



## **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](mailto:office@littlegarth.org)  
Website: [www.littlegarth.org](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> Nationally and 3<sup>rd</sup> Regionally

#### **Rugby**

U11 ISA Rugby National winners for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year

U10 ISA Rugby National - 3<sup>rd</sup> place

U11 St Joseph's National Tournament – 1<sup>st</sup> place

U11 IAPS Rugby Champions

U11 Roslyn Park National Rugby 7's

#### **Hockey**

U11A ISA National Hockey Plate runners up (10<sup>th</sup> out of 32)

#### **Netball**

U11A IAPS Regional Netball – plate runners up (regionally)

U10 ISA Netball – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 - 1<sup>st</sup>)

#### **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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
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
<b>Total income</b>		<b>4,389,471</b>	<b>140,962</b>	<b>4,530,433</b>	<b>4,460,212</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
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
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>4,480,090</b>	<b>21,134</b>	<b>4,501,224</b>	<b>4,419,590</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) for the period before transfers</b>		<b>(90,619)</b>	<b>119,828</b>	<b>29,209</b>	<b>40,622</b>
Transfers between funds		71,860	(71,860)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(18,759)</b>	<b>47,968</b>	<b>29,209</b>	<b>40,622</b>
Opening Fund Balances		4,648,521	(127,303)	4,521,218	4,480,596
<b>Closing Fund Balances</b>	15	<b>4,629,762</b>	<b>(79,335)</b>	<b>4,550,427</b>	<b>4,521,218</b>

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

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

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
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
	<b>4,441,335</b>	<b>4,334,807</b>

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

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

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



## 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	<b>Teaching and care of children</b>		
	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
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		<b>2,903,384</b>	<b>2,848,002</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		2025	2024
		£	£
5b	<b>Support costs</b>		
	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
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		<b>1,597,840</b>	<b>1,571,588</b>
		<hr/>	<hr/>

## LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>6 Governance costs</b>		
Salaries	14,524	13,897
Audit fee	13,780	13,200
Audit fees – TPA and disbursements	1,620	-
Other costs	6,620	2,809
	<b>36,544</b>	<b>29,906</b>
<b>7 Net income for the period</b>	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
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
<b>8 Staff costs</b>	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
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
	<b>2,951,753</b>	<b>2,841,270</b>
	<b>2025 £</b>	<b>2024 £</b>
Aggregate employee benefits (including employer's NI and pension) of key management personnel	<b>478,012</b>	<b>465,601</b>

**LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED**

**NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

**8 Staff costs (continued)**

Average monthly employee headcount:

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Academic staff	47	47
Non-academic staff	21	20
	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>

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
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>				
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	<b>5,874,688</b>	<b>1,456,109</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,330,797</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
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	<b>1,609,463</b>	<b>934,154</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,543,617</b>
<b>Net book amount</b>				
31 July 2025	<b>4,265,225</b>	<b>521,955</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,787,180</b>
1 August 2024	4,161,906	586,905	105,301	4,854,112

**11 Fixed asset investments in Littlegarth Services Limited**

	Investments £
<b>Cost and Net Book Value</b>	
At 1 August 2024 and 31 July 2025	<b>2</b>

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 £
<b>12 Debtors:</b> 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
	<b>187,485</b>	<b>105,314</b>

## LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL LIMITED

## NOTES ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>13 Creditors:</b> 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
	<b>893,965</b>	<b>1,055,011</b>
	2025 £	2024 £
<b>14 Creditors:</b> amounts falling due after more than one year		
<b>Other liabilities</b>		
Bank loans (secured)	<b>1,043,918</b>	<b>1,089,188</b>
<b>Maturity of debt</b>		
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
	<b>1,089,730</b>	<b>1,133,225</b>

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)
		<b>4,521,218</b>	<b>4,530,433</b>	<b>(4,501,224)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,550,427</b>

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)
		<b>4,629,762</b>	<b>(79,335)</b>	<b>4,550,427</b>

  

17	Notes to the statement of cash flows	2025	2024
		£	£
	<b>Reconciliation of cash flows from operating Activities</b>		
	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
	<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	<b>65,592</b>	<b>999,598</b>

  

	At start of year	Cash flows	At end of year
	£	£	£
<b>Analysis of changes in net funds</b>			
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)
	<b>521,848</b>	<b>(151,056)</b>	<b>370,792</b>

## 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
<b>Change in net funds resulting from cash flows</b>	<b>(151,056)</b>	<b>483,455</b>
Net funds brought forward	521,848	38,393
<b>Net funds carried forward</b>	<b>370,792</b>	<b>521,848</b>

## 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).