks to give as wide and general an education as possible, to develop artistic and sporting skills and to treat every child as an Individual.

Littlegarth School actively supports the attainment of the highest standards in the Independent Schools sector, partly through networking with other schools and partly through sharing good practice for the evaluation of quality and performance improvement methods. We also work closely with local schools in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the School.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Board continues to promote the high academic development of all pupils, so that those leaving the School are equipped to progress to secondary schools of their choice. There were 274 (2022: 279) pupils during the year with a further 43 (2022: 40) in the Nursery. The School continues to promote itself through active marketing. Taster days have continued to be successful and interest from parents remains strong, giving us confidence that the School will be able to operate close to capacity for the foreseeable future. We believe this position will be maintained through monitoring and enhancing the academic and teaching standards for which the School has become known.

Pupil numbers and fees

Pupil numbers were ahead of budget at 274 (budget: 272) in the main School and 43 (budget: 38) in the Nursery. Our fee increase of 5.95% from September 2022 was approved by the Governors. Fees after this increase were:

Pre-prep (Reception to Year 2)	£3,814 per term
Prep (Years 3 & 4)	£4,103 per term
Prep (Years 5 & 6)	£4,430 per term

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic

Initiatives to enhance academic standards have centred on the development of strategies to ensure that all our pupils experience the best possible learning environment. The progress of all children is reviewed through regular formative and summative assessment, as detailed in the School's Teaching and Learning policy and the Assessment policy. We ensure that the curriculum is appropriate to the needs of the children and meets the requirements of a wide range of external examinations in Year 6. Evaluation of teaching and learning has been rigorous, with the assessment system firmly embedded to monitor the progress and attainment of all pupils. The School continues to seek to provide an outstanding breadth of experience across the curriculum and balance academic achievements with a strong emphasis on sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic and social skills. A programme of staff professional development is designed to ensure that knowledge and skills are up to date and well suited to the School's continuing aim for excellence.

Academic results were again excellent during the year with all Year 6 children gaining places in secondary schools of their choice. The ranges of schools that Littlegarth children move on to are generally grammar schools in Colchester, independent day and boarding schools and comprehensive schools. The School was again highly successful this year. 30 of our 39 leavers were offered a total of 54 academic, sport, music, art, drama and/or all-round awards, and 6 children gained places at grammar schools through the competitive 11+ examinations. We continued to provide extra teaching during the summer holidays to prepare pupils wishing to take the 11+ examination.

The Arts

The Music department has continued to thrive at Littlegarth, with children exploring singing, music-making and a broad curriculum that encompasses orchestral music, traditional music from around the world, composition, jazz, pop, theatre music and much more. Over 150 individual music lessons are taught by our peripatetic tutors each week, with a huge variety of instruments being learned by pupils. We are proud to count amongst our ranks budding students in a wide range of instruments as well as a number of singers. A wide range of singing and instrumental ensembles complement our musical programme; ensembles perform at least twice a year at major School events, in July 2023 we hosted a delightful open-air Summer Concert, attended by the whole School and over 200 guests, at which there were performances by all School ensembles, every child in Reception and Years 1-5, and a number of soloists from Years 3-6. In addition, our Christmas Concert and Carol Services continue to be calendar highlights for staff, children, and the wider Littlegarth community, and we were also delighted to produce our first ever Performing Arts Showcase in July, sharing not only songs and musical pieces, but also poetry, prose, Speech and Drama pieces, and ballet performances.

Further performance opportunities are provided to children with our popular tea-time concerts, hosted by our Year 6 Music Prefects. In 2022/23 we were delighted to produce nine such concerts. Pupils also have numerous opportunities to perform in School assemblies.

We also achieved National success in Performing Arts this year: a National winner in ISA Musical Theatre Performance for Key Stage 2 (Year 6), a National finalist in the same category (Year 6), and a National winner in ISA Music Composition for Key Stage 2 (Year 3).

Drama continues to go from strength to strength at Littlegarth. Pre-prep children performed brilliant Nativity productions in December 2022, while older pupils enjoyed performing in a major musical production of *Matilda*. This production featured a cast of 40 children from Years 4-6, selected by audition, allowing our most passionate and able performers to push themselves and showcase their talents in an all-new temporary theatre space created within the Sports Hall, accompanied by a professional band of musicians, with extensive and professional-grade sound and lighting design. Nearly 20 children from Years 5 and 6 also took the opportunity to support the production as members of the Backstage team, helping with props, stage management, and more.

Every child in Year 3 took part in a three-day Performing Arts Workshop in February 2023, during which they explored ensemble performance, poetry, ballet, commercial and jazz dance, comedy and improvisation, and singing, with bespoke workshops led by a variety of West End and exciting theatre professionals. The Workshop culminated in a well-received performance to parents and peers. Soon after, it was Year 4's turn to shine, with every child in Year 4 working extremely hard to put together a performance of *Seussical Jr.* in April. To round off a busy and highly successful year of drama and

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

The Arts (continued)

performing Year 6 delighted us all with a truly dynamic performance of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, complete with additional songs!

The Drama department continues to be ably supported in the costume and design department, and by the IT and Art/Design & Technology departments who provide vital resources and expertise to ensure productions achieve the highest possible standard.

Sport

We have seen many successes across the board in all sports this year at inter-schools fixtures, regional qualifiers and national championships. This year we have continued to find the balance between sport for all and achieving excellence at all levels and age groups. We have worked more closely with state sector primary schools and further developed the curriculum provision. Detailed below are the achievements throughout the academic year:

Cross Country

Regionals at Finborough and Nationals at Worksop:

5 x Year 3/4 girls qualified for Nationals (a Year 4 girl came first and became Regional Champion)

3 x Year 3/4 boys qualified for Nationals

4 x Year 6 boys qualified for Nationals (one of the boys came first and became Regional Champion)

Triathlon

Straight Nationals at Ipswich High School:

13 children competed

A Year 3 girl came 3rd in her age group

A Year 5 boy came first and is National Champion in his age group

Athletics

Regionals at Garon Park, Southend and Nationals at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham:

21 children qualified for Nationals whilst competing at the Regional competition in Southend.

At Nationals:

17 medals were awarded to our pupils:

Silver in the Year 4 boys' sprint

Silver in the Year 4 girls 600m

Silver in the Year 4 boys 600m

Bronze in the Year 5 girls ball throw

Silver in the Year 6 boys High Jump

Silver in the girls 4x100m relay

Silver in the boys 4x100m relay

Gold in the boys 4x100m relay for the second consecutive year, and broke the National record with a time of 56:21

Rugby

U11 ISA National Champions

U10 ISA National Champions

U11 IAPS Regional Champions

U11 New Hall School Festival Champions

U10 Framlingham Festival Champions

U11 Tonbridge Festival Champions

U9 Unbeaten Season

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Sport (continued)

Cricket

U11 Boys Orwell 6's Champions
U11 Girls Orwell 6's Plate Champions
U11 Tonbridge Festival Winners

Hockey

U11A 2nd at ISA Nationals

Netball

U9 Winners of Ipswich Netball Tournament
U11A Unbeaten Fixture season

Football

U9 ISA Winners (Regional)
U11A 8th at Nationals at St George's Park

Swimming

ISA Nationals @ Olympic Pool (2 x 3rd in Breaststroke, 3rd in Backstroke, 1st in Front crawl, 2 x 2nd in relay, 2 x 3rd in relay)
IAPS Nationals @ Olympic Pool (2 x 9th in Freestyle, 15th in Breaststroke, U10 relay team (4 x 9th in Medley Relay)

Alongside attending and qualifying for Regional and National events, we have hosted Rugby, Football, Netball and Hockey Festivals at Littlegarth for our U9 teams. We held an inter-state school Cross Country competition for 160 children from two local state schools.

Community access

Littlegarth School are proud to continue their involvement in wider community events and educational provision. During the last academic year we hosted a community fun run, continued our work with the Dedham dark skies initiative and were delighted to once again run our Christmas and summer fetes for both the School and wider community. In addition, we hosted various charity events which were open to all.

Partnerships with local state schools

Our work with the Multi Schools Council increased last academic year, with Littlegarth hosting and chairing the termly meetings. This is a group made up of over 50 local state primary, secondary and special educational schools that was set up to help break down perceptions towards children with SEND and mental health difficulties in schools and their wider communities; we continue to be the only independent school in attendance. Littlegarth attended the second annual 'diversity day' hosted at Prested Hall. This once again gave our pupils the opportunity to work with a range of pupils from other schools to discuss the issues which really affect them.

We became a hub for Forest School training and in addition to 12 of our staff completing the year-long course, we also hosted colleagues from other local primary schools.

In addition, our strong links with Heathlands Primary School and Nayland Primary School, particularly in the area of sports provision continue to grow. Once again schools have used our facilities for matches and joined us for coaching in a variety of sports throughout the year.

Charitable Giving

During the year, £22,252 was raised for a variety of charities, in particular for St Helena Hospice and the Disasters Emergency Committee.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Grant making policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in enabling existing parents who have had a significant change in financial circumstance to continue their child's education at the School. The School awards a number of bursaries on a means tested basis. These are funded out of income from fees as the School has no restricted funds to pay for such bursaries. Applications for bursaries have to be submitted annually. The total value of bursaries awarded during the year was £47,730 (2022: £21,043).

Facilities

A number of improvements have also been made to our facilities, the key items being as detailed below.

- The redesign of the front office
- Creation of an animation room
- Painting of the nursery and external main house
- Tarmacking the main car park

Friends of Littlegarth

The School benefits from the generosity of a thriving network of Friends of Littlegarth School who have helped with fundraising and activities, giving many hours of voluntary support during the year. The Governors greatly appreciate and gladly acknowledge this. This year's events included a parent versus staff cricket match, a summer fete, a circus, a fund raising ball for parents and staff, a disco for the children, a firework display in Autumn, a Christmas bazaar and Christmas parties for the children.

Marketing

The School retains its high standing in the local community as a result of its academic, sporting and artistic performance, and standard of pastoral care. There continues to be strong competition for private schooling in the area and Colchester remains a relatively affluent community as a result of its proximity to London, and the City in particular; the demand for high quality private education remains buoyant.

The School remains a member of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), and the Independent School Bursars Association (ISBA).

FUTURE PLANS

The Governors intend to continue their current strategy of maintaining the School's position in a competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for our pupils. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant aim whilst maintaining the breadth and depth of the education provided.

The Head and senior staff continue to review the curriculum to ensure that the education remains appropriate for our pupils' development.

Our future plans are financed primarily from fee income and from our reserves. The Governors maintain an equitable balance ensuring our current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils in the same way as our current pupils benefit today from the investment made in the past. Maintaining and developing the fabric and facilities of the School are central to our strategy.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

OUR FINANCES

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year of £211.7k (2022: £169.8k), which was a decrease of £12.9k against a reforecast surplus of £224.6k primarily due to certain summer works such as the partial re-surfacing of the car park being completed ahead of schedule in July rather than August.

The principal source of income is fees accounting for 98% of the School's income. The Governors are continuing their strategy of deploying all net incoming resources for investment in the educational purposes and fabric of the School.

As a charity the parents of our pupils have the comfort that all the income of the School must be applied for educational purposes. As an educational charity we enjoy tax exemption on our educational activities and on our investment income and gains.

We also receive an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy. The financial benefits we receive from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help us to maintain our bursary policies.

However, as an educational charity, we are unable to reclaim VAT input tax on our costs as we are exempt for VAT purposes. As an employer, we also pay employment taxes.

In addition to the very substantial benefits our School brings to our pupils, the local community and society through the education we offer, our bursary programme creates a social benefit.

Developments and Maintenance

Property repairs and maintenance costs amounted to £187.7k during the year and included the renovation of the front office, tarmacking of a further section of the car park, and electrical upgrade works. Fixed asset additions amounted to £162k and included investment in the front office renovation comprising the installation of a glass porch, a new reception counter and furniture, and there were electrical works including the installation of a new circuit breaker and underground cabling. Investment in IT equipment included 106 iPads, 100 of which were purchased for the 2023/24 academic year, 24 desktop computers with touch monitors for pupils, 4 new whiteboards, and 14 staff laptops. Other equipment purchases include a laser cutter for the Design Technology department, and furniture for the nursery.

Fixed assets, net of depreciation, decreased by £86.8k during the year.

Reserves and Financial Health

The Governors regularly review the financial expenditure and resources as part of the effective stewardship of the School.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into new School buildings and there is a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils.

Long-term liabilities represent the loans taken out for the new teaching block and the balance of loans taken out to help fund previous enhancements of the School facilities, including the Sports Hall. The loan balance of £1,204k at 31 July 2023 includes loan facilities of £1,175k (£1,400k on draw down), obtained in 2017/18 to help finance the development of the School's new teaching facilities.

The School's reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted income reserves to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the event of revenue shortfalls. Free reserves are that part of the School's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the School's purposes. Free reserves exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use net of the bank loans used to finance those assets.

In normal circumstances the School's target is sufficient free reserves to cover between two and four months' operating expenditure. In exceptional circumstances the Governors may need to draw down on reserves to fund development activity. At 31 July there were free reserves of £1,006,325 which represents three months of expenditure (2022: free reserves of £840,125, representing over two and a half months of operating expenditure). The Governors recognise that as a result of the investment in buildings for the future benefit of the School and related borrowing arrangements there will be limited free

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Reserves and Financial Health (continued)

reserves for the foreseeable future. The Governors are satisfied that external finance facilities are sufficient to provide working capital and an adequate safety net for the School.

Impact of Wider Economic Factors

In 2022, the wider national and global economy changed significantly due to multiple factors such as the war in Ukraine and the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This led to an increase in the cost-of-living, most notably in fuel, food and energy prices. The Governors have performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into account all available information and expected future costs.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the School, the Governors have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to going concern. As such, the Governors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Investment Policy

The School has an investment policy, which is reviewed annually by the Governors, that seeks to maximise the utilisation of the School's assets.

Remuneration Policy

Remuneration is set by the Board, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly individual contributions to the School's success. The School participates in benchmarking surveys to inform appropriate pay levels.

OUR ETHOS, STRATEGY AND POLICIES

Our Governors are responsible for setting a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils, their continued high levels of academic and co-curricular achievement and to widen further access to the education our School provides. In taking this strategy we:

- Review and benchmark the School's academic syllabus, teaching practices and examination results
- Ensure the range of co-curricular activities available to our pupils is stimulating and challenging
- Invest in the technology and the infrastructure of our School
- Co-operate and share resources with local schools

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society

Littlegarth School is a charity which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our 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.

We welcome pupils from all backgrounds. To admit prospective pupils, we need to be satisfied that our School will be able to educate and develop each pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. The economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability. We make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled.

At the beginning of March 2022, the School fully met the requirements of a compliance inspection from the Independent Schools' Inspectorate. In the last full Independent Schools' Inspectorate report in May 2017, the overall achievement and personal development of the pupils was described as "excellent". The Independent Schools Inspectorate carried out an Intermediate Inspection on the Early Years Foundation Stage in June 2014 and described the overall quality and standards of the EYFS provision as "excellent".

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through parent evenings in addition to the traditional half year and end of year reports. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year through informal contacts and through our newsletter. Pupils have a Form Teacher responsible for pastoral care and academic development.

Our School community is based upon respect, good manners, and fair play. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that is free from disruption, violence, and any form of harassment. We expect our pupils to treat members of staff, visitors and each other with courtesy and co-operation.

ACCESS POLICY

We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives. Our bursary policy together with our 'Teaching Links' programme contribute to a widening of access to the education we offer and the facilities we enjoy.

Teaching Links

Our School is a part of a wider community, and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our School also offers a resource to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our 'Teaching Links' programme of cooperation and joint working with local state junior and secondary schools.

Bursary policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure that children whose families have had significant changes to their financial circumstances can continue to access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, for example in the case of redundancy.

In assessing means we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

The bursary awards ranged from 50% to 100% remission of fees. In the year we awarded five bursaries at an average of £9,546 each.

OTHER POLICIES ON ASSISTANCE

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Littlegarth School and a school fee plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than two children at the School.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company is governed by its Memorandum, revised on 20 February 1974, and Articles of Association, revised on 26 August 2005.

The Governors, who are also the charity Trustees, are responsible for the overall management and control of the Littlegarth School and meet four times a year. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by the Senior Management Team. The School Bursar is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Governors and their Committees, preparation of papers and management accounts and the review of matters arising.

In line with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 the Governors, in their role as directors, act in good faith, the success of the School, and in doing so have regard have regard, amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- (b) the interests of the School's employees,
- (c) the need to foster the School's relationships with suppliers, parents and others,
- (d) the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment,
- (e) the desirability of the School maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct in the operation of its activities, and
- (f) the need to act fairly in their dealings with the stakeholders of the School

The achievement of the above objectives is reflected within this report.

Governing Body

The Governors are listed on page 1. All Governors are members of the Association of Littlegarth School Limited in accordance with the governing documents.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. Any expenses reimbursed are disclosed in note 8 to the financial statements. No Governor or person connected with a Governor received any benefit from means tested bursaries awarded to our pupils.

Organisational Management

The Board determines the overall strategy and general policy of the School and approves strategic plans, regulatory matters, major items of capital expenditure and financing matters.

All Governors have access to the advice and services of the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that the Board and its committees are provided with papers of sufficient quality to enable the Governors to consider matters in good time for meetings and enable them to discharge their duties effectively.

The work of implementing a number of the Board's policies is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which holds three meetings during the year. Other principal committees cover Human Resources, Audit and Educational matters. Both meet termly before a full Board meeting. The Head, Deputy Heads, Bursar, and other senior staff attend these meetings as appropriate.

The day to day running of the School is delegated to the Head, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day-to-day administration of the School is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff.

Key management personnel

The Governors consider that they, together with the Head, the Deputy Heads, the Bursar and the senior staff comprise the Key Management Personnel and are listed on Page 1a.

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Risk Management

Littlegarth School Governors are responsible for the identification, evaluation and management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed consideration of risks is delegated to the appropriate sub-committees, with oversight at each full governors' meeting. Risks are identified, assessed and controls established. A formal review of the Company's risk management processes is undertaken annually. Through this procedure the Governors satisfy themselves that major risks identified have been mitigated wherever possible and practicable.

The key controls used by the Company include:

- formal agendas for all Committee and Board meetings;
- detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- clear authorisation and approval levels for ordering and invoicing of goods and services; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately identified and managed.

The main risks that the Governors have identified and have implemented plans to manage those risks are:

- Reputation. The School's success is built on its reputation for the education and well-being of our pupils. We manage this risk through safeguarding policies, staff recruitment policies, pastoral support for both pupils and staff and active identification and resolution of health and safety related issues.
- Money. Our ability to continue is reliant on pupil fees and the ability to pay bills as they fall due. This risk is managed by marketing activity, having a reputation for academic and all-round excellence and active cash-flow management
- Curriculum. Academic excellence requires the most able teachers with state-of-the-art facilities delivering the curriculum to able students. We manage this by combining attractive salaries with additional allowances paid for Mathematics and English staff and other staff with extra responsibilities, on-going investment in our estate and an approach to enrolment that works with supportive parents whose children have an appetite for learning.

GOVERNORS AND CHARITY TRUSTEES

Governor Recruitment and Training

The Governing Body appoints new Trustees, their terms of service set in accordance with the governing documents. Their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills, experience and local availability are taken into account in the appointment process.

The Governing body requires breadth and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently. When recruiting new trustees, the important attribute is a passion for the work of our School and an understanding of education as a holistic and rounded experience of personal growth. In making their recommendations for potential new trustees, Governors seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the Governing Body reflects the diverse nature of the Society in which it operates and includes the following competencies.

- A Governor with a legal background
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background
- A Governor with education experience
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs

A Governor may have one or more of these skills.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

New Governors are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including Board policies and procedures. The School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), which provides professional support as required.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of Littlegarth School Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantors at 31 July 2023 was 8 (2022:12). The Governors are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditor

Following a rebranding exercise on 15 May 2023 the trading name of the company's independent auditor changed from MHA MacIntyre Hudson to MHA. The auditor, MHA, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by the Trustees of Littlegarth School Limited on 4 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Keohane (Chair of Governors)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Littlegarth School Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st July 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st July 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 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 we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1k and 1l 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 in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework 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 but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

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Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's governors, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Governors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Cara Miller ACCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of MHA, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Colchester, United Kingdom
Essex
CO4 9YQ

Date: 16 February 2024

MHA is the trading name of MacIntyre Hudson LLP, a limited liability partnership in England and Wales (registered number OC312313).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Note	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Charitable Activities-					
Income from Coronavirus		-	-	-	2,520
Academic and other fees	2	4,108,668	-	4,108,668	3,865,508
Donations and events		-	39,825	39,825	12,761
Investment income	4	23,659	-	23,659	10,430
Total income		4,132,327	39,825	4,172,152	3,891,219
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities-					
Provision of education	5a 5b	3,960,458	-	3,960,458	3,721,410
Total expenditure		3,960,458	-	3,960,458	3,721,410
Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers		171,869	39,825	211,694	169,809
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		171,869	39,825	211,694	169,809
Opening Fund Balances		4,268,902	-	4,268,902	4,099,093
Closing Fund Balances	15	4,440,771	39,825	4,480,596	4,268,902

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains and losses other than those stated above.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	4,638,052	4,724,868
Investments	11	2	2
		<u>4,638,054</u>	<u>4,724,870</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		49,725	51,873
Debtors	12	132,255	101,483
Cash at bank and in hand		1,242,001	1,036,209
		<u>1,423,981</u>	<u>1,189,565</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(448,741)</u>	<u>(440,433)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>975,240</u>	<u>749,132</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>5,613,294</u>	<u>5,474,002</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>(1,132,698)</u>	<u>(1,205,100)</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>4,480,596</u>	<u>4,268,902</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS		39,825	-
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General fund		<u>4,440,771</u>	<u>4,268,902</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	16	<u>4,480,596</u>	<u>4,268,902</u>

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime were approved by the Trustees on 4 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Keohane
Chair
Registered number: 1141073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	17		495,371		514,233
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Interest received		12,612		530	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(162,040)		(207,185)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(149,428)		(206,655)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Increase of borrowings		345,000			
Repayment of borrowings		(437,482)		(91,740)	
Interest paid		(47,669)		(42,405)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(140,151)		(134,145)
CHANGE IN CASH IN THE PERIOD			205,792		173,433
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD			1,036,209		862,776
CASH AT THE END OF THE PERIOD			1,242,001		1,036,209

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address and principal place of business is the school, at Horkesley Park, Colchester, CO6 4JR.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (September 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional and presentational currency of the School, and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements include the results of the charitable company only, and do not include its wholly-owned dormant subsidiary. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet.

Littlegarth School Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable and charges for educational services and income from extra curricula and extramural activities during the year are accounted for in the year in which the service is provided.

Donations

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the Charity are credited to Unrestricted Funds upon receipt.

Government grants

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the School has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional activity categories. Overhead and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on an appropriate basis. The VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise the cost of running the Charity, including strategic planning for future development and also internal and external audit, any legal advice for the Governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the costs of Board and Committee meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Pensions

The Charity contributes to the Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme at rates set by the Scheme Actuary and advised to the Board by the Scheme Administrator. The scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme and it is not possible to identify which part of the assets and liabilities of the scheme are attributable to the School. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The School also runs a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff and a stakeholder pension scheme for other members of staff. The contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities when made.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest received on bank balances is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Going Concern

Having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's projected cash flows, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Assets under construction	nil
Freehold land	nil
Freehold buildings	50 years, 25 years, 20 years or 15 years
Freehold buildings – equipment	10 years
Leased equipment	Over the period of the lease
School equipment	Over 3 to 8 years (baby grand piano depreciated over 20 years)

Items costing less than £500 are written off as an expense as acquired.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is computed on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less the estimated cost of disposal.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Academic and other fees

	2023	2022
	£	£
Academic fees (note 3)	3,489,634	3,391,563
Non-academic fees	167,059	138,220
Lunches and milk	263,317	248,293
Miscellaneous	185,403	85,037
Hire of facilities	3,255	2,395
	4,108,668	3,865,508

Miscellaneous income above includes a one-off insurance receipt of £100,000 in respect of loss of earnings during the first COVID lockdown.

	2023	2022
	£	£
3 Academic fees		
Gross fees	3,594,626	3,465,041
Less: Total bursaries and staff remission	(104,992)	(73,478)
	3,489,634	3,391,563

	2023	2022
	£	£
4 Income from other operating income		
Incidental rental income	11,047	9,900
Bank deposit interest	12,612	530
	23,659	10,430

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

		2023	2022
5a	Teaching and care of children	£	£
	Salaries – academic	1,799,136	1,675,926
	Salaries – catering	114,859	93,953
	Pension costs	318,855	302,426
	Lesson materials	60,852	52,862
	Other direct costs	210,253	199,318
	Lunches and milk	104,416	92,300
		2,608,371	2,416,785
5b	Support costs	2023	2022
		£	£
			Restated
	Support staff	353,821	322,947
	Pension costs	19,743	16,998
	Other direct costs	7,396	7,659
	Heating and lighting	118,012	96,639
	Cleaning	98,235	82,100
	Property repairs	187,731	203,462
	Insurances	33,770	31,776
	Service charges and rates	13,312	21,591
	Hire of office equipment	5,350	2,922
	Depreciation	238,735	235,332
	Advertising	13,447	29,584
	Subscriptions	5,166	6,492
	Telephone charges	4,611	5,991
	ICT costs	76,712	63,556
	Printing postage and stationery	16,094	12,302
	Sundry expenditure	25,023	25,914
	Bank charges	2,214	2,248
	Bank loan interest	48,338	42,405
	Bad debt write off / movement in provision	4,388	-
	Legal and professional fees	26,376	31,223
	Loss / (Profit) on Disposal of fixed assets	10,121	2,733
	Staff expenditure	15,349	21,274
	Governance costs (note 6)	28,143	39,477
		1,352,087	1,304,625

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	2023 £	2022 £ Restated*
6 Governance costs		
Salaries	13,024	12,646
Audit fee	12,000	10,500
Other costs	3,119	16,331
	28,143	39,477

*Reallocation of prior year teachers' pension audit fee and disbursements for the main audit from support costs to governance costs

7 Net income for the period	2023 £	2022 £
This is stated after crediting:		
Rental income	11,047	9,900
Interest receivable	12,612	530
and after charging:		
Staff costs (note 8)	2,619,437	2,424,896
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– audit	10,000	8,750
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT – TPS audit	850	800
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– other services	950	-
Operating leases:		
Hire of assets other than plant & machinery	5,350	2,922
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10):		
Owned assets	238,735	235,332
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	10,121	2,733

8 Staff costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	2,031,443	1,878,462
Supply staff salaries	43,589	35,417
Social security costs	205,807	191,593
Pension costs	338,598	319,424
	2,619,437	2,424,896
	2023 £	2022 £
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	442,557	417,130

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

8 Staff costs (continued)

Average monthly employee headcount:

	2023	2022.
	Number	Number
Academic staff	47	45
Non-academic staff	21	20
	<u>68</u>	<u>65</u>

The following number of employees earned in excess of £60,000
(excluding pension contributions and employer's NI):

£60,000 – £70,000	-	-
£70,001 – £80,000	1	2
£80,001 – £90,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

One of the employees above is accruing benefits under a defined benefit retirement scheme.

Governors

No emoluments were paid to the Governors in the current or preceding period.

Governors' expenses

No costs were reimbursed to Governors (2022: £144 to 1 Governor).

Leaving gifts totalling £825 were given to three governors who retired from their roles in July 2023.

9 Taxation

As a consequence of the Company's charitable status the Company has no liability to corporation tax.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	School Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
1 August 2022	5,505,517	1,166,348	6,671,865
Additions	9,197	152,843	162,040
Disposals	-	(107,852)	(107,852)
31 July 2023	5,514,714	1,211,339	6,726,053
Depreciation			
1 August 2022	1,274,987	672,010	1,946,997
Charge for the year	113,922	124,813	238,735
Disposals	-	(97,731)	(97,731)
31 July 2023	1,388,909	699,092	2,088,001
Net book amount			
31 July 2023	4,125,805	512,247	4,638,052
1 August 2022	4,230,530	494,338	4,724,868

11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited

	Investments
	£
Cost and Net Book Value	
At 1 August 2022 and 31 July 2023	2

The investment comprises 2 ordinary shares in Littlegarth Services Limited, a company incorporated in England. The Company owns 100% of its subsidiary. Littlegarth Services Limited is currently dormant.

	2023	2022
	£	£
12 Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	49,565	46,045
Other debtors	19,780	7,495
Prepayments and accrued income	62,910	47,943
	132,255	101,483

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Bank loans (secured, see note 14)	70,910	90,990
Trade creditors	94,822	110,592
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	2	2
Other taxation and social security	54,045	49,911
Accruals and deferred income	96,103	69,367
Other creditors	132,859	119,571
	448,741	440,433
	2023 £	2022 £
14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other liabilities		
Bank loans (secured)	1,132,698	1,205,100
Maturity of debt		
In one year or less, or on demand	70,910	90,990
In more than one year but not more than two years	44,061	70,561
In more than two years but not more than five years	142,814	137,309
In more than five years	945,823	997,230
	1,203,608	1,296,090

The bank loans and overdraft are secured by a first legal charge over the Company's freehold property and an unscheduled mortgage debenture over all assets of the Company.

15 Analysis of Funds	Fund Balances 1 September 2022 £	Net Income for the year £	Expenditure for the year £	Fund Balances 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted Funds	4,268,902	4,132,327	(3,960,458)	4,440,771
Restricted Funds - Pavilion	-	39,825	-	39,825
	4,268,902	4,172,152	(3,960,458)	4,480,596

Donations totalling £39,825 were received in the year to 31 July 2023 to help fund a cricket pavilion.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2023

16	Analysis of assets between funds	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
	Fixed assets	4,638,054	-	4,638,054
	Current assets	1,384,156	39,825	1,423,981
	Current liabilities	(448,741)	-	(448,741)
	Long term liabilities	(1,132,698)	-	(1,132,698)
		4,440,771	39,825	4,480,596
			2023 £	2022 £
17	Notes to the statement of cash flows			
	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating Activities			
	Net income for the reporting period		211,694	169,809
	Adjusted for:			
	Depreciation charges		238,735	235,332
	Interest received		(12,612)	(530)
	Interest paid		47,669	42,405
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets		10,121	2,733
	Decrease / (Increase) in stocks		2,148	(12,982)
	(Increase) / Decrease in debtors		(30,772)	37,887
	Increase in creditors		28,388	39,579
	Net cash flow from operating activities		495,371	514,233
	Analysis of changes in net debt			
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,036,209	205,792	1,242,001
	Debt due within one year	(90,990)	20,080	(70,910)
	Debt due after one year	(1,205,100)	72,402	(1,132,698)
		(259,881)	298,274	38,393

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2023

17 Notes to the statement of cash flows (continued)

Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	2023 £	2022 £
Increase / (decrease) in cash in the period	205,792	173,433
Cash outflow from decrease in debt	92,482	91,740
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows	298,274	265,173
Net debt brought forward	(259,881)	(525,054)
Net debt carried forward	38,393	(259,881)

18 Pension commitments

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (England and Wales) ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £315,878 (2022: £300,262) and at the year-end £36,639 (2022: £35,496) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2014. Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary Department. The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme took place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers have paid an increased contribution rate of 23.68% since 1 September 2019 (this includes an administration levy of 0.08%). Until then, employers paid a rate of 16.48% following an increase from 14.1% at 1 September 2015.

A copy of the latest applicable valuation report can be found by following this link to [the Teachers' Pension Scheme website](#)

There has subsequently been an updated valuation, announced in October 2023 which takes effect from April 2024 and therefore does not apply to these accounts.

The School makes additional contributions to a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff. Contributions are also made for two members of the non-teaching staff to other defined contribution schemes at a rate of two times the employees' contribution subject to a cap of 10%.

Contributions for all other members of staff who are eligible to join are made to NEST, the workplace pension scheme set up by the Government. Pension contributions to this scheme were made at 5% of the employees' eligible salary from 1 April 2020.

The pension scheme charge for the other pension schemes in the year amounted to £22,720 (2022: £19,162) including a year-end provision of £5,168 (2022: £4,569).

19 Related party transactions

At the year-end the Company owed £2 to Littlegarth Services Limited, a dormant subsidiary, (2022: £2). There were no donations from trustees or other related parties in the year (2022: £NIL). During the year one (2022: one) pupil attended the School who was a close family relative of two governors (2022: one governor). The fees paid for this pupil were at the standard rate with no discounts applied.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2023

20	Leasing commitments	2023	2022
	At the year end the Company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-	£	£
	Expiry date:		
	Within 1 year	7,435	1,797
	Between 2-5 years	24,028	-
21	Capital commitments		
	The School had no capital commitments (2022: £32,015) at the year-end.		

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 325064

Accounts



LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Registered number: 1141073
Charity number: 325064

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

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LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Directors, Governors and Charity Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable Company, the Charity, are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also referred to as the Governors throughout this report. They are collectively referred to as the Governors, Board of Governors and Littlegarth School Governors.

The following Governors have served in office throughout the year except where indicated:

Mr J Henderson	(Chair)
Mr D Burden	
Mr R Clegg	(Appointed 3 November 2022)
Mrs C Clouston	
Mrs J Gee	(Appointed 1 September 2022)
Mr J Keohane	(Appointed 22 September 2022)
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mr M McKaughan	(Resigned 22 April 2022)
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	
Mr G Post	(Resigned 8 July 2022)
Mrs D Stanton	
Mrs C Stevens	
Mrs W-F Thompson	

Audit Committee:

Mrs M McKenna	(Chair) (Appointed 8 July 2022)
Mr G Post	(Chair) (Resigned 8 July 2022)
Mr J Henderson	
Mrs M Oats	

Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Mr D Burden	(Chair)
Mrs J Gee	
Mr J Henderson	
Mrs McKenna	
Mr G Post	(Resigned 8 July 2022)

Human Resources Committee:

Mrs M Oats	(Chair)
Mrs C Clouston	
Mrs W-F Thompson	

Education Committee:

Mrs D Stanton	(Chair) (Appointed 22 April 2022)
Mr M McKaughan	(Chair) (Resigned 22 April 2022)
Mrs C Clouston	
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mrs C Stevens	

The members of the Committees are appointed by the Board of Governors. The Board is a self-appointing body. Service on the Board is for a term of four years. Retiring Governors can be re-elected for a further period of four years.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate the day-to day management of the School to the Head who in turn manages with her senior staff team comprising:

Head	Mrs K Uttley
Deputy Head Academic	Miss H Smith
Deputy Head Pastoral	Mr K Dawes
Bursar	Miss J Ward
Head of Early Years	Mrs Elmakahleh

The Bursar is also Clerk to the Governors

Address:

The School address is:

Horkesley Park
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

Telephone: 01206 262332
E-mail: office@littlegarth.org
Website: www.littlegarth.org

Advisors:

SOLICITORS

Ellisons Solicitors
Headgate Court
Head Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1NP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

MHA MacIntyre Hudson LLP
910 The Crescent
Colchester Business Park
Colchester
Essex
CO4 9YQ

BANKER

NatWest Bank PLC
25 High Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1DG

REGISTERED OFFICE

Horkesley Park
Park Road
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

The Littlegarth School Governors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2022 and confirm they comply with the requirements of Company and Charity legislation, the memorandum and articles of association and the Charities SORP FRS 102, as appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable Company, founded in 1958, registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 325064. Governors and Executive Officers are listed on pages 1 and 1a. The principal address of the Charity and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1a. The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales and the registration number is 1141073.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to promote and to provide for the advancement of education of children. Within these objects, the Charity also has to maintain its assets, the School buildings, and provide necessary funding for the development of the School's facilities and bursaries for those in need. All other Objects listed are subsidiary to this Object. In the furtherance of this Object the Directors, as the charity Trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

OUR AIMS

Within the objects above, the aim of the School is to provide a high-quality day-school independent education for children from the age of two and a half to eleven. It does not discriminate on the grounds of ability at the time of entry. It seeks to prepare children academically, socially and spiritually for progress into secondary education within an environment where each pupil can develop and fulfil his or her potential, helping to build self-confidence. It seeks to give as wide and general an education as possible, to develop artistic and sporting skills and to treat every child as an Individual.

Littlegarth School actively supports the attainment of the highest standards in the Independent Schools sector, partly through networking with other schools and partly through sharing good practice for the evaluation of quality and performance improvement methods. We also work closely with local schools in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the School.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Board continues to promote the high academic development of all pupils, so that those leaving the School are equipped to progress to secondary schools of their choice. There were 279 (2021: 277) pupils during the year with a further 40 (2021: 47) in the Nursery, and demand appears particularly strong in the upper years. The School continues to promote itself through active marketing. Taster days have continued to be successful and interest from parents remains strong, giving us confidence that the School will be able to operate close to capacity for the foreseeable future. We believe this position will be maintained through monitoring and enhancing the academic and teaching standards for which the School has become known.

Pupil numbers and fees

Pupil numbers were ahead of budget at 279 (budget: 277) in the main School and 40 (budget: 48) in the Nursery. Our fee increase of 2.95% from September 2021 was approved by the Governors. Fees after this increase were:

Pre-prep (Reception to Year 2)	£3,600 per term
Prep (Years 3 & 4)	£3,873 per term
Prep (Years 5 & 6)	£4,181 per term

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic

The School provides not only a high level of academic teaching and learning, but also continues to seek to provide an outstanding breadth of experience across the curriculum and balance academic achievements with a strong emphasis on sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic and social skills.

Academic results were again excellent during the year with all Year 6 children gaining places in secondary schools of their choice. The ranges of schools that Littlegarth children move on to are generally grammar schools in Colchester, independent day and boarding schools and comprehensive schools. The School was again highly successful this year. 21 of our 42 leavers gained a total of 38 academic, sport, music, art, drama and/or all-round awards, and 4 children gained places at grammar schools, around double the national average.

The Arts

The Music department has continued to thrive at Littlegarth, with children exploring singing, music-making and a broad curriculum that encompasses orchestral music, traditional music from around the world, composition, jazz, pop, theatre music and much more. Over 150 individual music lessons are taught by our peripatetic tutors each week, with a huge variety of instruments being learned by pupils. We are proud to count amongst our ranks budding students in a wide range of instruments as well as a number of singers. A wide range of singing and instrumental ensembles complement our musical programme; ensembles perform at least twice a year at major School events. In July 2022 we hosted a delightful open-air Summer Concert, attended by the whole School and over 200 guests, at which there were performances by all School ensembles, every child in Reception and Years 1-4, and a number of soloists from Years 3-6.

Further performance opportunities are provided to children with our popular tea-time concerts, hosted by our Year 6 Music Prefects. In 2021/22 we were delighted to produce nine such concerts. Pupils also have the opportunity to perform in School assemblies.

Drama continues to go from strength to strength at Littlegarth. Pre-prep children performed a beautiful Nativity production in December 2021, where astronauts brought the magic of Christmas to a brand new planet. Meanwhile, Littlegarth's first ever major multi-year-group musical production took place in March 2022. An ambitious production of *Bugsy Malone*, featuring a cast of 50 children from Years 4-6, selected by audition, allowed our most passionate and able performers to push themselves and showcase their talents in an all-new temporary theatre space created within the Sports Hall, accompanied by a 10-piece professional band of musicians, with extensive and professional-grade sound and lighting design. *Bugsy Malone* marked a bold step forward for performing arts at Littlegarth, and was a calendar highlight for many pupils, staff, and parents alike.

Year 3 children enjoyed performing their fairytale puppetry work, devised during a three-day Drama Workshop, to parents and peers in early 2022, while Year 4 learned about the importance of re-wilding with their musical production "Project Planet", in April. To round off a busy and successful year of drama and performing, Year 6 delighted us all with an exciting performance of the classic musical Chitty Chitty Bang Bang for their end-of-year production in June.

The Drama department continues to be ably supported in the costume and design department, and by the IT and Art/Technology departments who provide vital resources and expertise to ensure productions achieve the highest possible standard.

Sport

Following on from the pandemic and recommencing with a full fixture list, we have seen many successes across the board in all sports this year at inter-schools fixtures, regional qualifiers and national championships. This year we have continued to find the balance between sport for all and achieving excellence at all levels and age groups. We have worked more closely with state sector primary schools and further developed the curriculum provision.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Sport (continued)

In the Autumn Term of 2021 our U11A Hockey team won the ISA National Hockey Championships at the Olympic Park, and our under 10A Rugby team became ISA Rugby National Champions. In the same competition, our under 10B team finished runners up, which at a National level demonstrates the depth of our boys sport. Our U11A Rugby team finished second at the ISA National Rugby finals too, and the under 11s finished first in the IAPS Easter region for the first time. Our U10A Rugby team then went on to win 5 out of 6 matches at the Annual Prep Schools' Rugby Festival hosted at Framlingham. Recently (Autumn 2022) the rugby success has continued with our new U11A Rugby team attending and winning the annual New Hall Festival. The U10A Rugby team attended the annual Framlingham festival and kept with tradition by winning it.

In swimming, we achieved many qualifiers for both the ISA and IAPS National Championships with the following results:

- ISA Swimming - 3rd in U11 Boys Breaststroke, 1st in U11 Boys Medley Relay, 1st in U11 Boys Fly, 3rd in U10 Boys Freestyle Relay, 2nd in U11 Boys Freestyle Relay and one of our pupils secured a National record in Backstroke.
- IAPS Swimming - 8th in U11 Medley Relay, 14th in U11 Backstroke, 4th in U10 Freestyle, 8th in U11 Breaststroke

In the Spring term of 2022 our U11A Football team achieved 2nd place in the plate competition at the ISA National Football Tournament at St George's Park (8th overall Nationally). In Netball, our U11A team qualified for both the ISA and IAPS National Netball Championships with the following results:

- ISA U11 Netball - 3rd in the Plate (9th overall)
- IAPS U11 Netball - 20th out of 203 schools

Our Cross-Country team were highly successful in February 2022 at the ISA Regional Qualifiers with 6 children qualifying for the National Championships in Worksop in March. There were 70 runners in each race at Nationals and we came 7th, 9th, 11th, 22nd, 27th and 32nd.

Our Summer term (2022) proved to be highly successful with Athletics and Cricket. At the Regional ISA Athletics 10 children qualified for the Nationals in Manchester and we gained:

- 6th in Year 6 Girls Long Jump
- 6th in Year 3/4 Girls 600m
- 5th in Year 4 girls Ball Throw
- 4th in Year 4 Boys Ball Throw
- 3rd in Year 4 Boys 600m
- 2nd in Year 5 Boys 600m
- 1st in Year 5 Boys Relay - National Champions and half a second off the National record

We also enjoyed our most successful Cricket season for many years, with fixtures against other schools which included a match versus North East Essex. We took our under 11A Cricket team to the annual Tonbridge Cricket festival, which we won, and our U11A Boys Cricket team won both the IAPS Eastern Regional Cricket Tournament at Framlingham College and the Orwell Sixes Tournament at Orwell Park school. Our U11A Girls' team also won the Orwell Sixes Tournament.

Alongside attending and qualifying for Regional and National events, we have hosted Rugby, Football, Netball and Hockey Festivals at Littlegarth for our U9 teams. We held an inter-state school Cross Country competition for 160 children from two local state schools.

In the Spring term, we hosted a special day called "Being Inspired". John Willis, the founder of Power2Inspire worked with years 3 to 6, allowing them to try disability sports first hand. His inspirational story was such that John then went on to be our guest speaker at speech day.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Community access

We are proud that Littlegarth School is part of a wider community, and we look to assist the educational provision in our local community where possible. During the last academic year we looked to return to pre-COVID provision. We hosted a community fun run, where runners of all ages were able to run 5K or 10K for a chosen charity. We became part of the Dedham dark skies initiative and were delighted to once again run our Christmas and summer fetes for both the School and wider community. In addition, the Circus came to Littlegarth and the School held various charity events which were open to all.

Partnerships with local state schools

Our work with the Multi Schools Council continues. This is a group made up of over 50 local state primary, secondary and special educational schools that was set up to help break down perceptions towards children with SEND and mental health difficulties in schools and their wider communities; we continue to be the only independent school in attendance. During the year we hosted one of the three termly meetings and attended the first ever "diversity day". This was hosted at Prested Hall and gave our pupils the opportunity to work with a range of pupils from other schools to discuss the issues which really affect them.

In addition, we have strong links with Heathlands Primary School and Nayland Primary School, particularly in the area of sports provision. Both schools have used our facilities for matches and joined us for coaching in a variety of sports throughout the year. We are also liaising closely with one local primary school for further opportunities between the schools.

Charitable Giving

During the year, £23,256 was raised for a variety of charities, in particular for St Helena Hospice and the UNICEF Ukraine appeal.

Grant making policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in enabling existing parents who have had a significant change in financial circumstance to continue their child's education at the School. The School awards a number of bursaries on a means tested basis. These are funded out of income from fees as the School has no restricted funds to pay for such bursaries. Applications for bursaries have to be submitted annually. The total value of bursaries awarded during the year was £21,043 (2021: £36,084).

Facilities

A number of improvements have also been made to our facilities, the key items being as detailed below. As COVID-19 restrictions have lifted an enhanced programme of works has been undertaken, in particular:

- The redesign of the front office
- Creation of an animation room
- Installation of an external canopy roof for Reception
- Redecoration of the outside of the Nursery and new signage added for Nursery and Reception

Friends of Littlegarth

The School benefits from the generosity of a thriving network of Friends of Littlegarth School who have helped with fundraising and activities, giving many hours of voluntary support during the year. The Governors greatly appreciate and gladly acknowledge this. This year's events included a parent versus staff cricket match, a summer fete, a summer party, a fund raising ball for parents and staff, a firework display in Autumn, a Christmas bazaar and Christmas parties for the children.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Marketing

The School retains its high standing in the local community as a result of its academic, sporting and artistic performance, and standard of pastoral care. There continues to be strong competition for private schooling in the area and Colchester remains a relatively affluent community as a result of its proximity to London, and the City in particular; the demand for high quality private education remains buoyant.

The School remains a member of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), and the Independent School Bursars Association (ISBA).

FUTURE PLANS

The Governors intend to continue their current strategy of maintaining the School's position in a competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for our pupils. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant aim whilst maintaining the breadth and depth of the education provided.

Our future plans are financed primarily from fee income and from our reserves. The Governors maintain an equitable balance ensuring our current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils in the same way as our current pupils benefit today from the investment made in the past. Maintaining and developing the fabric and facilities of the School are central to our strategy.

OUR FINANCES

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year of £169.8k (2021: £299.7k), which was a decrease of £21.1k against a reforecast surplus of £190.9k primarily due to certain summer works such as the partial re-surfacing of the car park being completed ahead of schedule in July rather than August.

The principal source of income is fees accounting for 99% of the School's income. The Governors are continuing their strategy of deploying all net incoming resources for investment in the educational purposes and fabric of the School.

As a charity the parents of our pupils have the comfort that all the income of the School must be applied for educational purposes. As an educational charity we enjoy tax exemption on our educational activities and on our investment income and gains.

We also receive an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy. The financial benefits we receive from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help us to maintain our bursary policies.

However, as an educational charity, we are unable to reclaim VAT input tax on our costs as we are exempt for VAT purposes. As an employer, we also pay employment taxes.

In addition to the very substantial benefits our School brings to our pupils, the local community and society through the education we offer, our bursary programme creates a social benefit.

Developments and Maintenance

Property repairs and maintenance costs amounted to £203k during the year and included the renovation of the front office, tarmacking of a further part of the car park, and electrical upgrade works. Fixed asset additions amounted to £207k and included investment in building upgrade works such as canopies for the Nursery and Reception buildings, replacement of all interactive whiteboards, purchase of 33 iPads, an upgrade of the IT network, a replacement small tractor and various kitchen equipment improvements.

Fixed assets, net of depreciation, decreased by £31k during the year.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Reserves and Financial Health

The Governors regularly review the financial expenditure and resources as part of the effective stewardship of the School.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into new School buildings and there is a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils.

Long-term liabilities represent the loans taken out for the new teaching block and the balance of loans taken out to help fund previous enhancements of the School facilities, including the Sports Hall. The loan balance of £1,296k at 31 July 2022 includes loan facilities of £1,219k (£1,400k on draw down), obtained in 2017/18 to help finance the development of the School's new teaching facilities.

The School's reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted income reserves to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the event of revenue shortfalls. Free reserves are that part of the School's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the School's purposes. Free reserves exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use net of the bank loans used to finance those assets.

In normal circumstances the School's target is sufficient free reserves to cover between two and four months' operating expenditure. In exceptional circumstances the Governors may need to draw down on reserves to fund development activity. At 31 July there were free reserves of £840,125 which represents over two and a half months of expenditure (2021: free reserves of £731,175, representing over two and a half months of operating expenditure). The Governors recognise that as a result of the investment in buildings for the future benefit of the School and related borrowing arrangements there will be limited free reserves for the foreseeable future. The Governors are satisfied that external finance facilities are sufficient to provide working capital and an adequate safety net for the School.

Impact of COVID-19 and Wider Economic Factors

The COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing economic shutdowns had an impact on our operations in 2020 and 2021 but the school managed successfully to mitigate the impact of COVID on an operational and financial level, primarily through the provision of remote learning and stricter controls on spending. A normal level of activities was resumed during the course of 2021/22 although a high level of staff cover was needed due to illness from COVID during the winter months, and the School has generated a strong surplus for the year and improved the reserves position.

In 2022, the wider national and global economy has changed significantly due to multiple factors such as the war in Ukraine and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This has led to an increase in the cost-of-living, most notably in fuel and energy prices. The Governors have performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into account all available information and expected future costs.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the School, the Governors have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to going concern. As such, the Governors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Investment Policy

The School has an investment policy, which is reviewed annually by the Governors, that seeks to maximise the utilisation of the School's assets.

Remuneration Policy

Remuneration is set by the Board, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly individual contributions to the School's success. The School participates in benchmarking surveys to inform appropriate pay levels.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

OUR ETHOS, STRATEGY AND POLICIES

Our Governors are responsible for setting a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils, their continued high levels of academic and co-curricular achievement and to widen further access to the education our School provides.

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society

Littlegarth School is a charity which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our 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 children aged two to eleven.

We welcome pupils from all backgrounds. To admit prospective pupils, we need to be satisfied that our School will be able to educate and develop each pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. The economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

We are an equal opportunity organisation, are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation, and everyone has the right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse. We make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled.

At the beginning of March 2022 the School fully met the requirements of a compliance inspection from the Independent Schools' Inspectorate. In the last full Independent Schools' Inspectorate report in May 2017, the overall achievement and personal development of the pupils was described as "excellent". The Independent Schools Inspectorate carried out an Intermediate Inspection on the Early Years Foundation Stage in June 2014 and described the overall quality and standards of the EYFS provision as "excellent".

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through two parent evenings and two reports each academic year. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year through informal contacts and through our newsletter. Pupils have a class or form teacher responsible for pastoral care and overseeing academic development.

Our School community is based upon respect, good manners and fair play. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that is free from disruption, violence and any form of harassment. We expect our pupils to treat members of staff, visitors and each other with courtesy and co-operation.

ACCESS POLICY

We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives. We regularly update our Accessibility Policy to ensure that access is fair for all.

Teaching Links

Our School is a part of a wider community and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our School also offers a resource to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our programme of cooperation and joint working with local state junior and secondary schools.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Bursary policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure that children whose families have had significant changes to their financial circumstances can continue to access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, for example in the case of redundancy.

In assessing means we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

The bursary awards ranged from 66% to 100% remission of fees. In the year we awarded five bursaries at an average of £4,209 each.

OTHER POLICIES ON ASSISTANCE

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Littlegarth School and a school fee plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than two children at the School.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our School.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company is governed by its Memorandum, revised on 20 February 1974, and Articles of Association, revised on 26 August 2005.

The Governors, who are also the charity Trustees, are responsible for the overall management and control of the Littlegarth School and meet four times a year. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by the Senior Management Team. The School Bursar is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Governors and their Committees, preparation of papers and management accounts and the review of matters arising.

In line with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 the Governors, in their role as directors, act in good faith, the success of the School, and in doing so have regard have regard, amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- (b) the interests of the School's employees,
- (c) the need to foster the School's relationships with suppliers, parents and others,
- (d) the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment,
- (e) the desirability of the School maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct in the operation of its activities, and
- (f) the need to act fairly in their dealings with the stakeholders of the School

The achievement of the above objectives is reflected within this report.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Governing Body

The Governors are listed on page 1. All Governors are members of the Association of Littlegarth School Limited in accordance with the governing documents.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. Any expenses reimbursed are disclosed in note 8 to the financial statements. No Governor or person connected with a Governor received any benefit from means tested bursaries awarded to our pupils.

Organisational Management

The Board determines the overall strategy and general policy of the School and approves strategic plans, regulatory matters, major items of capital expenditure and financing matters.

All Governors have access to the advice and services of the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that the Board and its committees are provided with papers of sufficient quality to enable the Governors to consider matters in good time for meetings and enable them to discharge their duties effectively.

The work of implementing a number of the Board's policies is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which holds three meetings during the year. Other principal committees cover Human Resources, Audit and Educational matters. Both meet termly before a full Board meeting. The Head, Deputy Heads, Bursar and other senior staff attend these meetings as appropriate.

The day to day running of the School is delegated to the Head, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day to day administration of the School is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff.

Key management personnel

The Governors consider that they, together with the Head, the Deputy Heads, the Bursar and the senior staff comprise the Key Management Personnel and are listed on Page 1a.

Risk Management

Littlegarth School Governors are responsible for the identification, evaluation and management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed consideration of risks is delegated to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, assisted by the Senior Management Team. Risks are identified, assessed and controls established. A formal review of the Company's risk management processes is undertaken annually. Through this procedure the Governors satisfy themselves that major risks identified have been mitigated wherever possible and practicable.

The key controls used by the Company include:

- formal agendas for all Committee and Board meetings;
- detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- clear authorisation and approval levels for ordering and invoicing of goods and services; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately identified and managed.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Risk Management (continued)

The main risks that the Governors have identified and have implemented plans to manage those risks are:

- Reputation. The School's success is built on its reputation for the education and well-being of our pupils. We manage this risk through safeguarding policies, staff recruitment policies, pastoral support for both pupils and staff and active identification and resolution of health and safety related issues.
- Money. Our ability to continue is reliant on pupil fees and the ability to pay bills as they fall due. This risk is managed by marketing activity, having a reputation for academic and all-round excellence and active cash-flow management
- Curriculum. Academic excellence requires the most able teachers with state of the art facilities delivering the curriculum to able students. We manage this by combining attractive salaries with additional allowances paid for Mathematics and English staff and other staff with extra responsibilities, on-going investment in our estate and an approach to enrolment that works with supportive parents whose children have an appetite for learning.

GOVERNORS AND CHARITY TRUSTEES

Governor Recruitment and Training

The Governing Body appoints new Trustees, their terms of service set in accordance with the governing documents. Their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills, experience and local availability are taken into account in the appointment process.

The Governing body requires breadth and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently. When recruiting new trustees, the important attribute is a passion for the work of our School and an understanding of education as a holistic and rounded experience of personal growth. In making their recommendations for potential new trustees, Governors seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the Governing Body reflects the diverse nature of the Society in which it operates and includes the following competencies.

- A Governor with a legal background
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background
- A Governor with education experience
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs

A Governor may have one or more of these skills.

New Governors are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including Board policies and procedures. The School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), which provides professional support as required.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of Littlegarth School Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantors at 31 July 2022 was 12 (2021:11). The Governors are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Approved by the Trustees of Littlegarth School Limited on 5 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Henderson (Chair of Governors)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Littlegarth School Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st July 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st July 2022, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 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 we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1k and 1l 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 but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's governors, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Governors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Cara Miller ACCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Statutory Auditor
 Chartered Accountants
 Colchester, United Kingdom
 Essex
 CO4 9YQ

Date: 10 January 2023

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022 Unrestricted Funds £	2022 Restricted Funds £	2022 Total Funds £	2021 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Charitable Activities-					
Income from Coronavirus					
Job Retention Scheme		2,520	-	2,520	31,398
Academic and other fees	2	3,865,508	-	3,865,508	3,544,292
Donations and events		12,761	-	12,761	1,106
Investment income	4	10,430	-	10,430	10,952
Total income		3,891,219	-	3,891,219	3,587,748
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities-					
Provision of education	5a/ 5b	3,721,410	-	3,721,410	3,288,039
Total expenditure		3,721,410	-	3,721,410	3,288,039
Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers		169,809	-	169,809	299,709
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		169,809	-	169,809	299,709
Opening Fund Balances		4,099,093	-	4,099,093	3,799,384
Closing Fund Balances	15	4,268,902	-	4,268,902	4,099,093

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains and losses other than those stated above.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	4,724,868	4,755,748
Investments	11	2	2
		<u>4,724,870</u>	<u>4,755,750</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		51,873	38,891
Debtors	12	101,483	139,370
Cash at bank and in hand		1,036,209	862,776
		<u>1,189,565</u>	<u>1,041,037</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(440,433)	(401,858)
		<u>749,132</u>	<u>639,179</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>5,474,002</u>	<u>5,394,929</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(1,205,100)	(1,295,836)
NET ASSETS		<u>4,268,902</u>	<u>4,099,093</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS			-
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General fund		4,268,902	4,099,093
TOTAL FUNDS	15	<u>4,268,902</u>	<u>4,099,093</u>

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime were approved by the Trustees on 5 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Henderson
Chair
Registered number: 1141073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	16		514,233		602,720
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Interest received		530		277	
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		-		900	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(207,185)		(89,705)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(206,655)		(88,528)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Repayment of borrowings		(91,740)		(89,245)	
Interest paid		(42,405)		(44,530)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(134,145)		(133,775)
CHANGE IN CASH IN THE PERIOD			173,433		380,417
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD			862,776		482,359
CASH AT THE END OF THE PERIOD			1,036,209		862,776

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address and principal place of business is the school, at Horkesley Park, Colchester, CO6 4JR.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (September 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional and presentational currency of the School, and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements include the results of the charitable company only, and do not include its wholly-owned dormant subsidiary. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet.

Littlegarth School Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable and charges for educational services and income from extra curricula and extramural activities during the year are accounted for in the year in which the service is provided.

Donations

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the Charity are credited to Unrestricted Funds upon receipt.

Government grants

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the School has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional activity categories. Overhead and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on an appropriate basis. The VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise the cost of running the Charity, including strategic planning for future development and also internal and external audit, any legal advice for the Governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the costs of Board and Committee meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Pensions

The Charity contributes to the Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme at rates set by the Scheme Actuary and advised to the Board by the Scheme Administrator. The scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme and it is not possible to identify which part of the assets and liabilities of the scheme are attributable to the School. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The School also runs a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff and a stakeholder pension scheme for other members of staff. The contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities when made.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest received on bank balances is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Going Concern

Having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's projected cash flows, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Assets under construction	nil
Freehold land	nil
Freehold buildings	10 to 50 years
Freehold buildings – equipment	10 years
School equipment	3 years to 20 years (baby grand piano depreciated over 20 years)

Items costing less than £500 are written off as an expense as acquired.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is computed on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less the estimated cost of disposal.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Academic and other fees

	2022	2021
	£	£
Academic fees (note 3)	3,391,563	3,223,319
Non-academic fees	138,220	67,708
Lunches and milk	248,293	178,294
Miscellaneous	85,037	74,674
Sports Hall Events Income	2,395	297
	3,865,508	3,544,292

3 Academic fees

Gross fees

Less: Total bursaries and allowances

Less: Fee waiver due to COVID-19

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross fees	3,465,041	3,318,436
Less: Total bursaries and allowances	(73,478)	(70,662)
Less: Fee waiver due to COVID-19	-	(24,455)
	3,391,563	3,223,319

4 Income from Investments

Incidental rental income

Bank deposit interest

	2022	2021
	£	£
Incidental rental income	9,900	10,675
Bank deposit interest	530	277
	10,430	10,952

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities – Provision of Education

		2022	2021
		£	£
5a	Teaching and care of children		
	Salaries – academic	1,675,926	1,548,469
	Salaries – catering	93,953	71,643
	Pension costs	302,426	288,829
	Lesson materials	52,862	48,517
	Other direct costs	199,318	105,204
	Lunches and milk	92,300	62,218
		2,416,785	2,124,880
5b	Support costs		
	Support staff	322,947	333,360
	Pension costs	16,998	17,123
	Other direct costs	7,659	8,056
	Heating and lighting	96,639	72,521
	Cleaning	82,100	55,170
	Property repairs	203,462	117,024
	Insurances	31,776	29,350
	Service charges and rates	21,591	19,542
	Hire of equipment	2,922	2,985
	Depreciation	235,332	234,918
	Advertising	29,584	22,419
	Subscriptions	6,492	2,481
	Telephone charges	5,991	4,203
	ICT costs	63,556	53,155
	Printing postage and stationery	12,302	9,106
	Sundry expenditure	25,914	28,098
	Bank charges	2,248	2,025
	Bank loan interest	42,405	44,530
	Bad debt write off / movement in provision	-	776
	Legal and professional fees	31,223	26,374
	Accountancy	1,276	1,338
	Loss / (Profit) on Disposal of fixed assets	2,733	537
	Staff expenditure	21,274	55,346
	Governance costs (note 6)	38,201	22,722
		1,304,625	1,163,159

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
6 Governance costs		
Salaries	12,646	12,905
Audit fee	10,500	9,660
Other costs	15,055	157
	38,201	22,722
7 Net income for the period	2022 £	2021 £
This is stated after crediting:		
Rental income	9,900	10,675
Interest receivable	530	277
and after charging:		
Staff costs (note 8)	2,424,896	2,272,329
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– audit	8,750	8,050
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– other services	800	2,570
Operating leases:		
Hire of assets other than plant & machinery	2,922	2,985
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10):		
Owned assets	235,332	234,918
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,733	537
8 Staff costs	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	1,878,462	1,781,153
Supply staff salaries	35,417	12,265
Social security costs	191,593	172,959
Pension costs	319,424	305,952
	2,424,896	2,272,329
	2022 £	2021 £
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	417,130	422,298
Average monthly employee headcount:		
	Number	Number
Academic staff	45	42
Non-academic staff	20	23
	65	65
The following number of employees earned in excess of £60,000 (excluding pension contributions and employer's NI):		
£60,000 – £70,000	-	-
£70,001 – £80,000	2	1
£80,001 – £90,000	-	-
£90,001 – £100,000	-	1

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Two of the employees above are accruing benefits under a defined benefit retirement scheme.

Governors

No emoluments were paid to the Governors in the current or preceding period.

Governors' expenses

Expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed to Governors (2021: £144 to 1 Governor)

9 Taxation

As a consequence of the Company's charitable status the Company has no liability to corporation tax.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	School Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
1 August 2021	5,473,717	1,058,807	6,532,524
Additions	31,800	175,385	207,185
Disposals	-	(67,844)	(67,844)
31 July 2022	5,505,517	1,166,348	6,671,865
Depreciation			
1 August 2021	1,153,809	622,967	1,776,776
Charge for the year	121,178	114,154	235,332
Disposals	-	(65,111)	(65,111)
31 July 2022	1,274,987	672,010	1,946,997
Net book amount			
31 July 2022	4,230,530	494,338	4,724,868
1 August 2021	4,319,908	435,840	4,755,748

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2022

11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited

	Investments
	£
Cost and Net Book Value	
At 1 August 2021 and	
31 July 2022	2

	2022	2021
	£	£
12 Debtors		
Trade debtors	46,045	79,817
Other debtors	7,495	2,385
Prepayments and accrued income	47,943	57,168
	101,483	139,370

	2022	2021
	£	£
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Bank loans (secured, see note 14)	90,990	91,994
Trade creditors	110,592	46,525
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	2	2
Other taxation and social security	49,911	48,626
Accruals and deferred income	69,367	96,196
Other creditors	119,571	118,515
	440,433	401,858

	2022	2021
	£	£
14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other liabilities		
Bank loans (secured)	1,205,100	1,295,836
Maturity of debt		
In one year or less, or on demand	90,990	91,994
In more than one year but not more than two years	70,561	93,922
In more than two years but not more than five years	137,309	168,749
In more than five years	997,230	1,033,165
	1,296,090	1,387,830

The bank loans are secured over the freehold property of the School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2022

15	Analysis of Funds	Fund Balances 1 August 2021 £	Net Income for the year £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balances 31 July 2022 £
	Total Unrestricted Funds	4,099,093	169,809		4,268,902
	Prior year funds:	Fund Balances 1 August 2020 £	Net income for the period £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balances 31 July 2021 £
	Total Unrestricted Funds	3,799,384	299,709	-	4,099,093

Within unrestricted funds in the prior year there was £1,214 of other income from the sale of art department greeting cards; this was fully utilised in the year.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2022

		2022 £	2021 £
16	Notes to the statement of cash flows		
	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities		
	Net income for the reporting period	169,809	299,709
	Adjusted for:		
	Depreciation charges	235,332	234,918
	Interest received	(530)	(277)
	Interest paid	42,405	44,530
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,733	537
	(Increase) / Decrease in stocks	(12,982)	7,776
	Decrease / (Increase) in debtors	37,887	(46,904)
	Increase in creditors	39,579	62,431
	Net cash flow from operating activities	514,233	602,720
	Analysis of changes in net debt		
	Cash at bank and in hand	862,776	1,036,209
	Debt due within one year	(91,994)	(90,990)
	Debt due after one year	(1,295,836)	(1,205,100)
		(525,054)	(259,881)
	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	2022 £	2021 £
	Increase / (decrease) in cash in the period	173,433	380,417
	Cash outflow from decrease in debt	91,740	89,245
	Change in net debt resulting from cash flows	265,173	469,662
	Net debt brought forward	(525,054)	(994,716)
	Net debt carried forward	(259,881)	(525,054)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2022

17 Pension commitments

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (England and Wales) ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £300,262 (2021: £287,341) and at the year-end £35,496 (2021: £33,594) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2014. Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary Department. The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme took place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers have paid an increased contribution rate of 23.68% since 1 September 2019 (this includes an administration levy of 0.08%). Until then, employers paid a rate of 16.48% following an increase from 14.1% at 1 September 2015.

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found by following this link to [the Teachers' Pension Scheme website](#)

The School makes additional contributions to a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff. Contributions are also made for two members of the non-teaching staff to other defined contribution schemes at a rate of two times the employees' contribution subject to a cap of 10%.

Contributions for all other members of staff who are eligible to join are made to NEST, the workplace pension scheme set up by the Government. Pension contributions to this scheme were made at 5% of the employees' eligible salary from 1 April 2020.

The pension scheme charge for the other pension schemes in the year amounted to £19,162 (2021: £18,611) including a year-end provision of £4,569 (2021: £4,361).

18 Related party transactions

At the year-end the Company owed £2 to Littlegarth Services Limited, a dormant subsidiary, (2021: £2). There were no donations from trustees or other related parties in the year (2021: £NIL). During the year 1 (2021: 2) pupil attended the School who was a close family relative of a Governor. The fees paid for these pupils were at the standard rate with no discounts applied.

19 Leasing commitments

At the year end the Company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-

Expiry date:

Within 1 year

Between 2-5 years

2022

£

1,797

-

2021

£

2,696

1,797

20 Capital commitments

The School had capital commitments of £32,015 (2021: £NIL) at the year-end.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 325064

Accounts



LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Registered number: 1141073

Charity number: 325064

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

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LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Directors, Governors and Charity Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable Company, the Charity, are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also referred to as the Governors throughout this report. They are collectively referred to as the Governors, Board of Governors and Littlegarth School Governors.

The following Governors have served in office throughout the year except where indicated:

Mr J Henderson	(Chair)
Mr D Burden	
Mrs C Clouston	
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mr M McKaughan	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	
Mr G Post	
Mrs D Stanton	
Mrs C Stevens	(Appointed 23 September 2021)
Mrs W-F Thompson	

Audit Committee:

Mr G Post	(Chair)
Mr J Henderson	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	

Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Mr D Burden	(Chair)
Mr J Henderson	
Mrs McKenna	
Mr G Post	

Human Resources Committee:

Mrs M Oats	(Chair)
Mrs C Clouston	
Mrs W-F Thompson	

Curriculum Committee:

Mr M McKaughan	(Chair)
Mrs C Clouston	
Dr H Mahadevappa	
Mrs D Stanton	
Mrs C Stevens	(Appointed 23 September 2021)

The members of the Committees are appointed by the Board of Governors. The Board is a self-appointing body. Service on the Board is for a term of four years. Retiring Governors can be re-elected for a further period of four years.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate the day-to day management of the School to the Head who in turn manages with his senior staff team comprising:

Head	Mrs K Uttley (From 1 September 2021) Mr P Jones (Until 31 August 2021)
Deputy Head Academic	Miss H Smith
Deputy Head Pastoral	Mr K Dawes
Bursar	Miss J Ward
Head of Early Years	Mrs Elmakahleh

The Bursar is also Clerk to the Governors

Address:

The School address is:

Horkesley Park
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

Telephone: 01206 262332
E-mail: office@littlegarth.org
Website: www.littlegarth.org

Advisors:

SOLICITORS

Ellisons Solicitors
Headgate Court
Head Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1NP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

MHA MacIntyre Hudson LLP
Boundary House
4 County Place
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0RE

BANKER

NatWest Bank PLC
25 High Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1DG

REGISTERED OFFICE

Horkesley Park
Park Road
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

The Littlegarth School Governors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2021 and confirm they comply with the requirements of Company and Charity legislation, the memorandum and articles of association and the Charities SORP FRS 102, as appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable Company, founded in 1958, registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 325064. Governors and Executive Officers are listed on pages 1 and 1a. The principal address of the Charity and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1a. The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales and the registration number is 1141073.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to promote and to provide for the advancement of education of children. Within these objects, the Charity also has to maintain its assets, the School buildings, and provide necessary funding for the development of the School's facilities and bursaries for those in need. All other Objects listed are subsidiary to this Object. In the furtherance of this Object the Directors, as the charity Trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

OUR AIMS

Within the objects above, the aim of the School is to provide a high-quality day-school independent education for children from the age of two and a half to eleven. It does not discriminate on the grounds of ability at the time of entry. It seeks to prepare children academically, socially and spiritually for progress into secondary education within an environment where each pupil can develop and fulfil his or her potential, helping to build self-confidence. It seeks to give as wide and general an education as possible, to develop artistic and sporting skills and to treat every child as an Individual.

Littlegarth School actively supports the attainment of the highest standards in the Independent Schools sector, partly through networking with other schools and partly through sharing good practice for the evaluation of quality and performance improvement methods. We also work closely with local schools in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the School.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Board continues to promote the high academic development of all pupils, so that those leaving the School are equipped to progress to secondary schools of their choice. There were 277 (2020: 270) pupils during the year with a further 47 (2020: 47) in the Nursery, and demand appears particularly strong in the upper years. The School continues to promote itself through active marketing. Taster days have continued to be successful and interest from parents remains strong, giving us confidence that the School will be able to operate close to capacity for the foreseeable future. We believe this position will be maintained through monitoring and enhancing the academic and teaching standards for which the School has become known.

Pupil numbers and fees

Pupil numbers were ahead of budget at 277 (budget: 271) in the main School and 47 (budget: 45) in the Nursery. Our fee increase of 3.95% from January 2021 was approved by the Governors. Fees after this increase were:

Pre-prep (Reception to Year 2)	£3,497 per term
Prep (Years 3 & 4)	£3,762 per term
Prep (Years 5 & 6)	£4,061 per term

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic

Initiatives to enhance academic standards have centred on the development of strategies to ensure that all our pupils experience the best possible learning environment. The progress of all children is reviewed through regular formative and summative assessment, as detailed in the School's Teaching and Learning policy and the Assessment policy. We ensure that the curriculum is appropriate to the needs of the children and meets the requirements of a wide range of external examinations in Year 6. Evaluation of teaching and learning has been rigorous, with the assessment system firmly embedded to monitor the progress and attainment of all pupils. The School continues to seek to provide an outstanding breadth of experience across the curriculum and balance academic achievements with a strong emphasis on sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic and social skills. A programme of staff professional development is designed to ensure that knowledge and skills are up to date and well suited to the School's continuing aim for excellence.

Academic results were again excellent during the year with all Year 6 children gaining places in secondary schools of their choice. The ranges of schools that Littlegarth children move on to are generally grammar schools in Colchester, independent day and boarding schools and comprehensive schools. The School was again highly successful this year. 17 of our 39 leavers gained a total of 34 academic, sport, music, art, drama and/or all-round awards, and 11 children gained places at grammar schools through the competitive 11+ examinations. We continued to provide extra teaching during the summer holidays to prepare pupils wishing to take the 11+ examination.

During the COVID-19 national lockdown we introduced online learning for all children via Seesaw and using Zoom to live stream core subject lessons.

The Arts

The Music department has continued to thrive at Littlegarth, with children exploring singing, music-making and a broad curriculum that encompasses orchestral music, traditional music from around the world, composition, jazz, pop, theatre music and much more. An upgrade of teaching equipment in the Music Room has seen the addition of a whiteboard, projector, speaker system, student desks, and various orchestral percussion instruments, which has further elevated the teaching environment to an exceptional level. Over 150 individual music lessons are taught by our peripatetic tutors each week, with a particularly noticeable recent uptake of orchestral strings, where we now have pupils in the violin, viola, 'cello, and double bass. Our programme of choirs and ensembles - including the new elite singing group Littlegarth Voices - worked with consistent enthusiasm and quality, in spite of COVID-19 related obstacles, culminating in a large-scale outdoor Summer Concert in July 2021. Teatime concerts continued to take place online throughout the year, with the first in-person iteration taking place in October 2021.

Art plays a very important part in the lives of children at Littlegarth. Our extensive art facilities have helped the children to produce work of a high quality in art and design technology, and displays throughout the School show how imaginative and creative the children can be.

Drama is still extremely popular, assisted by our Drama Studio, and the Sports Hall enables the School to stage large productions including the Christmas productions and the spring and summer term plays by the children in Years 3, 4 and 6. Unfortunately, the Year 3 production could not take place owing to COVID-19 restrictions. However, we made use of our outdoor stage to ensure that the Year 6 children were able to perform a leavers' production during the summer term. The children continue to be given a growing number of opportunities to perform and actors and musicians would usually participate in a number of concerts during the year, culminating in an excellent summer concert which offers musicians across the School the opportunity to enjoy performing in front of a large audience.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Sport

This year we have continued to find the balance between sport for all and achieving excellence at all levels and age groups. We have worked more closely with state sector primary schools and further developed the curriculum provision. We also had to find innovative ways to stretch and challenge our pupils during and after lockdown.

Due to the pandemic, our fixture programme and swimming lessons were cancelled for the Autumn Term 2020 and the Spring Term 2021. In September 2020 we introduced virtual fixtures against other schools, entered a national challenge where our children were placed 4th, 5th and 6th in the Star Jump and created internal challenges for our Prep children, giving the results out in Assembly.

In the Summer term 2021 we enjoyed many friendly Cricket fixtures against other schools which included a match versus North East Essex. Our U11A Cricket team also travelled to Colchester Cricket Club for a coaching session with Karen Hussain (Nasser Hussain's wife). We also took our under 11A Cricket team to the annual Tonbridge Cricket festival.

Our full fixture list has recommenced during Autumn term 2021 and we have entered many ISA/IAPS competitions. Our U11A Hockey team have been placed 2nd at the U11 Hockey Festival hosted by Framlingham and our U10 Rugby team won 5 out of 6 matches at the Annual Prep Schools' Rugby Festival at Framlingham.

Community access

We are proud that Littlegarth School is part of a wider community, and we look to assist the educational provision in our local community where possible. The last academic year has been affected in so many ways by the COVID-19 pandemic which has hampered our ability to allow direct community access to the School. We did however look for new ways to work with our local primary schools. This was achieved through virtual activities, to include the sharing of best practice and through lending equipment to our local primary schools.

Partnerships with local state schools

During the lock down we became part of the multi schools' council. This is made up of over 50 local state primary, secondary and special educational schools; we are the only independent school in attendance. The purpose of the council is to address issues that affect all children in our wider community and tackle diversity, opportunity and need. We attended on-line meetings and debates and during Autumn term 2021 we hosted the first face to face meeting in twelve months.

In addition, we have strong links with Heathlands Primary School and Nayland Primary School, particularly in the area of sports provision. Both schools have used our facilities for matches and joined us for coaching in a variety of sports during the Summer term when restrictions were lifted. As we progress through the new academic year, many of our plans that were put on hold have been resumed and we hope that our partnership work will grow as restrictions continue to be lifted.

Charitable Giving

During the year, £11,915 was raised for a variety of charities, in particular for Mind and St Helena Hospice.

Grant making policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in enabling existing parents who have had a significant change in financial circumstance to continue their child's education at the School. The School awards a number of bursaries on a means tested basis. These are funded out of income from fees as the School has no restricted funds to pay for such bursaries. Applications for bursaries have to be submitted annually. The total value of bursaries awarded during the year was £36,084 (2020: £43,912).

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Facilities

A number of improvements have also been made to our facilities, the key items being as detailed below. As in the prior financial year, the scope of work carried out was more modest than usual to enable cash flow savings to be made following the financial impact of COVID-19.

- Staff laptops and tablets to enable remote working;
- Equipment for grounds including a cricket pitch roller, a rotary mower, and a truck for the site manager.
- Commissioning an 80th anniversary oil painting for display in the foyer

Friends of Littlegarth

The School benefits from the generosity of a thriving network of Friends of Littlegarth School who have helped with fundraising and activities, giving many hours of voluntary support during the year. The Governors greatly appreciate and gladly acknowledge this. This year's events included an 80th anniversary party for parents and staff which took place, following several postponements due to COVID-19, in October 2021, a daylight (COVID-19 compliant) firework display in Autumn term 2020 for pupils, and Christmas parties for the children.

Marketing

The School retains its high standing in the local community as a result of its academic, sporting and artistic performance, and standard of pastoral care. There continues to be strong competition for private schooling in the area and Colchester remains a relatively affluent community as a result of its proximity to London, and the City in particular; the demand for high quality private education remains buoyant.

The School website has been re-designed and this facility for parents, staff, Governors and school inspectors is being actively used.

Recognition by the Good Schools Guide has helped generate considerable interest in the School from prospective parents in recent months.

The School remains a member of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), and the Independent School Bursars Association (ISBA).

FUTURE PLANS

The Governors intend to continue their current strategy of maintaining the School's position in a competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for our pupils. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant aim whilst maintaining the breadth and depth of the education provided.

The Head and senior staff continue to review the curriculum to ensure that the education remains appropriate for our pupils' development.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Our future plans are financed primarily from fee income and from our reserves. The Governors maintain an equitable balance ensuring our current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils in the same way as our current pupils benefit today from the investment made in the past. Maintaining and developing the fabric and facilities of the School are central to our strategy.

OUR FINANCES

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year of £299.7k (2020: £114k), which was an improvement of £47.7k against a reforecast surplus of £252k following a fees waiver of 20% to parents of Nursery children in the Spring term due to the COVID-19 national closure in this period. The provision of education to the rest of the School continued uninterrupted via an online learning platform.

The principal source of income is fees accounting for 99% of the School's income. The Governors are continuing their strategy of deploying all net income resources for investment in the educational purposes and fabric of the School.

As a charity the parents of our pupils have the comfort that all the income of the School must be applied for educational purposes. As an educational charity we enjoy tax exemption on our educational activities and on our investment income and gains.

We also receive an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy. The financial benefits we receive from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help us to maintain our bursary policies.

However, as an educational charity, we are unable to reclaim VAT input tax on our costs as we are exempt for VAT purposes. As an employer, we also pay employment taxes.

In addition to the very substantial benefits our School brings to our pupils, the local community and society through the education we offer, our bursary programme creates a social benefit.

Developments and Maintenance

Property repairs and maintenance costs amounted to £117k during the year and included the tarmacking of part of the car park. Fixed asset additions amounted to £90k as a result of investment in laptops and tablets, equipment for grounds, including a cricket pitch roller, a rotary mower, and a truck for the new site manager, and the commissioning of an oil painting of the School to commemorate its 80th anniversary.

Fixed assets, net of depreciation, decreased by £147k during the year.

Reserves and Financial Health

The Governors regularly review the financial expenditure and resources as part of the effective stewardship of the School.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into new school buildings and there is a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils.

Long-term liabilities represent the loans taken out for the new teaching block and the balance of loans taken out to help fund previous enhancements of the School facilities, including the Sports Hall. The loan balance of £1,388k at 31 July 2021 includes loan facilities of £1,261k (£1,400k on draw down), obtained in 2017/18 to help finance the development of the School's new teaching facilities.

The School's reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted income reserves to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the event of revenue shortfalls. Free reserves are that part of the School's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the School's purposes. Free reserves exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use net of the bank loans used to finance those assets.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

In normal circumstances the School's target is sufficient free reserves to cover between two and four months' operating expenditure. In exceptional circumstances the Governors may need to draw down on reserves to fund development activity. At 31 July there were free reserves of £731,175 which represents over two and a half months of expenditure (2020: free reserves of £374,061, representing one month of operating expenditure). The Governors recognise that as a result of the investment in buildings for the future benefit of the School and related borrowing arrangements there will be limited free reserves for the foreseeable future. The Governors are satisfied that external finance facilities are sufficient to provide working capital and an adequate safety net for the School.

Impact of COVID-19

The global economic environment changed significantly in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic. The full impact of COVID-19 is still yet unknown, but the Governors have considered relevant information including the annual budget and forecast future cash flows in assessing how this may affect the School.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing economic shutdown has had an impact on our operations in 2020 and 2021 but the school has managed successfully to mitigate the impact of COVID on an operational and financial level, primarily through the provision of remote learning and stricter controls on spending. As detailed on the previous page, the School has generated a strong surplus for the year and has improved the reserves position. The Governors have also performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into account the potential impact on the School of possible future scenarios arising from the impact of COVID-19. This analysis also considers the effectiveness of available measures to assist in mitigating the impact.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the School, the Governors have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to going concern. As such, the Governors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Investment Policy

The School has an investment policy, which is reviewed annually by the Governors, that seeks to maximise the utilisation of the School's assets.

Remuneration Policy

Remuneration is set by the Board, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly individual contributions to the School's success. The School participates in benchmarking surveys to inform appropriate pay levels.

OUR ETHOS, STRATEGY AND POLICIES

Our Governors are responsible for setting a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils, their continued high levels of academic and co-curricular achievement and to widen further access to the education our School provides. In taking this strategy we:

- Review and benchmark the School's academic syllabus, teaching practices and examination results
- Ensure the range of co-curricular activities available to our pupils is stimulating and challenging
- Invest in the technology and the infrastructure of our School
- Co-operate and share resources with local schools

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society

Littlegarth School is a charity which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our 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.

We welcome pupils from all backgrounds. To admit prospective pupils, we need to be satisfied that our School will be able to educate and develop each pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. The economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

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We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability. We make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled.

In the last Independent Schools' Inspectorate report in May 2017, the overall achievement and personal development of the pupils was described as "excellent". The Independent Schools Inspectorate carried out an Intermediate Inspection on the Early Years Foundation Stage in June 2014 and described the overall quality and standards of the EYFS provision as "excellent".

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through parent evenings in addition to the traditional half year and end of year reports. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year through informal contacts and through our newsletter. Pupils have a Form Teacher responsible for pastoral care and academic development.

Our School community is based upon respect, good manners and fair play. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that is free from disruption, violence and any form of harassment. We expect our pupils to treat members of staff, visitors and each other with courtesy and co-operation.

ACCESS POLICY

We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives. Our bursary policy together with our 'Teaching Links' programme contribute to a widening of access to the education we offer and the facilities we enjoy.

Teaching Links

Our School is a part of a wider community and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our School also offers a resource to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our 'Teaching Links' programme of cooperation and joint working with local state junior and secondary schools.

Bursary policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure that children whose families have had significant changes to their financial circumstances can continue to access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, for example in the case of redundancy.

In assessing means we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

The bursary awards ranged from 66% to 100% remission of fees. In the year we awarded seven bursaries at an average of £5,155 each.

OTHER POLICIES ON ASSISTANCE

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Littlegarth School and a school fee plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than two children at the School.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our School.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company is governed by its Memorandum, revised on 20 February 1974, and Articles of Association, revised on 26 August 2005.

The Governors, who are also the charity Trustees, are responsible for the overall management and control of the Littlegarth School and meet four times a year. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by the Senior Management Team. The School Bursar is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Governors and their Committees, preparation of papers and management accounts and the review of matters arising.

In line with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 the Governors, in their role as directors, act in good faith, the success of the School, and in doing so have regard have regard, amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- (b) the interests of the School's employees,
- (c) the need to foster the School's relationships with suppliers, parents and others,
- (d) the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment,
- (e) the desirability of the School maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct in the operation of its activities, and
- (f) the need to act fairly in their dealings with the stakeholders of the School

The achievement of the above objectives is reflected within this report.

Governing Body

The Governors are listed on page 1. All Governors are members of the Association of Littlegarth School Limited in accordance with the governing documents.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration was paid in the year. Any expenses reimbursed are disclosed in note 8 to the financial statements. No Governor or person connected with a Governor received any benefit from means tested bursaries awarded to our pupils.

Organisational Management

The Board determines the overall strategy and general policy of the School and approves strategic plans, regulatory matters, major items of capital expenditure and financing matters.

All Governors have access to the advice and services of the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that the Board and its committees are provided with papers of sufficient quality to enable the Governors to consider matters in good time for meetings and enable them to discharge their duties effectively.

The work of implementing a number of the Board's policies is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which holds three meetings during the year. Other principal committees cover Human Resources, Audit and Curriculum matters. Both meet termly before a full Board meeting. The Head, Deputy Heads, Bursar and other senior staff attend these meetings as appropriate.

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The day to day running of the School is delegated to the Head, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day to day administration of the School is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff.

Key management personnel

The Governors consider that they, together with the Head, the Deputy Heads, the Bursar and the senior staff comprise the Key Management Personnel and are listed on Page 1a.

Risk Management

Littlegarth School Governors are responsible for the identification, evaluation and management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed consideration of risks is delegated to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, assisted by the Senior Management Team. Risks are identified, assessed and controls established. A formal review of the Company's risk management processes is undertaken annually. Through this procedure the Governors satisfy themselves that major risks identified have been mitigated wherever possible and practicable.

The key controls used by the Company include:

- formal agendas for all Committee and Board meetings;
- detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- clear authorisation and approval levels for ordering and invoicing of goods and services; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately identified and managed.

The main risks that the Governors have identified and have implemented plans to manage those risks are:

- Reputation. The School's success is built on its reputation for the education and well-being of our pupils. We manage this risk through safeguarding policies, staff recruitment policies, pastoral support for both pupils and staff and active identification and resolution of health and safety related issues.
- Money. Our ability to continue is reliant on pupil fees and the ability to pay bills as they fall due. This risk is managed by marketing activity, having a reputation for academic and all-round excellence and active cash-flow management
- Curriculum. Academic excellence requires the most able teachers with state of the art facilities delivering the curriculum to able students. We manage this by combining attractive salaries with additional allowances paid for Mathematics and English staff and other staff with extra responsibilities, on-going investment in our estate and an approach to enrolment that works with supportive parents whose children have an appetite for learning.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS AND CHARITY TRUSTEES

Governor Recruitment and Training

The Governing Body appoints new Trustees, their terms of service set in accordance with the governing documents. Their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills, experience and local availability are taken into account in the appointment process.

The Governing body requires breadth and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently. When recruiting new trustees, the important attribute is a passion for the work of our School and an understanding of education as a holistic and rounded experience of personal growth. In making their recommendations for potential new trustees, Governors seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the Governing Body reflects the diverse nature of the Society in which it operates and includes the following competencies.

- A Governor with a legal background
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background
- A Governor with education experience
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs

A Governor may have one or more of these skills.

New Governors are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including Board policies and procedures. The School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), which provides professional support as required.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of Littlegarth School Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantors at 31 July 2021 was 10 (2020:10). The Governors are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Approved by the Trustees of Littlegarth School Limited on 6 December and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Henderson (Chair of Governors)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Littlegarth School Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st July 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, cash and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st July 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 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 we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED**Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)**

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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1k and 1l 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 but to do so.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED**Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)****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. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of entity staff in tax and compliance functions to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

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

Cara Miller ACCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Chelmsford
Date:

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	Note	2021 Unrestricted Funds £	2021 Restricted Funds £	2021 Total Funds £	2020 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Charitable Activities-					
Income from Coronavirus					
Job Retention Scheme		31,398	-	31,398	72,054
Academic and other fees	2	3,544,292	-	3,544,292	3,103,577
Donations and events		1,106	-	1,106	37,173
Investment income	4	10,952		10,952	12,860
Total income		3,587,748	-	3,587,748	3,223,664
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities-					
Provision of education	5a/ 5b	3,288,039	-	3,288,039	3,109,485
Total expenditure		3,288,039		3,288,039	3,109,485
Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers		299,709	-	299,709	114,179
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		299,709		299,709	114,179
Opening Fund Balances		3,799,384		3,799,384	3,685,205
Closing Fund Balances	15	4,099,093		4,099,093	3,799,384

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains and losses other than those stated above.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	4,755,748	4,902,398
Investments	11	2	2
		<u>4,755,750</u>	<u>4,902,400</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		38,891	46,667
Debtors	12	139,370	92,466
Cash at bank and in hand		862,776	482,359
		<u>1,041,037</u>	<u>621,492</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(401,858)	(337,344)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>639,179</u>	<u>284,148</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>5,394,929</u>	<u>5,186,548</u>
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(1,295,836)	(1,387,164)
NET ASSETS		<u>4,099,093</u>	<u>3,799,384</u>
RESTRICTED FUNDS		-	-
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General fund		4,099,093	3,799,384
TOTAL FUNDS	15	<u>4,099,093</u>	<u>3,799,384</u>

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime were approved by the Trustees on 6 December and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Henderson
Chair
Registered number: 1141073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	Note	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	16		602,720		251,652
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Interest received		277		1,393	
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		900		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(89,705)		(147,641)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(88,528)		(146,248)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Repayment of borrowings		(89,245)		(87,175)	
Interest paid		(44,530)		(46,835)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(133,775)		(134,010)
CHANGE IN CASH IN THE PERIOD			380,417		(28,606)
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD			482,359		510,965
CASH AT THE END OF THE PERIOD			862,776		482,359

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address and principal place of business is the school, at Horkesley Park, Colchester, CO6 4JR.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (September 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional and presentational currency of the School, and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements include the results of the charitable company only, and do not include its wholly-owned dormant subsidiary. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet.

Littlegarth School Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable and charges for educational services and income from extra curricula and extramural activities during the year are accounted for in the year in which the service is provided.

Donations

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the Charity are credited to Unrestricted Funds upon receipt.

Government grants

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the School has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional activity categories. Overhead and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on an appropriate basis. The VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise the cost of running the Charity, including strategic planning for future development and also internal and external audit, any legal advice for the Governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the costs of Board and Committee meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Pensions

The Charity contributes to the Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme at rates set by the Scheme Actuary and advised to the Board by the Scheme Administrator. The scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme and it is not possible to identify which part of the assets and liabilities of the scheme are attributable to the School. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The School also runs a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff and a stakeholder pension scheme for other members of staff. The contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities when made.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest received on bank balances is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Going Concern

Having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's projected cash flows, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Assets under construction	nil
Freehold land	nil
Freehold buildings	10 to 50 years
Freehold buildings – equipment	10 years
School equipment	3 years to 20 years (baby grand piano depreciated over 20 years)

Items costing less than £500 are written off as an expense as acquired.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is computed on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less the estimated cost of disposal.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Academic and other fees

	2021	2020
	£	£
Academic fees (note 3)	3,223,319	2,839,879
Non-academic fees	67,708	70,089
Lunches and milk	178,294	146,550
Miscellaneous	74,674	43,464
Sports Hall Events Income	297	3,595
	3,544,292	3,103,577

3 Academic fees

Gross fees

Less: Total bursaries and allowances

Less: Fee waiver due to COVID-19

	2021	2020
	£	£
Gross fees	3,318,436	3,131,447
Less: Total bursaries and allowances	(70,662)	(86,269)
Less: Fee waiver due to COVID-19	(24,455)	(205,299)
	3,223,319	2,839,879

4 Income from Investments

Incidental rental income

Bank deposit interest

	2021	2020
	£	£
Incidental rental income	10,675	11,467
Bank deposit interest	277	1,393
	10,952	12,860

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities – Provision of Education

		2021	2020
		£	£
5a	Teaching and care of children		
	Salaries – academic	1,548,469	1,536,854
	Salaries – catering	71,643	72,493
	Pension costs	288,829	292,529
	Lesson materials	48,517	31,726
	Other direct costs	105,204	94,096
	Lunches and milk	62,218	56,907
		2,124,880	2,084,605
			Restated
		2021	2020
		£	£
5b	Support costs		
	Support staff	333,360	327,390
	Pension costs	17,123	17,267
	Other direct costs	8,056	8,315
	Heating and lighting	72,521	66,820
	Cleaning	55,170	51,212
	Property repairs	117,024	88,883
	Insurances	29,350	28,765
	Service charges and rates	19,542	21,660
	Hire of equipment	2,985	2,696
	Depreciation	234,918	226,278
	Advertising	22,419	29,782
	Subscriptions	2,481	3,076
	Telephone charges	4,203	4,980
	ICT costs	53,155	37,163
	Printing postage and stationery	9,106	13,037
	Sundry expenditure (Comparative restated – see note 6)	28,098	18,800
	Bank charges	2,025	2,204
	Bank loan interest	44,530	46,835
	Bad debt write off / movement in provision	776	(10,834)
	Legal and professional fees	26,374	9,850
	Accountancy	1,338	495
	Loss / (Profit) on Disposal of fixed assets	537	317
	Staff expenditure	55,346	8,328
	Governance costs (Note 6)	22,722	21,561
		1,163,159	1,024,880

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

	2021 £	Restated 2020 £
6 Governance costs		
Salaries	12,905	12,086
Audit fee	9,660	9,360
Other costs (Comparative reallocated from Sundry expenditure within Support costs)	157	115
	22,722	21,561
7 Net income for the period	2021 £	2020 £
This is stated after crediting:		
Rental income	10,675	11,467
Interest receivable	277	1,393
and after charging:		
Staff costs (note 8)	2,272,329	2,258,620
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– audit	8,050	7,800
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– other services	2,570	4,325
Operating leases:		
Hire of assets other than plant & machinery	2,985	2,696
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10):		
Owned assets	234,918	226,278
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	537	317
8 Staff costs	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	1,781,153	1,768,981
Supply staff salaries	12,265	10,784
Social security costs	172,959	169,059
Pension costs	305,952	309,796
	2,272,329	2,258,620
	2021 £	2020 £
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	422,298	339,627
Average monthly employee headcount:		
	Number	Number
Academic staff	42	44
Non-academic staff	23	24
	65	68
The following number of employees earned in excess of £60,000 (excluding pension contributions and employer's NI):		
£60,000 – £70,000	-	1
£70,001 – £80,000	1	-
£80,001 – £90,000	-	1
£90,001 – £100,000	1	-

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

Two of the employees above are accruing benefits under a defined benefit retirement scheme.

Governors

No emoluments were paid to the Governors in the current or preceding period.

Governors' expenses

Expenses totalling £144 were reimbursed to 1 Governor (2020: £114 to 1 Governor)

9 Taxation

As a consequence of the Company's charitable status the Company has no liability to corporation tax.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	School Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
1 August 2020	5,473,717	991,553	6,465,270
Additions	-	89,705	89,705
Disposals	-	(22,451)	(22,451)
31 July 2021	5,473,717	1,058,807	6,532,524
Depreciation			
1 August 2020	1,030,549	532,323	1,562,872
Charge for the year	123,260	111,658	234,918
Disposals	-	(21,014)	(21,014)
31 July 2021	1,153,809	622,967	1,776,776
Net book amount			
31 July 2021	4,319,908	435,840	4,755,748
1 August 2020	4,443,168	459,230	4,902,398

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2021

11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited

	Investments
	£
Cost and Net Book Value	
At 1 August 2020 and	2
31 July 2021	

	2021	2020
	£	£
12 Debtors		
Trade debtors	79,817	20,484
Other debtors	2,385	449
Prepayments and accrued income	57,168	71,533
	139,370	92,466

	2021	2020
	£	£
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Bank loans (secured, see note 14)	91,994	89,911
Trade creditors	46,525	37,938
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	2	2
Other taxation and social security	48,626	40,438
Accruals and deferred income	96,196	48,092
Other creditors	118,515	120,963
	401,858	337,344

	2021	2020
	£	£
14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other liabilities		
Bank loans (secured)	1,295,836	1,387,164
Maturity of debt		
In one year or less, or on demand	91,994	89,911
In more than one year but not more than two years	93,922	91,530
In more than two years but not more than five years	168,749	215,203
In more than five years	1,033,165	1,080,431
	1,387,830	1,477,075

The bank loans are secured over the freehold property of the School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2021

15	Analysis of Funds	Fund Balances 1 August 2020 £	Net Income for the year £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balances 31 July 2021 £
	Total Unrestricted Funds	3,799,384	299,709	-	4,099,093
	Prior year funds:	Fund Balances 1 August 2019 £	Net income for the period £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balances 31 July 2020 £
	Total Unrestricted Funds	3,685,205	114,179	-	3,799,384

Within unrestricted funds there is £1,214 of other income from the sale of art department greeting cards.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
16	Notes to the statement of cash flows		
	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities		
	Net income for the reporting period	299,709	114,179
	Adjusted for:		
	Depreciation charges	234,918	226,278
	Interest received	(277)	(1,393)
	Interest paid	44,530	46,835
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	537	317
	Decrease / (Increase) in stocks	7,776	(19,343)
	Increase in debtors	(46,904)	(3,929)
	Increase / (Decrease) in creditors	62,431	(111,292)
	Net cash flow from operating activities	602,720	251,652
	Analysis of changes in net debt		
	Cash at bank and in hand	482,359	380,417
	Debt due within one year	(89,911)	(2,083)
	Debt due after one year	(1,387,164)	91,328
		(994,716)	(525,054)
	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	2021 £	2020 £
	Increase / (decrease) in cash in the period	380,417	(28,606)
	Cash outflow from decrease in debt	89,245	87,176
	Change in net debt resulting from cash flows	469,662	58,570
	Net debt brought forward	(994,716)	(1,053,286)
	Net debt carried forward	(525,054)	(994,716)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2021

17 Pension commitments

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (England and Wales) ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £287,341 (2020: £290,950) and at the year-end £33,594 (2020: £33,268) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2014. Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary Department. The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme took place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers have paid an increased contribution rate of 23.68% since 1 September 2019 (this includes an administration levy of 0.08%). Until then, employers paid a rate of 16.48% following an increase from 14.1% at 1 September 2015.

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found by following this link to [the Teachers' Pension Scheme website](#)

The School makes additional contributions to a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff. Contributions are also made for three members of the non-teaching staff to other defined contribution schemes at a rate of two times the employees' contribution subject to a cap of 10%.

Contributions for all other members of staff who are eligible to join are made to NEST, the workplace pension scheme set up by the Government. Pension contributions to this scheme were made at 5% of the employees' eligible salary from 1 April 2020.

The pension scheme charge for the other pension schemes in the year amounted to £18,611 (2020: £18,846) including a year-end provision of £4,361 (2020: £9,177).

18 Related party transactions

At the year-end the Company owed £2 to Littlegarth Services Limited, a dormant subsidiary, (2020: £2). There were no donations from trustees or other related parties in the year (2020: £NIL). During the year 2 (2020: 2) pupils attended the School who were close family relatives of a Governor. The fees paid for these pupils were at the standard rate with no discounts applied.

19 Leasing commitments

At the year end the Company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-

Expiry date:

Within 1 year

Between 2-5 years

2021

£

2020

£

2,696

1797

2,696

4,493

20 Capital commitments

The School had capital commitments of £NIL (2020: £NIL) at the year-end.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 325064

Accounts



LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

Registered number: 1141073

Charity number: 325064

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

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LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

Directors, Governors and Charity Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable Company, the Charity, are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also referred to as the Governors throughout this report. They are collectively referred to as the Governors, Board of Governors and Littlegarth School Governors.

The following Governors have served in office throughout the year except where indicated:

Mr J Henderson	(Chairman)
Mr D Burden	
Mrs C Clouston	
Dr H Mahadevappa	(Appointed 9 March 2020)
Mr A Maheshwar	(Resigned 3 July 2020)
Mr M McKaughan	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	
Mr G Post	
Mrs D Stanton	
Mrs W-F Thompson	

Audit Committee:

Mr G Post	(Chairman)
Mr J Henderson	
Mrs M McKenna	
Mrs M Oats	

Finance and General Purposes Committee:

Mr D Burden	(Chairman)
Mr J Henderson	
Mrs McKenna	
Mr G Post	

Human Resources Committee:

Mrs W-F Thompson	(Chairman)
Mrs C Clouston	
Mr A Maheshwar	(Resigned 3 July 2020)
Mrs M Oats	

Curriculum Committee:

Mr M McKaughan	(Chairman)
Mrs C Clouston	
Dr H Mahadevappa	(Appointed 9 March 2020)
Mrs D Stanton	

The members of the Committees are appointed by the Board of Governors. The Board is a self-appointing body. Service on the Board is for a term of four years. Retiring Governors can be re-elected for a further period of four years.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

GOVERNORS, OFFICERS AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate the day-to day management of the School to the Headmaster who in turn manages with his senior staff team comprising:

Headmaster	Mr P Jones
Deputy Head Academic	Miss H Smith
Deputy Head Pastoral	Mr K Dawes
Bursar	Miss J Ward
Head of Early Years	Mrs Elmakahleh

The Bursar is also Clerk to the Governors

Address:

The School address is:

Horkesley Park
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

Telephone: 01206 262332
Fax: 01206 263101
e-mail: office@littlegarth.essex.sch.uk
web site: www.littlegarth.essex.sch.uk

Advisors:

SOLICITORS

Thompson, Smith & Puxon
Stable 6
Stable Road
Colchester
CO2 7GL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

MHA MacIntyre Hudson LLP
Boundary House
4 County Place
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0RE

BANKER

NatWest Bank PLC
25 High Street
Colchester
Essex
CO1 1DG

REGISTERED OFFICE

Horkesley Park
Park Road
Nayland
Colchester
Essex
CO6 4JR

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

The Littlegarth School Governors present their annual report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2020 and confirm they comply with the requirements of Company and Charity legislation, the memorandum and articles of association and the Charities SORP FRS 102, as appropriate.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable Company, founded in 1958, registered with the Charity Commission under charity number 325064. Governors and Executive Officers are listed on pages 1 and 1a. The principal address of the Charity and particulars of the Charity's professional advisors are given on page 1a. The Company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The Company is incorporated in England and Wales and the registration number is 1141073.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The Charity's Objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to promote and to provide for the advancement of education of children. Within these objects, the Charity also has to maintain its assets, the School buildings, and provide necessary funding for the development of the School's facilities and bursaries for those in need. All other Objects listed are subsidiary to this Object. In the furtherance of this Object the Directors, as the charity Trustees, have complied with the duty in s.17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance concerning the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under that Act.

OUR AIMS

Within the objects above, the aim of the School is to provide a high-quality day-school independent education for children from the age of two and a half to eleven. It does not discriminate on the grounds of ability at the time of entry. It seeks to prepare children academically, socially and spiritually for progress into secondary education within an environment where each pupil can develop and fulfil his or her potential, helping to build self-confidence. It seeks to give as wide and general an education as possible, to develop artistic and sporting skills and to treat every child as an Individual.

Littlegarth School actively supports the attainment of the highest standards in the Independent Schools sector, partly through networking with other schools and partly through sharing good practice for the evaluation of quality and performance improvement methods. We also work closely with local schools in our ongoing endeavours to widen public access to the schooling we can provide, to optimise the use of our cultural and sporting facilities and to awaken in our pupils an awareness of the social context of the all-round education they receive at the School.

OUR OBJECTIVES

The Board continues to promote the high academic development of all pupils, so that those leaving the School are equipped to progress to secondary schools of their choice. There were 270 (2019: 272) pupils during the year with a further 47 (2019: 50) in the Nursery, and demand appears particularly strong in the upper years. The School continues to promote itself through active marketing. Taster days have continued to be successful and interest from parents remains strong, giving us confidence that the School will be able to operate close to capacity for the foreseeable future. We believe this position will be maintained through monitoring and enhancing the academic and teaching standards for which the School has become known.

Pupil numbers and fees

Pupil numbers were in line with budget at 270 in the main School and 47 in the Nursery. Our fee increase of 4.95% this year was approved by the Governors. Fees for the current year were:

Pre-prep (Reception to Year 2)	£3,364 per term
Prep (Years 3 & 4)	£3,619 per term
Prep (Years 5 & 6)	£3,907 per term

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic

Initiatives to enhance academic standards have centred on the development of strategies to ensure that all our pupils experience the best possible learning environment. The progress of all children is reviewed through regular formative and summative assessment, as detailed in the School's Teaching and Learning policy and the Assessment policy. We ensure that the curriculum is appropriate to the needs of the children and meets the requirements of a wide range of external examinations in Year 6. Evaluation of teaching and learning has been rigorous, with the assessment system firmly embedded to monitor the progress and attainment of all pupils. The School continues to seek to provide an outstanding breadth of experience across the curriculum and balance academic achievements with a strong emphasis on sporting, musical, artistic, dramatic and social skills. A programme of staff professional development is designed to ensure that knowledge and skills are up to date and well suited to the School's continuing aim for excellence.

Academic results were again excellent during the year with all Year 6 children gaining places in secondary schools of their choice. The ranges of schools that Littlegarth children move on to are generally grammar schools in Colchester, independent day and boarding schools and comprehensive schools. The School was again highly successful this year. 20 of our 40 leavers gained a total of 28 academic, sport, music, art, drama and/or all-round awards, and 6 children gained places at grammar schools through the competitive 11+ examinations. We continued to provide extra teaching during the summer holidays to prepare pupils wishing to take the 11 + examination.

During the COVID-19 national lockdown we introduced online learning for all children via Seesaw and using Zoom to live stream core subject lessons.

The Arts

The Music Department is thriving within the new facilities and the children continue to develop their musicianship and enjoyment of music making. With over 130 individual music lessons taking place each week there is a full and varied programme of ensembles that perform regularly including Orchestra, Senior Choir, Chamber Choir, Year 3 and 4 Choir, Pre-Prep Choir, Saxophone Ensemble, Brass Ensemble, String Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Ukelele Ensemble and African Drumming. There are regular tea-time concerts providing performance opportunities to those who wish to take part alongside our Christmas Concert, and Carol Service. Our Senior Choir continued to perform in local care homes at Christmas time. Unfortunately, our Summer Concert could not take place owing to COVID-19 but teatime concerts continued online during the lockdown period. Our team of instrumental teachers continue to inspire our children to learn and regular workshops/masterclasses are given to recruit new pupils. During lockdown, the instrumental teachers continued their 1:1 lessons online. The Year Five Children also attended the O2 Young Voices Concert in January to form part of a choir of 8,000+ children.

Art plays a very important part in the lives of children at Littlegarth. Our extensive art facilities have helped the children to produce work of a high quality in art and design technology, and displays throughout the School show how imaginative and creative the children can be.

Drama is still extremely popular, assisted by our Drama Studio, and the Sports Hall enables the School to stage large productions including the Christmas productions and the spring and summer term plays by the children in Years 3, 4 and 6. Unfortunately, this year the Year 3 and Year 6 productions could not take place owing to COVID-19 restrictions. However, the children continue to be given a growing number of opportunities to perform and actors and musicians would usually participate in a number of concerts during the year, culminating in an excellent summer concert which offers musicians across the School the opportunity to enjoy performing in front of a large audience.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Sport

This year we have continued to find the balance between sport for all and achieving excellence at all levels and age groups. We have worked more closely with state sector primary schools and further developed the curriculum provision. We also had to find innovative ways to stretch and challenge our pupils during and after lockdown.

Some of the highlights of the year 2019-2020 included:

- U9 ISA National Football Champions
- U11 Boys ISA National Rugby (2nd place)
- U10 Boys ISA National Rugby (3rd place)
- U11 Girls ISA Netball Regional Finals
- U11 Girls ISA Hockey – National Finals
- Eastern region ISA swimming Champions (5 children qualified for the National Finals in which three of our children were placed 1st)
- Eastern region ISA Cross Country Champions
- The continuation of sport “master classes” for our local state primary schools and introducing our first Inter School’s State Primary Cross Country Competition (over 160 children took part).

In September 2020 we introduced Virtual fixtures against other schools, entered a National challenge where our children were placed 4th, 5th and 6th in the Star Jump challenge and created internal challenges for our Prep children, giving the results out in Assembly.

Community access

We see Littlegarth School as a part of a wider community, and where we can assist the educational provision in our local community we are delighted to do so. Local primary schools have participated in coaching and matches with Littlegarth children, and this year they have participated in a range of sports tournaments hosted by Littlegarth. Parents also make use of the facilities with “Fathers Football” and children’s parties.

Partnerships with local state schools

We have strong links with Nayland Primary School, particularly in the area of sports provision. Nayland Primary School has used our facilities for matches and has joined us for coaching in a variety of sports. In March we held a cross country competition for two local primary schools and transported children from both schools to and from Littlegarth. We also taught Latin to children from a local state secondary school and we held training for local primary school teachers in how to teach Latin to primary aged children. In March we began a partnership with Bishop William Ward School, Great Horkesley, to put on a joint concert at the beginning of the Summer Term.

Since the year end the School has joined the multi school agency for all schools in Essex. We have joined a School council meeting, which includes pupils from different schools, to discuss the effect of COVID-19 on all partnership schools. Littlegarth was the only independent school at the meeting.

Charitable Giving

During the year £8,769 was raised for a variety of charities, in particular for The Brain Tumour Charity and Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Grant making policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in enabling existing parents who have had a significant change in financial circumstance to continue their child’s education at the School. The School awards a number of bursaries on a means tested basis. These are funded out of income from fees as the School has no restricted funds to pay for such bursaries. Applications for bursaries have to be submitted annually. The total value of bursaries awarded during the year was £43,912 (2019: 28,523). £27,797 of the current year bursaries were awarded in the Summer term as a result of the impact of COVID-19, and £13,886 of those bursaries were funded by parents donating their Summer fee reduction to the School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Recognition by the Good Schools Guide

In February we were approached for a review of the School by the Good Schools Guide. Schools must achieve a strong level of success over a number of years to be offered this opportunity and the selection process involves three committee stages before an invitation is given. The review offers parents an objective view of the services provided by the School and involves a meeting with the Headmaster and a tour of the School with the children. It also involves extensive interviews with parents across the School. The report was published after the School went into lockdown but governors, staff and parents are delighted that it recognises the excellent academic, sporting, artistic and pastoral provision on offer and it also focusses on many of the unique strengths of the School.

Facilities

A number of improvements have also been made to our facilities, the key items being as detailed below. The scope of work carried out was more modest than usual to enable cash flow savings to be made following the financial impact of COVID-19.

- Electronic speed sign fitted in car park, and lights fitted to car park sign posts
- Front office partition removed to allow COVID-19 social distancing requirements to be met
- Re-decoration and repairs to one of the adult cloakrooms, various windows, fencing, and the exterior of the log cabin classrooms
- Excavation of the path by the Nursery and Reception classrooms to allow realignment of the gate and drain covers
- New shed installed in the playground
- Extensive tree pruning near the Georgian House

Friends of Littlegarth

The School benefits from the generosity of a thriving network of Friends of Littlegarth School who have helped with fundraising and activities, giving many hours of voluntary support during the year. The Governors greatly appreciate and gladly acknowledge this. This year's events included a bonfire and fireworks night, a Christmas Bazaar, a Christmas party. A quiz night had to be cancelled just as we entered lockdown in March.

Marketing

The School retains its high standing in the local community as a result of its academic, sporting and artistic performance, and standard of pastoral care. There continues to be strong competition for private schooling in the area and Colchester remains a relatively affluent community as a result of its proximity to London, and the City in particular; the demand for high quality private education remains buoyant.

The School website is continually updated and this facility for parents, staff, Governors and school inspectors has been actively used during the year. A new website is currently being developed.

Recognition by the Good Schools Guide has helped generate considerable interest in the School from prospective parents in recent months.

The School remains a member of the Independent Schools Council (ISC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), and the Independent School Bursars Association (ISBA).

FUTURE PLANS

The Governors intend to continue their current strategy of maintaining the School's position in a competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for our pupils. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant aim whilst maintaining the breadth and depth of the education provided.

The Headmaster and senior staff continue to review the curriculum to ensure that the education remains appropriate for our pupils' development.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Our future plans are financed primarily from fee income and from our reserves. The Governors maintain an equitable balance ensuring our current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils in the same way as our current pupils benefit today from the investment made in the past. Maintaining and developing the fabric and facilities of the School are central to our strategy.

OUR FINANCES

The financial statements show net incoming resources for the year of £114k (2019: £243k), which was in line with the reforecast surplus following the 20% School fee waiver of £205k given to parents in the Summer term due to the impact of COVID-19 on the School's ability to provide a normal curriculum during the national lockdown.

The principal source of income is fees accounting for 96% of the School's income. The Governors are continuing their strategy of deploying all net income resources for investment in the educational purposes and fabric of the School.

As a charity the parents of our pupils have the comfort that all the income of the School must be applied for educational purposes. As an educational charity we enjoy tax exemption on our educational activities and on our investment income and gains.

We also receive an 80% reduction on our business rates on the property we occupy. The financial benefits we receive from these tax exemptions are all applied for educational purposes and indirectly help us to maintain our bursary policies.

However, as an educational charity, we are unable to reclaim VAT input tax on our costs as we are exempt for VAT purposes. As an employer, we also pay employment taxes.

In addition to the very substantial benefits our School brings to our pupils, the local community and society through the education we offer, our bursary programme creates a social benefit.

Developments and Maintenance

Property repairs and maintenance costs amounted to £89k during the year. Fixed asset additions amounted to £148k. The increase in fixed assets includes £75k incurred in the construction of Lizzie's Kitchen and purchase of cookery equipment. Additionally, £16k was spent on the expansion of the Science laboratory, creation of a STEM room in the Allsopp Building, and improvements to the children's toilets near Lizzie's Kitchen. The aforementioned improvements were undertaken in August 2019. £25k relates to the new IT server costs and five new laptops.

Fixed assets, net of depreciation, increased by £79k during the year.

Reserves and Financial Health

The Governors regularly review the financial expenditure and resources as part of the effective stewardship of the School.

In common with other independent schools, the Governors have invested substantial sums into new school buildings and there is a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils.

Long-term liabilities represent the loans taken out for the new teaching block and the balance of loans taken out to help fund previous enhancements of the School facilities, including the Sports Hall. The loan balance of £1,477k at 31 July 2020 includes loan facilities of £1,301k (£1.4million on draw down), which were obtained in 2017/18 to help finance the development of the School's new teaching facilities.

The School's reserves policy is to maintain sufficient unrestricted income reserves to enable it to meet its financial obligations in the event of revenue shortfalls. Free reserves are that part of the School's unrestricted funds that are freely available to spend on any of the School's purposes. Free reserves exclude tangible fixed assets such as land, buildings and other assets held for the charity's use net of the bank loans used to finance those assets.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

In normal circumstances the School's target is sufficient free reserves to cover between two and four months' operating expenditure. In exceptional circumstances the Governors may need to draw down on reserves to fund development activity. At 31 July there were free reserves of £374,061 which represents just under one and a half month's operating expenditure (2019: free reserves of £268,104, representing one month of operating expenditure). The Governors recognise that as a result of the investment in buildings for the future benefit of the School and related borrowing arrangements there will be limited free reserves for the foreseeable future. The Governors are satisfied that external finance facilities are sufficient to provide working capital and an adequate safety net for the School.

Impact of COVID-19

The global economic environment changed significantly in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic. The full impact of COVID-19 is still yet unknown, but the Governors have considered relevant information including the annual budget and forecast future cash flows in assessing how this may affect the School.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing economic shutdown has had an impact on our operations in 2020, but the Governors have performed a robust analysis of future cash flows taking into account the potential impact on the School of possible future scenarios arising from the impact of COVID-19. This analysis also considers the effectiveness of available measures to assist in mitigating the impact.

Based on these assessments and having regard to the resources available to the School, the Governors have concluded that there is no material uncertainty in relation to going concern. As such, the Governors continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Investment Policy

The School has an investment policy, which is reviewed annually by the Governors, that seeks to maximise the utilisation of the School's assets.

Remuneration Policy

Remuneration is set by the Board, with the policy objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly individual contributions to the School's success. The School participates in benchmarking surveys to inform appropriate pay levels.

OUR ETHOS, STRATEGY AND POLICIES

Our Governors are responsible for setting a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils, their continued high levels of academic and co-curricular achievement and to widen further access to the education our School provides. In taking this strategy we:

- Review and benchmark the School's academic syllabus, teaching practices and examination results
- Ensure the range of co-curricular activities available to our pupils is stimulating and challenging
- Invest in the technology and the infrastructure of our School
- Co-operate and share resources with local schools

Our ethos: a caring School serving our local community and society

Littlegarth School is a charity which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Our 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.

We welcome pupils from all backgrounds. To admit prospective pupils, we need to be satisfied that our School will be able to educate and develop each pupil to the best of their potential and in line with the general standards achieved by their peers. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education we provide. The economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of our assessment processes.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability. We make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled.

In the last Independent Schools' Inspectorate report in May 2017, the overall achievement and personal development of the pupils was described as "excellent". The Independent Schools Inspectorate carried out an Intermediate Inspection on the Early Years Foundation Stage in June 2014 and described the overall quality and standards of the EYFS provision as "excellent".

Parents are given regular information about their children's social and academic progress through parent evenings in addition to the traditional half year and end of year reports. We maintain regular contact with parents throughout the year through informal contacts and through our newsletter. Pupils have a Form Teacher responsible for pastoral care and academic development.

Our School community is based upon respect, good manners and fair play. We are committed to providing a safe and caring environment that is free from disruption, violence and any form of harassment. We expect our pupils to treat members of staff, visitors and each other with courtesy and co-operation.

ACCESS POLICY

We believe our pupils benefit from learning within a diverse community. A great deal of learning occurs through social interaction, conversation and shared experiences which helps our pupils develop an understanding of the perspectives of other people that will be vital in their adult lives. Our bursary policy together with our 'Teaching Links' programme contribute to a widening of access to the education we offer and the facilities we enjoy.

Teaching Links

Our School is a part of a wider community and we are keen that our staff and pupils participate. Our School also offers a resource to support a range of educational activities for the benefit of local children attending state schools and their teachers. Our Governors are committed to developing our 'Teaching Links' programme of cooperation and joint working with local state junior and secondary schools.

Bursary policy

The Governors view our bursary awards as important in helping to ensure that children whose families have had significant changes to their financial circumstances can continue to access the education we offer. Our bursary awards are available to all who meet our general entry requirements and are made solely on the basis of parental means or to relieve hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, for example in the case of redundancy.

In assessing means we take a number of factors into consideration including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, for example dependant relatives and the number of siblings. However, our School does not have an endowment and in funding our awards we have to be mindful that we must ensure a balance between fee-paying parents, many of whom make considerable personal sacrifices to fund their child's education, and those benefiting from the awards.

The bursary awards ranged from 60% to 100% remission of fees; the bursaries providing 100% remission of fees were awarded for the Summer term to assist parents with the impact of COVID-19. In the year we awarded 13 bursaries at an average of £3,378 each.

OTHER POLICIES ON ASSISTANCE

Financial planning policy

Timely financial planning is often the key for many parents who are hoping to send their children to Littlegarth School and a school fee plan is available to help those who wish to fund educational costs through regular contributions.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Family discounts policy

To underline the value we place on continuity for families, we offer discounts where parents have more than two children at the School.

Assistance for our teaching staff

As part of our emphasis on attracting and retaining high calibre staff we offer a discount scheme where staff members choose to educate their children at our School.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Company is governed by its Memorandum, revised on 20 February 1974, and Articles of Association, revised on 26 August 2005.

The Governors, who are also the charity Trustees, are responsible for the overall management and control of the Littlegarth School and meet four times a year. The work of implementing most of their policies is carried out by the Senior Management Team. The School Bursar is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the Governors and their Committees, preparation of papers and management accounts and the review of matters arising.

In line with section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 the Governors, in their role as directors, act in good faith, the success of the School, and in doing so have regard have regard, amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- (b) the interests of the School's employees,
- (c) the need to foster the School's relationships with suppliers, parents and others,
- (d) the impact of the School's operations on the community and the environment,
- (e) the desirability of the School maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct in the operation of its activities, and
- (f) the need to act fairly in their dealings with the stakeholders of the School

The achievement of the above objectives is reflected within this report.

Governing Body

The Governors are listed on page 1. All Governors are members of the Association of Littlegarth School Limited in accordance with the governing documents.

All trustees give their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid in the year. No Governor or person connected with a Governor received any benefit from means tested bursaries awarded to our pupils.

Organisational Management

The Board determines the overall strategy and general policy of the School and approves strategic plans, regulatory matters, major items of capital expenditure and financing matters.

All Governors have access to the advice and services of the Bursar who is responsible for ensuring that the Board and its committees are provided with papers of sufficient quality to enable the Governors to consider matters in good time for meetings and enable them to discharge their duties effectively.

The work of implementing a number of the Board's policies is carried out by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which holds four meetings during the year. Other principal committees cover Human Resources and Curriculum matters. Both meet termly before a full Board meeting. The Headmaster, Deputy Heads, Bursar and other senior staff attend these meetings as appropriate.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

The day to day running of the School is delegated to the Head, supported by senior staff. The Headmaster undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with the senior staff. The day to day administration of the School is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Governors for prior approval.

The Head oversees the recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Bursar oversees the recruitment of administrative and non-teaching support staff.

Key management personnel

The Governors consider that they, together with the Head, the Deputy Heads, the Bursar and the senior staff comprise the Key Management Personnel and are listed on Page 1a.

Risk Management

Littlegarth School Governors are responsible for the identification, evaluation and management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed consideration of risks is delegated to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, assisted by the Senior Management Team. Risks are identified, assessed and controls established. A formal review of the Company's risk management processes is undertaken annually. Through this procedure the Governors satisfy themselves that major risks identified have been mitigated wherever possible and practicable.

The key controls used by the Company include:

- formal agendas for all Committee and Board meetings;
- detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- clear authorisation and approval levels for ordering and invoicing of goods and services; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately identified and managed.

The main risks that the Governors have identified and have implemented plans to manage those risks are:

- Reputation. The School's success is built on its reputation for the education and well-being of our pupils. We manage this risk through safeguarding policies, staff recruitment policies, pastoral support for both pupils and staff and active identification and resolution of health and safety related issues.
- Money. Our ability to continue is reliant on pupil fees and the ability to pay bills as they fall due. This risk is managed by marketing activity, having a reputation for academic and all-round excellence and active cash-flow management
- Curriculum. Academic excellence requires the most able teachers with state of the art facilities delivering the curriculum to able students. We manage this by combining attractive salaries with additional allowances paid for Mathematics and English staff and other staff with extra responsibilities, on-going investment in our estate and an approach to enrolment that works with supportive parents whose children have an appetite for learning.

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GOVERNORS AND CHARITY TRUSTEES

Governor Recruitment and Training

The Governing Body appoints new Trustees, their terms of service set in accordance with the governing documents. Their eligibility, personal competence, specialist skills, experience and local availability are taken into account in the appointment process.

The Governing body requires breadth and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently. When recruiting new trustees, the important attribute is a passion for the work of our School and an understanding of education as a holistic and rounded experience of personal growth. In making their recommendations for potential new trustees, Governors seek to ensure that, wherever possible, the Governing Body comprises the following competencies.

- A Governor with a legal background
- A Governor with a financial/accounting background
- A Governor with education experience
- A Governor with senior managerial or business experience
- A Governor with experience of equal opportunities or disability needs
- At least one female Governor and at least one male Governor

A Governor may have one or more of these skills.

New Governors are inducted into the workings of the Charity, including Board policies and procedures. The School is a member of the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), which provides professional support as required.

ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also directors of Littlegarth School Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the annual report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the 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 charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions. Members of the charity guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The total number of such guarantors at 31 July 2020 was 10 (2019:10). The Governors are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Approved by the Trustees of Littlegarth School Limited on 10th December 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

Mr J Henderson (Chairman of Governors)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Littlegarth School Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st July 2020 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st July 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor'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 we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Governors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

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

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED**Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)**

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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' report; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement set out on pages 1j and 1k 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 but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED**Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of Littlegarth School Limited (continued)****Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's governors, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's Governors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Cara Miller ACCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Boundary House
4 County Place
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0RE*

Date:

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

	Note	2020 Unrestricted Funds £	2020 Restricted Funds £	2020 Total Funds £	2019 Total Funds £
Income from:					
Charitable Activities-					
Income from Coronavirus					
Job Retention Scheme		72,054	-	72,054	-
Academic and other fees	2	3,103,577	-	3,103,577	3,385,420
Donations and events		35,173	-	35,173	20,500
Investment income	4	12,860		12,860	15,397
Total income		3,223,664	-	3,223,664	3,421,317
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities-					
Provision of education	5a/ 5b	3,109,485	-	3,109,485	3,178,537
Total expenditure		3,109,485		3,109,485	3,178,537
Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers		114,179	-	114,179	242,780
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		114,179		114,179	242,780
Opening Fund Balances		3,685,205		3,685,205	3,442,425
Closing Fund Balances	15	3,799,384		3,799,384	3,685,205

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other gains and losses other than those stated above.

Movements in funds are disclosed in note 15 to the financial statements.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	10	4,902,398	4,981,352
Investments	11	2	2
		4,902,400	4,981,354
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		46,667	27,324
Debtors	12	92,466	88,537
Cash at bank and in hand		482,359	510,965
		621,492	626,826
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	13	(337,344)	(445,801)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/ (LIABILITIES)		284,148	181,025
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,186,548	5,162,379
CREDITORS: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(1,387,164)	(1,477,174)
NET ASSETS		3,799,384	3,685,205
RESTRICTED FUNDS		-	-
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General fund		3,799,384	3,685,205
TOTAL FUNDS	15	3,799,384	3,685,205

The financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime were approved by the Trustees on 10th December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Henderson
Chairman
Registered number: 1141073

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

	Note	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	16		251,652		431,384
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Interest received		1,393		1,332	
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		-		15,500	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(147,641)		(188,757)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(146,248)		(171,925)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Increase in borrowings		-		-	
Repayment of borrowings		(87,175)		(83,089)	
Interest paid		(46,835)		(49,164)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(134,010)		(132,253)
CHANGE IN CASH IN THE PERIOD			(28,606)		127,206
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PERIOD			510,965		383,759
CASH AT THE END OF THE PERIOD			482,359		510,965

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

1 Accounting policies

Statutory information

Littlegarth School Limited is a charitable company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office address and principal place of business is the school, at Horkesley Park, Colchester, CO6 4JR.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (September 2015) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional and presentational currency of the School, and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy or note.

These financial statements include the results of the charitable company only, and do not include its wholly-owned dormant subsidiary. Balances between the two companies are disclosed in the notes of the charitable company's balance sheet.

Littlegarth School Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102.

Fees and similar income

Fees receivable and charges for educational services and income from extra curricula and extramural activities during the year are accounted for in the year in which the service is provided.

Donations

Donations receivable for the general purposes of the Charity are credited to Unrestricted Funds upon receipt.

Government grants

Income from government and other grants is recognised when the School has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred. Income received in advance of the provision of a specified service is deferred until the criteria for income recognition are met.

Expenditure

All expenditure is included on an accruals basis and is recognised when there is a legal or constructive obligation to pay for expenditure. Costs have been directly attributed to one of the functional activity categories. Overhead and other costs not directly attributable to particular functional categories are apportioned over the relevant categories on an appropriate basis. The VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise the cost of running the Charity, including strategic planning for future development and also internal and external audit, any legal advice for the Governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as the costs of Board and Committee meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Pensions

The Charity contributes to the Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme at rates set by the Scheme Actuary and advised to the Board by the Scheme Administrator. The scheme is a multi-employer pension scheme and it is not possible to identify which part of the assets and liabilities of the scheme are attributable to the School. In accordance with FRS17 the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. The School also runs a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff and a stakeholder pension scheme for other members of staff. The contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities when made.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest received on bank balances is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Going Concern

Having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's projected cash flows, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets is calculated to write off their cost or valuation less any residual value over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Assets under construction	nil
Freehold land	nil
Freehold buildings	50 years, 25 years, 20 years or 15 years
Freehold buildings – equipment	10 years
School equipment	3 years to 8 years

Items costing less than £500 are written off as an expense as acquired.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is computed on a first in first out basis. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less the estimated cost of disposal.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

2 Income from Charitable Activities

Academic and other fees

	2020	2019
	£	£
Academic fees (note 3)	2,839,879	2,958,718
Non-academic fees	70,089	138,430
Lunches and milk	146,550	210,697
Miscellaneous	43,464	76,750
Sports Hall Events Income	3,595	825
	3,103,577	3,385,420

3 Academic fees

Gross fees

Less: Total bursaries and allowances

Less: Fee waiver due to COVID-19

	2020	2019
	£	£
Gross fees	3,131,447	3,040,277
Less: Total bursaries and allowances	(86,269)	(81,559)
Less: Fee waiver due to COVID-19	(205,299)	-
	2,839,879	2,958,718

4 Income from Investments

Incidental rental income

Bank deposit interest

Interest on outstanding debts

	2020	2019
	£	£
Incidental rental income	11,467	14,065
Bank deposit interest	1,393	1,172
Interest on outstanding debts	-	160
	12,860	15,397

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

5 Expenditure on Charitable Activities – Provision of Education

		2020	Restated 2019
		£	£
5a	Teaching and care of children		
	Salaries – academic	1,536,854	1,523,588
	Salaries – catering	72,493	71,367
	Pension costs	292,529	206,988
	Lesson materials	31,726	44,848
	Other direct costs	94,096	164,571
	Lunches and milk	56,907	74,745
		2,084,605	2,086,107
5b	Support costs		
	Support staff	327,390	317,292
	Pension costs	17,267	16,482
	Other direct costs	8,315	8,247
	Heating and lighting	66,820	67,289
	Cleaning	51,212	55,159
	Property repairs	88,883	161,524
	Insurances	28,765	32,130
	Service charges and rates	21,660	26,745
	Equipment repairs	-	42
	Hire of equipment	2,696	3,246
	Depreciation	226,278	209,246
	Advertising	29,782	26,755
	Subscriptions	3,076	4,542
	Telephone charges	4,980	4,726
	Computer costs	37,163	29,523
	Printing postage and stationery	13,037	13,960
	Sundry expenditure	18,915	22,539
	Bank charges	2,204	4,689
	Bank loan interest	46,835	48,990
	Movement in bad debt provision	(10,834)	1,656
	Legal and professional fees	9,850	7,443
	Accountancy	495	1,076
	Loss / (Profit) on Disposal of fixed assets	317	(3,530)
	General administration	8,328	12,115
	Governance costs (Note 6)	21,446	20,544
		1,024,880	1,092,430

General administration costs of £8,328 (2019: £12,115) are included within support costs. In previous years this was included within Teaching and Care of Children.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
6 Governance costs		
Salaries	12,086	11,460
Audit fee	9,360	9,084
	21,446	20,544
7 Net income for the period	2020 £	2019 £
This is stated after crediting:		
Rental income	11,467	14,065
Interest receivable	1,393	1,332
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	3,530
and after charging:		
Staff costs (note 8)	2,258,620	2,147,177
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– audit	7,800	7,570
Auditors' remuneration excluding VAT– other services	4,325	750
Operating leases:		
Hire of assets other than plant & machinery	2,696	3,246
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 10):		
Owned assets	226,278	209,246
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	317	-
8 Staff costs	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	1,768,981	1,748,835
Supply staff salaries	10,784	21,116
Social security costs	169,059	153,756
Pension costs	309,796	223,470
	2,258,620	2,147,177
	2020 £	2019 £
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	339,627	331,543
Average monthly employee headcount:		
	Number	Number
Academic staff	44	43
Non-academic staff	24	22
	68	65
The following number of employees earned in excess of £60,000 (excluding pension contributions and employer's NI):		
£60,000 – £70,000	1	2
£70,001 – £80,000	-	-
£80,001 – £90,000	1	1

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

Two of the employees above are accruing benefits under a defined benefit retirement scheme.

Governors

No emoluments were paid to the Governors in the current or preceding period.

Governors' expenses

Expenses for training and related travel totalling £114 were reimbursed to 1 Governor (2019: £138 to 3 Governors)

9 Taxation

As a consequence of the Company's charitable status the Company has no liability to corporation tax.

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and Buildings	School Equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
1 August 2019	5,442,760	940,517	6,383,277
Additions	30,957	116,684	147,641
Disposals	-	(65,648)	(65,648)
31 July 2020	5,473,717	991,553	6,465,270
Depreciation			
1 August 2019	907,176	494,749	1,401,925
Charge for the year	123,373	102,905	226,278
Disposals	-	(65,331)	(65,331)
31 July 2020	1,030,549	532,323	1,562,872
Net book amount			
31 July 2020	4,443,168	459,230	4,902,398
1 August 2019	4,535,584	445,768	4,981,352

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020

11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited

	Investments
	£
Cost and Net Book Value	
At 1 August 2019 and	2
31 July 2020	

	2020	2019
	£	£
12 Debtors		
Trade debtors	20,484	43,385
Other debtors	449	750
Prepayments and accrued income	71,533	44,402
	92,466	88,537

	2020	2019
	£	£
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Bank loans (secured, see note 14)	89,911	87,077
Trade creditors	37,938	120,578
Amounts due to subsidiary undertaking	2	2
Other taxation and social security	40,438	41,907
Accruals and deferred income	48,092	71,998
Other creditors	120,963	124,239
	337,344	445,801

	2020	2019
	£	£
14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Other liabilities		
Bank loans (secured)	1,387,164	1,477,174
	1,387,164	1,477,174
Maturity of debt		
In one year or less, or on demand	89,911	87,077
In more than one year but not more than two years	91,530	88,699
In more than two years but not more than five years	215,203	259,854
In more than five years	1,080,431	1,128,621
	1,477,075	1,564,251

The bank loans are secured over the freehold property of the School.

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020

15	Analysis of Funds	Fund Balances 1 August 2019 £	Net Income for the year £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balances 31 July 2020 £
	Total Unrestricted Funds	3,685,205	114,179	-	3,799,384
	Prior year funds:	Fund Balances 1 August 2018 £	Net income for the period £	Transfers for the year £	Fund Balances 31 July 2019 £
	Total Unrestricted Funds	3,442,425	242,780	-	3,685,205

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED
NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020

		2020 £	2019 £
16	Notes to the statement of cash flows		
	Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities		
	Net income for the reporting period	114,179	242,780
	Adjusted for:		
	Depreciation charges	226,278	209,246
	Interest received	(1,393)	(1,332)
	Interest paid	46,835	49,164
	Loss / (Profit) on disposal of fixed assets	317	(3,530)
	(Increase) / Decrease in stocks	(19,343)	(3,291)
	(Increase) / Decrease in debtors	(3,929)	(18,262)
	(Decrease) / Increase in creditors	(111,292)	(43,391)
	Net cash flow from operating activities	251,652	431,384
	Analysis of changes in net debt		
	Cash at bank and in hand	510,965	482,359
	Debt due within one year	(87,077)	(89,911)
	Debt due after one year	(1,477,174)	(1,387,164)
		(1,053,286)	(994,716)
	Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	2020 £	2019 £
	(Decrease) / increase in cash in the period	(28,606)	127,206
	Cash outflow from decrease in debt	87,176	83,089
	Change in net debt resulting from cash flows	58,570	210,295
	Net debt brought forward	(1,053,286)	(1,263,581)
	Net debt carried forward	(994,716)	(1,053,286)

LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020

17 Pension commitments

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme (England and Wales) ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £290,950 (2019: £205,728) and at the year-end £33,268 (2019: £26,234) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2014. Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary Department. The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers are paying an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from 1 September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.08%). Until then, employers paid a rate of 16.48% following an increase from 14.1% at 1 September 2015.

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found by following this link to [the Teachers' Pension Scheme website](#)

The School makes additional contributions to a defined contribution scheme for a member of the teaching staff. Contributions are also made for four members of the non-teaching staff to other defined contribution schemes at a rate of two times the employees' contribution subject to a cap of 10%.

Contributions for all other members of staff who are eligible to join are made to NEST, the workplace pension scheme set up by the Government. Pension contributions to this scheme were made at 5% of the employees' eligible salary from 1 April 2019.

The pension scheme charge for the other pension schemes in the year amounted to £18,846 (2019: £17,742) including a year-end provision of £9,177 (2019: £7,102).

18 Related party transactions

At the year end the Company owed £2 to Littlegarth Services Limited (2019: £2). There were no donations from trustees or other related parties in the year (2019: £NIL)

19 Leasing commitments

At the year end the Company had total commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:-

Expiry date:

Within 1 year (April 2021)

Between 2-5 years

2020

£

2,696

4,493

2019

£

2,696

7,189

20 Capital commitments

The School had capital commitments of £NIL (2019: £NIL) at the year-end.

LITTLEGARTH SERVICES LIMITED

**DIRECTORS' REPORT
AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020

Registered number: 3065841

LITTLEGARTH SERVICES LIMITED

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LITTLEGARTH SERVICES LIMITED**DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020**

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2020.

RESULTS AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The Company was dormant throughout the year.

DIRECTORS

The director who served during the year is as stated below:

J Henderson

No emoluments were paid to directors in the current or preceding period

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

This report was approved by the Board on 10th December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

J Henderson
Director

LITTLEGARTH SERVICES LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JULY 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets		
Debtors	2	2
Net assets	2	2
Capital and reserves		
Called up share capital:		
Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
Ordinary shares of £1 each	2	2
	2	2

Audit exemption statement

For the year ended 31 July 2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 480 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to dormant companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- (a) The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- (b) The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies' regime.

These financial statements were approved by the Board on 10th December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Henderson
Director

Registration number 3065841

LITTLEGARTH SERVICES LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 July 2020

1 Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1A – 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland' ('FRS 102'), and with the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

The Company has not traded, made profits or losses nor incurred any liabilities during the year ended 31 July 2020. Therefore, no profit and loss account is attached.

	2020 £	2019 £
2 Debtors		
Amounts due from parent undertaking	2	2
	2	2
3 Share capital		
Authorised share capital:		
1,000 Ordinary shares of £1 each		
	1,000	1,000
Allotted, called up and fully paid:		
2 Ordinary shares of £1 each		
	2	2
4 Ultimate parent undertaking		
The Company's ultimate parent undertaking at the balance sheet date was Littlegarth School Limited, a Company incorporated in England.		