

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales · Charity number 515073

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [01644174](#)

Registered 1984-04-17

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Branwood Preparatory School
Stafford Road
Eccles
Manchester
M30 9HN

Phone 0161 789 1054

Website www.branwoodschool.co.uk

Activities

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

Activities: Independent preparatory school providing education to children of both sexes from the age of 3 through to 11.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Human Resources, Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** Children/young People

Geography

- Manchester City

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£1,473,071	£1,663,171	£2,022,722	32
2024-08-31	£1,453,239	£1,444,846	£2,212,822	32
2023-08-31	£1,239,614	£1,289,139	£2,204,429	33
2022-08-31	£1,251,762	£1,190,769	£2,264,234	32
2021-08-31	£1,175,313	£1,090,856	£2,364,736	32

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MARK NICHOLAS FLETCHER	Chair	2013-02-26
DANIEL MARK TAYLOR		2014-10-06
JOANNE EVA WILCOX		2014-10-07
Jonathan Seddon		2024-03-18
Mark Foster		2016-09-21
TERENCE STANLEY CRAMANT		

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 515073

Accounts

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details of the charity, its Trustees and advisers	1
Trustees' report	2 - 6
Independent auditors' report on the financial statements	7 - 11
Statement of financial activities	12
Balance sheet	13 - 14
Statement of cashflows	15
Notes to the financial statements	16 - 29

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

Trustees	Mr T S Cramant Mr M N Fletcher Mr D M Taylor Mrs J E Wilcox Mr M Foster Mr J Seddon
Company registered number	01644174
Charity registered number	515073
Registered office	Branwood School Stafford Road Monton Manchester M30 9HN
Independent auditors	Barlow Andrews LLP Carlyle House 78 Chorley New Road Bolton BL1 4BY

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charity for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2019).

Since the charity qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The charitable company's objects are:

To establish and carry on the charity as a Preparatory School, where children may receive a sound education.

To establish and perpetuate a Preparatory School run in connection with, or independently of, any senior school or college.

Branwood School Trust Limited operates as an Independent Preparatory School providing education to children of both sexes from the age of 3 through to 11.

Each year the Trustees review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect our aims and to provide public benefit. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, our Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance and guidance on public benefit and in particular in its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee charging. The Trustees are more than satisfied that they do.

The Trustees and Governors have discussed the objectives of the school and how it can best serve not only the pupils and staff, but also the local community.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring the provision of excellence in education at an affordable cost. The Trustees are committed to offering scholarships as and when it is deemed feasible, and to assisting scholars as and when it is thought fit and appropriate.

The school does not currently have a separate fund that would enable it to set up and maintain a system of Bursaries, and as the Trustees' policy is to maintain fees for the school at a reasonable level, it is unlikely that Bursaries can be offered in the short to medium term. The Trustees have publicised the facilities available at the school to the local community and organisations, at a reasonable cost where the use is considered to be appropriate and compatible.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Achievements and performance

a. Main achievements of the charity

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 12.

The trustees are disappointed to report that whilst the school has enjoyed another successful year academically, financially it has suffered due to the government's introduction of VAT on private school fees on 1 January 2025.

It has kept the reported financial deficit before gains on investments to a minimum in the year and will now be looking to use the charitable company's unrestricted reserves to enhance the charity's educational objectives and to help alleviate the impact of the VAT whilst the school strives to get back to more financially viable pupil numbers.

b. Income generation

The charity's main income continues to be derived from its principle activity of providing education services to children. Fee income in the year increased to £1,321,410 from £1,292,219 in 2024. This is expected to fall significantly in the current year due to the VAT impact on pupil fee levels and numbers.

Whilst the Trustees are mindful of the increasing pressures on parents, the charity is also faced with increasing costs.

A comparison of fees with other educational establishments in the area has shown that the fees agreed by Branwood School Trust are comparable. The Trustees review fees on an annual basis and will continue to do so to ensure that the school provides an excellent all round education, enabling its pupils to progress to independent grammar schools in the general Manchester area.

c. Resources expended

The charity adopts a strict control policy for expenditure. After approval by the school Governors, recommendations are made to the board of Trustees to consider proposals for expenditure above a set criteria. Staff remuneration is decided annually at Governors' meetings.

The total expenditure on charitable activities in the year amounted to £1,663,171 (2024: £1,444,846). Of this, salaries and associated costs for teaching and support staff amounted to £1,049,632 (2024: £938,959).

d. Thanks

The Trustees would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Headteacher and staff for their dedication and efforts towards the charity over the past year.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

b. Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charitable company that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to a minimum of one term's budgeted expenditure.

At the balance sheet date the free reserves, which include the charity's investments, amounted to £613,841 (2024: £488,837), which is in line with the policy per above being a minimum of one term's expenditure (circa £550k). Total reserves amounted to £2,022,722 (2024: £2,212,822). Designated reserves amounted to £1,408,874 (2024: £1,723,978) which relates to fixed assets held in the trust.

c. Investments policy

The charity has invested money with Insignis Cash.

The Bursar and Chair of the Trustees manage investments via the Insignis platform. To minimise risk, deposits are limited to £85,000 per financial institution to ensure FSCS protection. The performance of investments was in line with market conditions during the year and the Trustees are satisfied with the position at the year end.

d. Risk management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and, where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate those risks by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers and visitors to the school.

In common with all other independent preparatory schools, the charitable company has been forced to register for VAT from 1 January 2025 due to new government legislation. The Trustees have identified this as a risk to income from school fees. However, whilst this is considered a risk, the managing of this transition is expected to be absorbed by existing school funds and passing on the VAT increase, in some capacity, by increasing fees.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Branwood School Trust Limited is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Trust deed.

b. Trustee recruitment, appointment and training

The recruitment and appointment of Trustees at Branwood School Trust Limited follows the conditions established within the charity's memorandum and articles. Trustees are recruited to the board from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

It is considered that the trust has sufficient legal and financial expertise to enable it to operate effectively and to manage the charity's affairs appropriately. All Trustees have undertaken and successfully completed webinars in line with ISi recommendations.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Structure, governance and management (continued)

c. Organisational structure

The Trustees and Governors determine the general policy of the school. The day to day running of the school is delegated to the Headteacher, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational and administrative functions in consultation with senior staff. The day to day administration of the school is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Trustees which provide for only significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Trustees 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. The Head and Bursar are invited to attend Trustee and Governors' meetings.

The Trustees discuss and agree pay and remuneration for all staff, including key management personnel, on an annual basis. Pay increases are considered with regard to inflation rates and increases awarded in the state sector, as well as "time served" experience.

d. Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a charitable limited company and was set up on 17 June 1982. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which was last amended on 18 March 2024.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr T S Cramant
Mr M N Fletcher
Mr D M Taylor
Mrs JE Wilcox
Mr M Foster
Mr J Seddon

Plans for future periods

The Trustees are committed to maintaining Branwood School Trust as a successful educational resource, and to developing both its facilities and links with the local community.

Whilst it is not possible to open the school facilities to members of the public during school time, the school has engaged the services of Greater Manchester Community Lettings (GMCL) Ltd to encourage community use of the school facilities. The uptake of the facilities has been promising, with the hall and astroturf pitches now being let a number of evenings per week. The school also offers regular holiday camps for local children during closure periods. The Trustees hope to build upon this success moving forward.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

Disclosure of information to auditors

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

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

Auditors

A resolution to appoint AAB Audit & Accountancy Limited as auditor of the company will be proposed at the next general meeting.

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


.....
Mr M N Fletcher
(Trustee)
Date: 28 January 2026

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the 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 Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes for company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

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

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

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (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 Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011 legislation.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities including fraud to be:

- Management override of controls;
- Timing and completeness of revenue recognition; and
- Compliance with relevant laws and regulations which directly impact the financial statements and those that the company needs to comply with for the purpose of trading.

Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included:

- Testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness;
- Testing a sample of revenue transactions and associated recognition of revenue to ensure appropriate;
- Evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business;
- Enquiries of management about litigation and claims and inspection of relevant correspondence;
- Reviewing legal and professional fees to identify indications of actual or potential litigation, claims and any non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Performing a disclosure checklist on the financial statements to ensure Companies Act 2006 and Charities SORP (FRS 102) requirements are satisfied;
- Analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected trends or relationship; and
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance to identify any matters indicating actual or potential fraud.

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 is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditors' report.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(CONTINUED)

Use of our report

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

Alison Cornes
for on behalf of
Barlow Andrews LLP
Statutory Auditor
Carlisle House
78 Chorley New Road
Bolton
BL1 4BY

28 January 2026

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:				
Charitable activities	4	1,430,718	1,430,718	1,388,370
Investments	5	42,353	42,353	22,325
Total income		1,473,071	1,473,071	1,410,695
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	6	1,663,171	1,663,171	1,444,846
Total expenditure		1,663,171	1,663,171	1,444,846
Net expenditure before net gains on investments		(190,100)	(190,100)	(34,151)
Net gains on investments		-	-	42,544
Net movement in funds		(190,100)	(190,100)	8,393
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		2,212,822	2,212,822	2,204,429
Net movement in funds		(190,100)	(190,100)	8,393
Total funds carried forward		2,022,722	2,022,722	2,212,822

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure in the prior year related to unrestricted funds.

The notes on pages 16 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 01644174

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Tangible assets	12	1,408,874	1,473,978
		1,408,874	1,473,978
Current assets			
Debtors	14	73,011	41,194
Investments	15	575,967	1,029,172
Cash at bank and in hand		200,106	274,226
		849,084	1,344,592
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(235,236)	(605,748)
		613,848	738,844
Net current assets			
Total assets less current liabilities		2,022,722	2,212,822
Charity funds			
Restricted funds		-	-
Unrestricted funds			
Tangible fixed assets		1,408,874	1,473,978
Development funds		-	250,000
General funds		613,841	488,837
Share capital		7	7
		2,022,722	2,212,822
Total funds		2,022,722	2,212,822

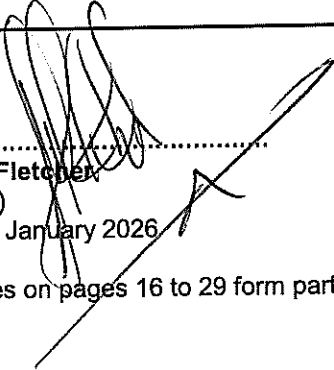
The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025



.....
Mr M N Fletcher
(Trustee)
Date: 28 January 2026

The notes on pages 16 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

		2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	23	(451,301)	342,294
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(135,572)	(1,028,276)
Proceeds from disposal of investments		17,195	1,080,805
Investment income received		42,353	22,325
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(76,024)</u>	<u>74,854</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(527,325)	418,148
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		1,303,398	885,250
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		<u>776,073</u>	<u>1,303,398</u>
Relating to:			
Cash at bank and in hand		200,106	274,226
Short term deposits included in current asset investments		575,967	1,029,172
		<u>776,073</u>	<u>1,303,398</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies

2. Charity Information

Branwood School Trust Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Stafford Road, Monton, Eccles, Manchester.

2.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

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

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

2.2 Going concern

The trustees have assessed the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, taking into account its financial position, cash flow forecasts and projected student numbers for a period of at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The charity operates as an independent school and derives the majority of its income from tuition fees. The trustees have reviewed current enrolment levels and future admissions forecasts and believe that student numbers will be sufficient to support ongoing operations throughout the assessment period.

During the year, changes in the VAT treatment applicable to independent school fees came into effect. The trustees have assessed the financial and cash flow impact of these changes, including the effect on fee affordability and demand for places. The impact of these changes has been reflected in the charity's budgets and cash flow forecasts used in the going concern assessment.

The trustees have also reviewed the charity's liquidity position and cash reserves. In response to the VAT impact and wider cost pressures, the trustees have identified and, where appropriate, can implement cash-saving and mitigating measures, including close monitoring of expenditure and deferral of non-essential spending.

The trustees continue to closely monitor enrolment levels, cash flows and the ongoing impact of VAT on the charity's performance.

Having considered these factors, and the mitigating actions available, the trustees are satisfied that the charity has adequate resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due and therefore consider it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

2.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

2.4 Income

Income is recognised at fair value on a receivable basis and is reported gross of any related expenditure and when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Income that is invoiced in advance or arrears is apportioned so that only that relating to the period of the financial statements is included in income.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which can not be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

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

2.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recognised at cost. After recognition, under the cost model, tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. All costs incurred to bring a tangible fixed asset into its intended working condition should be included in the measurement of cost.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Land and buildings	-	2% straight line
Property improvements	-	10% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	-	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	-	33% straight line

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

All fixed asset investments held by the charitable company were disposed of in the prior year.

2.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

2.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues.' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include current asset investments, debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised..

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Financial instruments (continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2.11 Taxation

The company has charitable status and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within section 505 of The Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

2.12 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
School fees	1,321,410	1,321,410	1,292,219
School activities	70,481	70,481	87,546
Other income	38,827	38,827	8,605
	1,430,718	1,430,718	1,388,370
	1,388,370	1,388,370	
Total 2024			

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	42,353	42,353	22,325
	42,353	42,353	22,325
	22,325	22,325	
Total 2024			

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Staff costs	1,049,632	938,959
Depreciation and impairment	183,481	90,443
Recruitment costs	5,825	2,946
Establishment costs	67,834	54,135
Postage and stationery	7,634	6,877
Repairs and maintenance	87,806	86,973
Office expenses	10,509	6,850
Services and supplies	160,916	177,919
Transport and security	29,864	23,225
Advertising and promotion	11,819	9,362
Bad debts	4,644	5,121
Bank charges	1,156	3,986
Donations	-	66
Accountancy fees	13,543	9,865
Cost of trustees' meetings	326	879
Legal and professional fees	11,005	20,340
Auditor's remuneration	8,000	6,900
Irrecoverable VAT	9,177	-
Unrestricted funds	1,663,171	1,444,846

7. Net movement in funds

	2025	2024
	£	£
The net movement in funds stated after charging:		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	8,000	6,900
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	183,481	90,443

8. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2025, expenses totalling £326 were reimbursed to Trustees' in relation to travel (2024 - £879).

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

9. Staff costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	924,423	831,619
Social security costs	85,720	71,689
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	39,489	35,651
	<u>1,049,632</u>	<u>938,959</u>

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Teaching staff	18	18
Administration staff	4	5
Domestic staff	10	9
	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Aggregate compensation	<u>138,195</u>	<u>125,446</u>

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	-

10. Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Gains/ (Losses) arising on:		
Sale of investments	-	42,544

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

11. Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Property Improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2024	701,960	1,210,285	308,294	175,140	2,395,679
Additions	-	70,134	56,455	8,983	135,572
Disposals	-	-	(18,100)	-	(18,100)
At 31 August 2025	<u>701,960</u>	<u>1,280,419</u>	<u>346,649</u>	<u>184,123</u>	<u>2,513,151</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	392,881	227,960	145,607	155,253	921,701
Charge for the year	14,040	126,389	29,305	13,747	183,481
On disposals	-	-	(905)	-	(905)
At 31 August 2025	<u>406,921</u>	<u>354,349</u>	<u>174,007</u>	<u>169,000</u>	<u>1,104,277</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	<u><u>295,039</u></u>	<u><u>926,070</u></u>	<u><u>172,642</u></u>	<u><u>15,123</u></u>	<u><u>1,408,874</u></u>
At 31 August 2024	<u><u>309,079</u></u>	<u><u>982,325</u></u>	<u><u>162,687</u></u>	<u><u>19,887</u></u>	<u><u>1,473,978</u></u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

13. Financial instruments

	2025 £	2024 £
Financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised costs	233,478	288,905
Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	575,967	1,029,172
	809,445	1,318,077
	809,445	1,318,077
	2025 £	2024 £
Financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	235,236	605,748
	235,236	605,748
	235,236	605,748

14. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	33,372	14,679
Prepayments and accrued income	39,639	26,515
	73,011	41,194
	73,011	41,194

15. Current asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Short-term bank deposits	575,967	1,029,172
	575,967	1,029,172
	575,967	1,029,172

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	38,693	72,879
Other taxation and social security	8,646	-
Other creditors	32,284	387
Accruals, deferred income and payments on account	155,613	532,482
	235,236	605,748

Income received in advance of £141,693 (2024: £216,072) is included within accruals, deferred income and payments on account.

17. Retirement benefit schemes

	2025 £	2024 £
Defined contribution schemes		
Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	39,489	35,651

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

18. Share Capital

	2025 £	2024 £
Ordinary share capital issued and fully paid		
7 Ordinary shares of £1 each	7	7
	7	7

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

19. Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include two designated funds.

The tangible fixed assets fund relates to the tangible fixed assets held in the trust. As at 1 September 2024 the amount held in this fund was £1,473,978. During the year there was a net movement of £65,104 as a result of depreciation charged being in excess of additions in the year. At the year end the balance on the fund was £1,408,874.

The second fund amounted to £250,000 at 1 September 2024 and related to amounts set aside for expenditure on a new development. This was fully utilised during the year on fixed asset additions.

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,408,874	1,408,874
Current assets	849,084	849,084
Creditors due within one year	(235,236)	(235,236)
Total	2,022,722	2,022,722

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	1,473,978	1,473,978
Current assets	1,344,592	1,344,592
Creditors due within one year	(605,748)	(605,748)
Total	2,212,822	2,212,822

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

21. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2025 the charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Within one year	1,289	1,718
Between two and five years	-	1,289
	<u>1,289</u>	<u>3,007</u>

22. Related party transactions

During the year the charity made payments in respect of consultancy services of £14,400 (2024: £14,400) to Mr M Fletcher. This was in relation to additional services provided to the charity in his role as a Trustee. This has been capitalised within property improvements in the current year due to the services involving management of the ongoing construction projects.

During the year the charity also made payments in respect of maintenance costs of £26,570 (2024: £1,140) to Seddon Construction Limited of which Mr J Seddon (Trustee) is a Director.

No other disclosable related party transactions have been noted.

23. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(190,100)	8,393
Depreciation charges	183,481	90,443
Gain on disposal of investments	-	(42,544)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(31,817)	(2,676)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(370,512)	311,003
Investment income recognised in SOFA	(42,353)	(22,325)
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	<u>(451,301)</u>	<u>343,294</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

24. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand	200,106	274,226
	200,106	274,226
	200,106	274,226

25. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 1 September 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	274,226	(74,120)	200,106
Liquid investments	1,029,172	(453,205)	575,967
	1,303,398	(527,325)	776,073
	1,303,398	(527,325)	776,073

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 515073

Accounts

Charity registration number 515073 (England and Wales)

Company registration number 01644174

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr T S Cramant Mr M N Fletcher Mr D M Taylor Mrs J E Wilcox Mr M Foster Mr J Seddon	(Appointed 18 March 2024)
Charity number	515073	
Company number	01644174	
Registered office	Stafford Road Monton Eccles Manchester	
Auditor	Barlow Andrews LLP Carlyle House 78 Chorley New Road Bolton	

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 4
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	5
Independent auditor's report	6 - 9
Statement of financial activities	10
Balance sheet	11
Statement of cash flows	12
Notes to the financial statements	13 - 22

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charitable company's objects are:

To establish and carry on the charity as a Preparatory School, where children may receive a sound education.

To establish and perpetuate a Preparatory School run in connection with, or independently of, any senior school or college.

Branwood School Trust Limited operates as an Independent Preparatory School providing education to children of both sexes from the age of 3 through to 11.

Each year the Trustees review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect our aims and to provide public benefit. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, our Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance and guidance on public benefit and in particular in its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee charging. The Trustees are more than satisfied that they do.

The Trustees and Governors have discussed the objectives of the school and how it can best serve not only the pupils and staff, but also the local community.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring the provision of excellence in education at an affordable cost. The Trustees are committed to offering scholarships as and when it is deemed feasible, and to assisting scholars as and when it is thought fit and appropriate.

The school does not currently have a separate fund that would enable it to set up and maintain a system of Bursaries, and as the Trustees' policy is to maintain fees for the school at a reasonable level, it is unlikely that Bursaries can be offered in the short to medium term. The Trustees have publicised the facilities available at the school to the local community and organisations, at a reasonable cost where the use is considered to be appropriate and compatible.

Achievements and performance

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 10.

The Trustees are pleased to report that the school has enjoyed another successful year, and despite the current financial climate of economic uncertainty and inflationary pressures it has kept the reported financial deficit before gains on investments to a minimum in the year and will be looking to further use the charitable company's unrestricted reserves to improve the school's facilities and enhance the charity's educational objectives over the forthcoming years.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Income generation

The charity's main income continues to be derived from its principle activity of providing education services to children. Fee income in the year increased to £1,292,219 from £1,148,404 in 2023. This was as a result of a percentage increase in school fees as well as a slight increase in pupil numbers.

Whilst the Trustees are mindful of the increasing pressures on parents, the charity is also faced with increasing costs.

A comparison of fees with other educational establishments in the area has shown that the fees agreed by Branwood School Trust are comparable. The Trustees review fees on an annual basis and will continue to do so to ensure that the school provides an excellent all round education, enabling its pupils to progress to independent grammar schools in the general Manchester area.

Resources expended

The charity adopts a strict control policy for expenditure. After approval by the school Governors, recommendations are made to the board of Trustees to consider proposals for expenditure above a set criteria. Staff remuneration is decided annually at Governors' meetings.

The total expenditure on charitable activities in the year amounted to £1,444,846 (2023: £1,289,139). Of this, salaries and associated costs for teaching and support staff amounted to £938,959 (2023: £864,655).

Thanks

The Trustees would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Headteacher and staff for their dedication and efforts towards the charity over the past year.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charitable company that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to a minimum of one term's budgeted expenditure.

At the balance sheet date the free reserves, which include the charity's investments, amounted to £488,837 (2023: £918,277), which is in line with the policy per above being a minimum of one term's expenditure (circa £480k). Total reserves amounted to £2,212,822 (2023: £2,204,429). Designated reserves amounted to £1,723,978 (2023: £1,286,145) which relates to fixed assets held in the trust and amounts designated for development of the building. Developments began in October 2023 and are expected to continue throughout 2024/25, subject to the financial impact of the October 2024 budget on net reserves and pupil numbers.

Investment policy

The charity has invested money with Insignis Cash.

The Bursar and Chair of the Trustees manage investments via the Insignis platform. To minimise risk, deposits are limited to £85,000 per financial institution to ensure FSCS protection. The performance of investments was in line with market conditions during the year and the Trustees are satisfied with the position at the year end.

Risk management

The Trustees have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and, where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate those risks by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers and visitors to the school.

In common with all other independent preparatory schools, the charitable company has been forced to register for VAT from 1 January 2025 due to new government legislation. The Trustees have identified this as a risk to income from school fees. However, whilst this is considered a risk, the managing of this transition is expected to be absorbed by existing school funds and passing on the VAT increase, in some capacity, by increasing fees.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Future Plans

The Trustees are committed to maintaining Branwood School Trust as a successful educational resource, and to developing both its facilities and links with the local community.

Whilst it is not possible to open the school facilities to members of the public during school time, the school has engaged the services of Greater Manchester Community Lettings (GMCL) Ltd to encourage community use of the school facilities. The uptake of the facilities has been promising, with the hall and astroturf pitches now being let a number of evenings per week. The school also offers regular holiday camps for local children during closure periods. The Trustees hope to build upon this success moving forward.

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a charitable limited company and was set up on 17 June 1982. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which was last amended on 18 March 2024.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr T S Cramant

Mr M N Fletcher

Mr D M Taylor

Mrs J E Wilcox

Mr M Foster

Mr J Seddon

(Appointed 18 March 2024)

Trustee recruitment, appointment and training

The recruitment and appointment of Trustees at Branwood School Trust Limited follows the conditions established within the charity's memorandum and articles. Trustees are recruited to the board from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

It is considered that the trust has sufficient legal and financial expertise to enable it to operate effectively and to manage the charity's affairs appropriately. All Trustees have undertaken and successfully completed webinars in line with ISI recommendations.

Organisation structure

The Trustees and Governors determine the general policy of the school. The day to day running of the school is delegated to the Headteacher, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational and administrative functions in consultation with senior staff. The day to day administration of the school is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Trustees which provide for only significant expenditure decisions and major capital projects to be referred to the Trustees 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. The Head and Bursar are invited to attend Trustee and Governors' meetings.

The Trustees discuss and agree pay and remuneration for all staff, including key management personnel, on an annual basis. Pay increases are considered with regard to inflation rates and increases awarded in the state sector, as well as "time served" experience.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Barlow Andrews LLP be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



Mr M N Fletcher

Trustee

Dated: 29 January 2025

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees, who are also the directors of Branwood School Trust Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees 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 year.

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees 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.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Branwood School Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor'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 Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the 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 Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose 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 Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 Trustees 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

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. Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions; and
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias.

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

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

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Burton (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Barlow Andrews LLP, Statutory Auditor

Carlyle House

78 Chorley New Road

Bolton

29 January 2025

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Income from:</u>			
Income from charitable activities	3	1,388,370	1,231,179
Investments	4	22,325	8,435
Total income		<u>1,410,695</u>	<u>1,239,614</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Expenditure on charitable activities	5	1,444,846	1,289,139
Net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments		<u>(34,151)</u>	<u>(49,525)</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	42,544	(10,280)
Net movement in funds		<u>8,393</u>	<u>(59,805)</u>
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		<u>2,204,429</u>	<u>2,264,234</u>
Fund balances at 31 August 2024		<u><u>2,212,822</u></u>	<u><u>2,204,429</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities and relates to unrestricted funds.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		1,473,978		536,145
Investments	12		-		1,038,261
			<u>1,473,978</u>		<u>1,574,406</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	14	41,194		39,518	
Investments	15	1,029,172		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		274,226		885,250	
		<u>1,344,592</u>		<u>924,768</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(605,748)		(294,745)	
Net current assets			738,844		630,023
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,212,822</u>		<u>2,204,429</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
<u>Designated funds:</u>					
Tangible fixed assets		1,473,978		536,145	
Development funds		250,000		750,000	
	19	<u>1,723,978</u>		<u>1,286,145</u>	
General unrestricted funds		488,837		918,277	
Share capital		7		7	
			<u>2,212,822</u>		<u>2,204,429</u>
			<u>2,212,822</u>		<u>2,204,429</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 29 January 2025

Mr M N Fletcher
Trustee

Company Registration No. 01644174

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	23		343,294		118,868
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,028,276)		(52,567)	
Proceeds from disposal of investments		1,080,805		-	
Investment income received		22,325		8,435	
Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities			74,854		(44,132)
Net cash generated from financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			418,148		74,736
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			885,250		810,514
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			1,303,398		885,250
Relating to:					
Cash at bank and in hand			274,226		885,250
Short term deposits included in current asset investments			1,029,172		-

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Branwood School Trust Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Stafford Road, Monton, Eccles, Manchester.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised at fair value on a receivable basis and is reported gross of any related expenditure and when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Income that is invoiced in advance or arrears is apportioned so that only that relating to the period of the financial statements is included in income.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which can not be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and buildings	2% straight line
Property improvements	10% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include current asset investments, debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The company has charitable status and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within section 505 of The Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

1.12 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
School fees	1,292,219	1,148,404
School activities	87,546	77,515
Other income	8,605	5,260
	<u>1,388,370</u>	<u>1,231,179</u>

4 Investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Interest receivable	<u>22,325</u>	<u>8,435</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs	938,959	864,655
Depreciation and impairment	90,443	58,534
Recruitment costs	2,946	3,430
Establishment costs	54,135	44,116
Postage and stationery	6,877	5,950
Repairs and maintenance	86,973	95,907
Office expenses	6,850	7,797
Services and supplies	177,919	150,701
Transport and security	23,225	23,690
Advertising and promotion	9,362	5,119
Bad debts	5,121	1,724
Bank charges	3,986	1,187
Donations	66	-
Accountancy fees	9,865	8,741
Cost of trustee meetings	879	217
Legal and professional fees	20,340	11,071
Auditors' remuneration	6,900	6,300
	<u>1,444,846</u>	<u>1,289,139</u>
Unrestricted funds	<u>1,444,846</u>	<u>1,289,139</u>

Governance costs

Governance costs of £6,900 (2023: £6,300), being auditors' remuneration, are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

6 Net movement in funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
The net movement in funds is stated after charging:		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	6,900	6,300
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	90,443	58,534
	<u>97,343</u>	<u>64,834</u>

7 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

Trustees' expenses

During the year trustees were reimbursed for a total of £879 relating to travel and catering expenses (2023: £217).

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Teaching staff	18	22
Administration staff	5	7
Domestic staff	9	4
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total	32	33
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	831,619	767,038
Social security costs	71,689	65,210
Other pension costs	35,651	32,407
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	938,959	864,655
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£60,000 - £69,999	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	125,446	116,228
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

9 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	-	(10,280)
Sale of investments	42,544	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	42,544	(10,280)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Property improvements	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2023	701,960	319,248	178,467	167,728	1,367,403
Additions	-	891,037	129,827	7,412	1,028,276
At 31 August 2024	701,960	1,210,285	308,294	175,140	2,395,679
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 September 2023	378,846	171,205	139,117	142,090	831,258
Depreciation charged in the year	14,035	56,755	6,490	13,163	90,443
At 31 August 2024	392,881	227,960	145,607	155,253	921,701
Carrying amount					
At 31 August 2024	309,079	982,325	162,687	19,887	1,473,978
At 31 August 2023	323,114	148,043	39,350	25,638	536,145

12 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2023	1,038,261
Gain on sale of investments	42,544
Disposals	(1,080,805)
At 31 August 2024	-
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2024	-
At 31 August 2023	1,038,261

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

13	Financial instruments	2024	2023
		£	£
	Carrying amount of financial assets		
	Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	288,905	896,695
	Equity instruments measured at cost less impairment	-	1,038,261
	Instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss	1,029,172	-
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
	Measured at amortised cost	605,748	294,745
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
14	Debtors	2024	2023
		£	£
	Amounts falling due within one year:		
	Trade debtors	14,679	9,567
	Other debtors	-	1,878
	Prepayments and accrued income	26,515	28,073
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		41,194	39,518
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
15	Current asset investments	2024	2023
		£	£
	Unlisted investments	1,029,172	-
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
16	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
		£	£
	Trade creditors	72,879	25,989
	Other creditors	387	198
	Accruals and deferred income	532,482	268,558
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		605,748	294,745
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Deferred income of £222,507 (2023: £226,581) is included in accruals and deferred income.		
17	Retirement benefit schemes	2024	2023
		£	£
	Defined contribution schemes		
	Charge to profit or loss in respect of defined contribution schemes	35,651	32,407
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charitable company in an independently administered fund.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Share capital	2024	2023
	£	£
Ordinary share capital Issued and fully paid		
7 Ordinary shares of £1 each	7	7
	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

19 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include two designated funds.

The tangible fixed assets fund relates to the tangible fixed assets held in the trust. As at 1 September 2023 the amount held in this fund was £536,145. During the year there was a net movement of £937,833, as a result of significant fixed asset additions in excess of depreciation charged. At the year end the balance on the fund was £1,473,978.

The second fund amounted to £750,000 at 1 September 2023 and related to amounts set aside for expenditure on a new development. This was fully utilised during the year on fixed asset additions, as detailed above. An additional £250,000 has been transferred to this fund from general unrestricted funds to be spent in 2024/25.

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
At 31 August 2024:	
Tangible assets	1,473,978
Current assets/(liabilities)	738,844
	<u>2,212,822</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
At 31 August 2023:	
Tangible assets	536,145
Investments	1,038,261
Current assets/(liabilities)	630,023
	<u>2,204,429</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

21 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charitable company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	1,718	1,718
Between two and five years	1,289	3,007
	<u>3,007</u>	<u>4,725</u>

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity made payments in respect of consultancy services of £14,400 (2023: £nil) to Mr M Fletcher. This was in relation to additional services provided to the charity in his role as a Trustee.

During the year the charity also made payments in respect of maintenance costs of £1,140 (2023: £nil) to Seddon Construction Limited of which Mr J Seddon (Trustee) is a Director.

No other disclosable related party transactions have been noted.

23 Cash generated from operations

	2024 £	2023 £
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	8,393	(59,805)
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(22,325)	(8,435)
Gain on disposal of investments	(42,544)	-
Fair value gains and losses on investments	-	10,280
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	90,443	58,534
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,676)	1,082
Increase in creditors	311,003	117,212
Cash generated from operations	<u>343,294</u>	<u>118,868</u>

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charitable company had no material debt during the year.



BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 515073

Accounts

Charity registration number 515073

Company registration number 01644174 (England and Wales)

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT
AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr T S Cramant Mr M N Fletcher Mr D M Taylor Mrs J E Wilcox Mr M Foster
Charity number	515073
Company number	01644174
Registered office	Stafford Road Monton Eccles Manchester
Auditor	Barlow Andrews LLP Carlyle House 78 Chorley New Road Bolton
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc Walkden Branch Walkden Worsley Manchester

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	4
Independent auditor's report	5 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 21

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charitable company's objects are:

To establish and carry on the charity as a Preparatory School, where children may receive a sound education.

To establish and perpetuate a Preparatory School run in connection with, or independently of, any senior school or college.

Branwood School Trust Limited operates as an Independent Preparatory School providing education to children of both sexes from the age of 3 through to 11.

Each year the Trustees review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect our aims and to provide public benefit. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, our Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance and guidance on public benefit and in particular in its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee charging. The Trustees are more than satisfied that they do.

The Trustees and Governors have discussed the objectives of the school and how it can best serve not only the pupils and staff, but also the local community.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring the provision of excellence in education at an affordable cost. The Trustees are committed to offering scholarships as and when it is deemed feasible, and to assisting scholars as and when it is thought fit and appropriate.

The school does not currently have a separate fund that would enable it to set up and maintain a system of Bursaries, and as the Trustees' policy is to maintain fees for the school at a reasonable level, it is unlikely that Bursaries can be offered in the short to medium term. The Trustees have publicised the facilities available at the school to the local community and organisations, at a reasonable cost where the use is considered to be appropriate and compatible.

Achievements and performance

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 9.

The Trustees are pleased to report that the school has enjoyed another successful year, and despite the current financial climate of economic uncertainty and inflationary pressures it has kept the reported financial deficit to a minimum in the year and will be looking to further use the charitable company's unrestricted reserves to improve the school's facilities and enhance the charity's educational objectives over the forthcoming years.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Income generation

The charity's main income continues to be derived from its principle activity of providing education services to children. Fee income in the year decreased slightly to £1,148,404 from £1,151,845 in 2022. This was as a result of a small decrease in pupil numbers.

Whilst the Trustees are mindful of the increasing pressures on parents, the charity is also faced with increasing costs.

A comparison of fees with other educational establishments in the area has shown that the fees agreed by Branwood School Trust are comparable. The Trustees review fees on an annual basis and will continue to do so to ensure that the school provides an excellent all round education, enabling its pupils to progress to independent grammar schools in the general Manchester area.

Resources expended

The charity adopts a strict control policy for expenditure. After approval by the school Governors, recommendations are made to the board of Trustees to consider proposals for expenditure above a set criteria. Staff remuneration is decided annually at Governors' meetings.

The total expenditure on charitable activities in the year amounted to £1,289,139 (2022: £1,190,769). Of this, salaries and associated costs for teaching and support staff amounted to £864,655 (2022: £816,778).

Thanks

The Trustees would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Headteacher and staff for their dedication and efforts towards the charity over the past year.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charitable company that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to a minimum of one term's budgeted expenditure.

At the balance sheet date the free reserves, which include the charity's investments, amounted to £918,277 (2022: £1,322,115). Total reserves amounted to £2,204,429 (2022: £2,264,234). Designated reserves amounted to £1,286,145 (2022: £942,112) which relates to fixed assets held in the trust and amounts designated for development of the building. Developments began post year end and are expected to continue throughout 2023/24.

Investment policy

The charity has invested money with The International Investment Bond.

As permitted by the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustees have given the investment managers discretion to manage the portfolio with an agreed low risk profile. The performance of investments was in line with market conditions during the year and the Trustees are satisfied with the position at the year end.

Risk management

The Governors have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and, where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate those risks by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers and visitors to the school.

Future Plans

The Trustees are committed to maintaining Branwood School Trust as a successful educational resource, and to developing both its facilities and links with the local community.

Whilst it is not possible to open the school facilities to members of the public during school time, the school has engaged the services of Greater Manchester Community Lettings (GMCL) Ltd to encourage community use of the school facilities. The uptake of the facilities has been promising, with the hall and astroturf pitches now being let a number of evenings per week. The school also offers regular holiday camps for local children during closure periods. The Trustees hope to build upon this success moving forward.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a charitable limited company and was set up on 17 June 1982. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which was last amended on 13 June 2005.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr T S Cramant
Mr M N Fletcher
Mr D M Taylor
Mrs J E Wilcox
Mr M Foster

Trustee recruitment, appointment and training

The recruitment and appointment of Trustees at Branwood School Trust Limited follows the conditions established within the charity's memorandum and articles. Trustees are recruited to the board from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

It is considered that the trust has sufficient legal and financial expertise to enable it to operate effectively and to manage the charity's affairs appropriately. All Trustees have undertaken and successfully completed webinars in line with ISI recommendations.

Organisation structure

The Trustees and Governors determine the general policy of the school. The day to day running of the school is delegated to the Head, Mr A Whittell, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational and administrative functions in consultation with senior staff. The day to day administration of the school is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for only 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. The Head and Bursar are invited to attend Governors' meetings.

The Trustees discuss and agree pay and remuneration for all staff, including key management personnel, on an annual basis. Pay increases are considered with regard to inflation rates and increases awarded in the state sector, as well as "time served" experience.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Barlow Andrews LLP be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr M N Fletcher

Trustee

Dated: 31 January 2024

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts 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 year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees 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 accounts 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.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Branwood School Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 31 August 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 Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the 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 Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose 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 Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 Trustees 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

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.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

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. Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions; and
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias.

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

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

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Paul Burton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Barlow Andrews LLP

31 January 2024

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Carlyle House
78 Chorley New Road
Bolton

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>			
Income from charitable activities	3	1,231,179	1,250,382
Investments	4	8,435	400
Other income	5	-	980
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		1,239,614	1,251,762
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	1,289,139	1,190,769
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income and net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments		(49,525)	60,993
Net losses on investments	9	(10,280)	(161,495)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds		(59,805)	(100,502)
Fund balances at 1 September 2022		2,264,234	2,364,736
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 August 2023		2,204,429	2,264,234
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities and relates to unrestricted funds.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		536,145		542,112
Investments	12		1,038,261		1,048,541
			<u>1,574,406</u>		<u>1,590,653</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	14	39,518		40,600	
Cash at bank and in hand		885,250		810,514	
			<u>924,768</u>		<u>851,114</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(294,745)		(177,533)	
Net current assets			<u>630,023</u>		<u>673,581</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,204,429</u>		<u>2,264,234</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds:					
Tangible fixed assets		536,145		542,112	
Development funds		750,000		400,000	
			<u>1,286,145</u>		<u>942,112</u>
General unrestricted funds	17	918,277		1,322,115	
Share capital		7		7	
			<u>2,204,429</u>		<u>2,264,234</u>
			<u>2,204,429</u>		<u>2,264,234</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 31 January 2024

Mr M N Fletcher

Trustee

Company Registration No. 01644174

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	21		118,868		10,439
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(52,567)		(21,507)	
Investment income received		8,435		400	
Net cash used in investing activities			(44,132)		(21,107)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			74,736		(10,668)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			810,514		821,182
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>885,250</u>		<u>810,514</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Branwood School Trust Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Stafford Road, Monton, Eccles, Manchester.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised at fair value on a receivable basis and is reported gross of any related expenditure and when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Income that is invoiced in advance or arrears is apportioned so that only that relating to the period of the financial statements is included in income.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which can not be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

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

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and buildings	2% straight line
Property improvements	10% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Impairment of financial assets

Financial assets, other than those held at fair value through income and expenditure, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each reporting date. Financial assets are impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the financial asset, the estimated future cash flows have been affected.

If an asset is impaired, the impairment loss is the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the estimated cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. The impairment loss is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

If there is a decrease in the impairment loss arising from an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the impairment is reversed. The reversal is such that the current carrying amount does not exceed what the carrying amount would have been, had the impairment not previously been recognised. The impairment reversal is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The company has charitable status and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within section 505 of The Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

1.12 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from charitable activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
School fees	1,148,404	1,151,845
School activities	77,515	93,049
Other income	5,260	5,488
	<u>1,231,179</u>	<u>1,250,382</u>

4 Investments

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest receivable	<u>8,435</u>	<u>400</u>

5 Other income

	2023	2022
	£	£
Insurance claim receivable	<u>-</u>	<u>980</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs	864,655	816,778
Depreciation and impairment	58,534	51,299
Recruitment costs	3,430	1,600
Establishment costs	44,116	38,627
Postage and stationery	5,950	8,361
Repairs and maintenance	95,907	59,655
Office expenses	7,797	4,074
Services and supplies	150,701	130,971
Transport and security	23,690	26,744
Advertising and promotion	5,119	6,736
Bad debts	1,724	9,988
Bank charges	1,187	1,048
Accountancy fees	8,741	7,388
Cost of trustee meetings	217	828
Legal and professional fees	11,071	20,732
Auditors' remuneration	6,300	5,940
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Unrestricted funds	1,289,139	1,190,769
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Governance costs

Governance costs of £6,300 (2022: £5,940), being auditors' remuneration, are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

7 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

Trustees' expenses

During the year trustees were reimbursed for a total of £217 relating to travel and catering expenses (2022: £828).

8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teaching staff	22	24
Administration staff	7	5
Domestic staff	4	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	33	32
	<hr/>	<hr/>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8 Employees

(Continued)

Employment costs	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	767,038	722,181
Social security costs	65,210	61,964
Other pension costs	32,407	32,633
	<u>864,655</u>	<u>816,778</u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000 is as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,000 - £69,999	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Aggregate compensation	<u>116,228</u>	<u>117,764</u>

9 Net losses on investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Revaluation of investments	<u>(10,280)</u>	<u>(161,495)</u>

10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Property improvements	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	701,960	294,877	168,601	149,398	1,314,836
Additions	-	24,371	9,866	18,330	52,567
At 31 August 2023	701,960	319,248	178,467	167,728	1,367,403
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 September 2022	364,806	139,691	133,389	134,838	772,724
Depreciation charged in the year	14,040	31,514	5,728	7,252	58,534
At 31 August 2023	378,846	171,205	139,117	142,090	831,258
Carrying amount					
At 31 August 2023	323,114	148,043	39,350	25,638	536,145
At 31 August 2022	337,154	155,186	35,212	14,560	542,112

12 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 September 2022	1,048,541
Valuation changes	(10,280)
At 31 August 2023	1,038,261
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2023	1,038,261
At 31 August 2022	1,048,541

13 Financial instruments

	2023 £	2022 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	896,695	823,590
Equity instruments measured at cost less impairment	1,038,261	1,048,541
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	294,745	177,533

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	9,567	4,732
Other debtors	1,878	8,344
Prepayments and accrued income	28,073	27,524
	<u>39,518</u>	<u>40,600</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	25,989	16,488
Other creditors	198	1,420
Accruals and deferred income	268,558	159,625
	<u>294,745</u>	<u>177,533</u>

Deferred income of £226,581 (2022: £140,506) is included in accruals and deferred income.

16 Share capital

	2023	2022
	£	£
Ordinary share capital		
Issued and fully paid		
7 Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

17 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include two designated funds. The tangible fixed assets fund relates to the tangible fixed assets held in the trust. As at 1 September 2022 the amount held in this fund was £542,112. During the year there was a net movement in this fund of £5,967, therefore at the year end the balance on the fund was £536,145.

The second fund amounts to £750,000 and relates to funds set aside for a new development which has started post year end. This stood at £400,000 as at 1 September 2022, however an additional £350,000 has been transferred from general funds during the year to cover expected costs.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds
	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	536,145
Investments	1,038,261
Net current assets	630,023
	<u>2,204,429</u>

Prior year

	Unrestricted funds
	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	542,112
Investments	1,048,541
Net current assets	673,581
	<u>2,264,234</u>

19 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charitable company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Within one year	1,718	1,718
Between two and five years	3,007	4,726
	<u>4,725</u>	<u>6,444</u>

20 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

21	Cash generated from operations	2023 £	2022 £
	Deficit for the year	(59,805)	(100,502)
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(8,435)	(400)
	Fair value gains and losses on investments	10,280	161,495
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	58,534	51,299
	Movements in working capital:		
	Decrease in debtors	1,082	412,395
	Increase/(decrease) in creditors	117,212	(513,848)
	Cash generated from operations	<u>118,868</u>	<u>10,439</u>
22	Analysis of changes in net funds		
	The charitable company had no material debt during the year.		

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 515073

Accounts

Charity registration number 515073

Company registration number 01644174 (England and Wales)

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT
AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr T S Cramant Mr M N Fletcher Mr D M Taylor Mrs J E Wilcox Mr M Foster
Charity number	515073
Company number	01644174
Registered office	Stafford Road Monton Eccles Manchester
Auditor	Barlow Andrews LLP Carlyle House 78 Chorley New Road Bolton
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc Walkden Branch Walkden Worsley Manchester

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	4
Independent auditor's report	5 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 20

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charitable company's objects are:

To establish and carry on the charity as a Preparatory School, where children may receive a sound education.

To establish and perpetuate a Preparatory School run in connection with, or independently of, any senior school or college.

Branwood School Trust Limited operates as an Independent Preparatory School providing education to children of both sexes from the age of 3 through to 11.

Each year the Trustees review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect our aims and to provide public benefit. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, our Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance and guidance on public benefit and in particular in its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee charging. The Trustees are more than satisfied that they do.

The Trustees and Governors have discussed the objectives of the school and how it can best serve not only the pupils and staff, but also the local community.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring the provision of excellence in education at an affordable cost. The Trustees are committed to offering scholarships as and when it is deemed feasible, and to assisting scholars as and when it is thought fit and appropriate.

The school does not currently have a separate fund that would enable it to set up and maintain a system of Bursaries, and as the Trustees' policy is to maintain fees for the school at a reasonable level, it is unlikely that Bursaries can be offered in the short to medium term. The Trustees have publicised the facilities available at the school to the local community and organisations, at a reasonable cost where the use is considered to be appropriate and compatible.

Achievements and performance

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 9.

The Trustees are pleased to report that financially the school has enjoyed another successful trading year, despite the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

The number of pupils has increased during the year. The Trustees will continue to review the school's management and operating costs with a view to maintaining Branwood's high standards.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Income generation

The charity's main income continues to be derived from its principle activity of providing education services to children. Fee income in the year increased to £1,151,845 from £1,090,453 in 2021. Pupil numbers increased during the year.

Whilst the Trustees are mindful of the increasing pressures on parents, the charity is also faced with increasing costs.

A comparison of fees with other educational establishments in the area has shown that the fees agreed by Branwood School Trust are comparable. The Trustees review fees on an annual basis and will continue to do so to ensure that the school provides an excellent all round education, enabling its pupils to progress to independent grammar schools in the general Manchester area.

Resources expended

The charity adopts a strict control policy for expenditure. After approval by the school Governors, recommendations are made to the board of Trustees to consider proposals for expenditure above a set criteria. Staff remuneration is decided annually at Governors' meetings.

The total expenditure on charitable activities in the year amounted to £1,190,769 (2021: £1,090,856). Of this, salaries and associated costs for teaching and support staff amounted to £816,778 (2021: £778,222).

Thanks

The Trustees would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Headteacher and staff for their dedication and efforts towards the charity over the past year.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charitable company that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to twelve months budgeted expenditure.

At the balance sheet date the free reserves, which include the charity's investments, amounted to £1,322,115 (2021: £1,392,825). Total reserves amounted to £2,264,234 (2021: £2,364,736). Designated reserves amounted to £942,112 (2021: £971,904) which relates to fixed assets held in the trust and amounts designated for development of the building. No fixed date has yet been agreed for the expenditure of the designated funds and will be determined at the Trustees' discretion.

Investment policy

The charity has invested money with The International Investment Bond.

As permitted by the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustees have given the investment managers discretion to manage the portfolio with an agreed low risk profile.

Risk management

The Governors have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and, where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate those risks by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers and visitors to the school.

Future Plans

The Trustees are committed to maintaining Branwood School Trust as a successful educational resource, and to developing both its facilities and links with the local community.

Whilst it is not possible to open the school facilities to members of the public during school time, an invitation was issued to local groups requesting applications to use the school hall in the evenings and weekends. The uptake of the facilities has been limited, however the school is now able to offer regular holiday camps for local children during school closure periods.

The Trustees would like to see greater use of the school facilities but this is dependent upon suitable organisations coming forward and the necessary finance being available.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management

The charitable company is a charitable limited company and was set up on 17 June 1982. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which was last amended on 13 June 2005.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr T S Cramant
Mr M N Fletcher
Mr D M Taylor
Mrs J E Wilcox
Mr M Foster

Trustee recruitment, appointment and training

The recruitment and appointment of Trustees at Branwood School Trust Limited follows the conditions established within the charity's memorandum and articles. Trustees are recruited to the board from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Whilst to date, the trust has not organised specific training for Trustees, it is considered that the trust has sufficient legal and financial expertise to enable it to operate effectively and to manage the charity's affairs appropriately.

Organisation structure

The Trustees and Governors determine the general policy of the school. The day to day running of the school is delegated to the Head, Mr A Whittell, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational and administrative functions in consultation with senior staff. The day to day administration of the school is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for only 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. The Head and Bursar are invited to attend Governors' meetings.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Barlow Andrews LLP be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Disclosure of information to auditor

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

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


Mr M N Fletcher

Trustee

Dated: 26 January 2023

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

Company Law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts 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 year.

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees 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 accounts 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.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Branwood School Trust Limited (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including 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 31 August 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 Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the 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 Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the Trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose 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 Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 Trustees 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

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.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

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. Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions; and
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias.

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

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

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Paul Burton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Barlow Andrews LLP

14 February 2023

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Carlisle House
78 Chorley New Road
Bolton

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>			
Income from charitable activities	3	1,250,382	1,135,933
Investments	4	400	73
Other income	5	980	39,307
Total income		<u>1,251,762</u>	<u>1,175,313</u>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	<u>1,190,769</u>	<u>1,090,856</u>
Net income and net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments		60,993	84,457
Net (losses)/gains on investments	9	<u>(161,495)</u>	<u>253,664</u>
Net movement in funds		<u>(100,502)</u>	<u>338,121</u>
Fund balances at 1 September 2021		<u>2,364,736</u>	<u>2,026,615</u>
Fund balances at 31 August 2022		<u><u>2,264,234</u></u>	<u><u>2,364,736</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		542,112		571,904
Investments	11		1,048,541		1,210,036
			<u>1,590,653</u>		<u>1,781,940</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	13	40,600		452,995	
Cash at bank and in hand		810,514		821,182	
		<u>851,114</u>		<u>1,274,177</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(177,533)		(691,381)	
Net current assets			673,581		582,796
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,264,234</u>		<u>2,364,736</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds:					
Tangible fixed assets		542,112		571,904	
Development funds		400,000		400,000	
		<u>942,112</u>		<u>971,904</u>	
General unrestricted funds	16	1,322,115		1,392,825	
Share capital		7		7	
		<u>2,264,234</u>		<u>2,364,736</u>	
			<u>2,264,234</u>		<u>2,364,736</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26 January 2023

Mr M. Fletcher
Trustee

Company Registration No. 01644174

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	20		10,439		256,552
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(21,507)		(906)	
Investment income received		400		73	
Net cash used in investing activities			(21,107)		(833)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents			(10,668)		255,719
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			821,182		565,463
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>810,514</u>		<u>821,182</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Branwood School Trust Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Stafford Road, Monton, Eccles, Manchester, M30 9HN.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charitable company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised at fair value on a receivable basis and is reported gross of any related expenditure and when the charitable company is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is a reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the money will be received.

Income that is invoiced in advance or arrears is apportioned so that only that relating to the period of the financial statements is included in income.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which can not be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

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

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and buildings	2% straight line
Property improvements	10% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15% reducing balance
Computers equipment	33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are recognised at transaction price.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The company has charitable status and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within section 505 of The Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

1.12 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
School fees	1,151,845	1,090,453
School activities	93,049	39,385
Rental income	5,488	6,095
	<u>1,250,382</u>	<u>1,135,933</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4 Investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Interest receivable	400	73

5 Other income

	2022 £	2021 £
Insurance claim receivable	980	250
Grant receivable	-	39,057
	980	39,307

Grants receivable relate to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Staff costs	816,778	778,222
Depreciation and impairment	51,299	49,589
Recruitment costs	1,600	-
Establishment costs	38,627	38,086
Postage and stationery	8,361	9,487
Repairs and maintenance	59,655	55,273
Office expenses	4,074	1,214
Services and supplies	130,971	120,808
Transport and security	26,744	2,208
Advertising and promotion	6,736	5,679
Bad debts	9,988	10,135
Bank charges	1,048	998
Accountancy fees	7,388	10,100
Cost of trustee meetings	828	244
Legal and professional fees	20,732	2,993
Auditors' remuneration	5,940	5,820
Unrestricted funds	1,190,769	1,090,856

Governance costs

Governance costs of £5,940 (2021: £5,820), being auditors' remuneration, are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

7 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

Trustees' expenses

During the year trustees were reimbursed for a total of £828 relating to travel expenses (2021: £244).

8 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Teaching staff	24	22
Administration staff	5	4
Domestic staff	3	6
	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>

Employment costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	722,181	686,597
Social security costs	61,964	59,474
Other pension costs	32,633	32,151
	<u>816,778</u>	<u>778,222</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

9 Net (losses)/gains on investments

	2022 £	2021 £
Revaluation of investments	<u>(161,495)</u>	<u>253,664</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Property improvements	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Computers equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2021	701,960	294,877	163,567	132,925	1,293,329
Additions	-	-	5,034	16,473	21,507
At 31 August 2022	701,960	294,877	168,601	149,398	1,314,836
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 September 2021	350,769	110,205	128,268	132,183	721,425
Depreciation charged in the year	14,037	29,486	5,121	2,655	51,299
At 31 August 2022	364,806	139,691	133,389	134,838	772,724
Carrying amount					
At 31 August 2022	337,154	155,186	35,212	14,560	542,112
At 31 August 2021	351,191	184,672	35,299	742	571,904

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

11 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 31 August 2021	1,210,036
Revaluations	(161,495)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2022	1,048,541
	<hr/>
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2022	1,048,541
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 August 2021	1,210,036
	<hr/> <hr/>

12 Financial instruments	2022 £	2021 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	823,590	1,254,881
Equity instruments measured at cost less impairment	1,048,541	1,210,036
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	177,533	675,858
	<hr/>	<hr/>

13 Debtors	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	4,732	394,400
Other debtors	8,344	39,299
Prepayments and accrued income	27,524	19,296
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	40,600	452,995
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	-	15,523
Trade creditors	16,488	20,002
Other creditors	1,420	9,301
Accruals and deferred income	159,625	646,555
	<u>177,533</u>	<u>691,381</u>

Deferred income of £140,506 (2021: £629,733) is included in accruals and deferred income.

15 Share capital

	2022	2021
	£	£
Ordinary share capital		
Issued and fully paid		
7 Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

16 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include two designated funds. The tangible fixed assets fund relates to the tangible fixed assets held in the trust. As at 1 September 2021 the amount held in this fund was £571,904. During the year there was a net movement in this fund of £29,792, therefore at the year end the balance on the fund was £542,112.

The second fund amounts to £400,000 and relates to funds set aside for a new development. This balance was designated in 2020.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds
	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	542,112
Investments	1,048,541
Net current assets	673,581
	<u>2,264,234</u>

Prior year

	Unrestricted funds
	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	571,904
Investments	1,210,036
Net current assets	582,796
	<u>2,364,736</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

18 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charitable company had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Within one year	1,718	810
Between two and five years	4,726	-
	<u>6,444</u>	<u>810</u>

19 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2022 £	2021 £
Aggregate compensation	<u>117,764</u>	<u>126,638</u>

Other than the above note there are no related party transactions to report for this or the previous year.

20 Cash generated from operations

	2022 £	2021 £
(Deficit)/surplus for the year	(100,502)	338,121
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(400)	(73)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	161,495	(253,664)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	51,299	49,589
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	412,395	(391,427)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(513,848)	514,006
Cash generated from operations	<u>10,439</u>	<u>256,552</u>

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charitable company had no debt during the year.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

England & Wales - Charity number 515073

Accounts

Charity Registration No. 515073

Company Registration No. 01644174 (England and Wales)

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

**ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mr T S Cramant Mr M N Fletcher Mr D M Taylor Mrs J E Wilcox Mr M Foster
Charity number	515073
Company number	01644174
Registered office	Stafford Road Monton Eccles Manchester
Auditor	Barlow Andrews LLP Carlyle House 78 Chorley New Road Bolton
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc Walkden Branch Walkden Worsley Manchester

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	4
Independent auditor's report	5 - 8
Statement of financial activities	9
Balance sheet	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12 - 22

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are:

To establish and carry on the charity as a Preparatory School, where children may receive a sound education.

To establish and perpetuate a Preparatory School run in connection with, or independently of, any senior school or college.

Branwood School Trust Limited operates as an Independent Preparatory School providing education to children of both sexes from the age of 3 through to 11.

Each year the Trustees review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect our aims and to provide public benefit. In setting our objectives and planning our activities, our Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance and guidance on public benefit and in particular in its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and on fee charging. The Trustees are more than satisfied that they do.

The Trustees and Governors have discussed the objectives of the school and how it can best serve not only the pupils and staff, but also the local community.

The Trustees are committed to ensuring the provision of excellence in education at an affordable cost. The Trustees are committed to offering scholarships as and when it is deemed feasible, and to assisting scholars as and when it is thought fit and appropriate.

The school does not currently have a separate fund that would enable it to set up and maintain a system of Bursaries, and as the Trustees' policy is to maintain fees for the school at a reasonable level, it is unlikely that Bursaries can be offered in the short to medium term. The Trustees have publicised the facilities available at the school to the local community and organisations, at a reasonable cost where the use is considered to be appropriate and compatible.

Achievements and performance

The statement of financial activities is set out on page 9.

The Trustees are pleased to report that financially the school has enjoyed another successful year, despite the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

The number of pupils has increased during the year. The Trustees are confident that numbers will be maintained and are continuing to review the school's operations and costs to ensure continuing stability.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Income generation

The charity's main income continues to be derived from its principle activity of providing education services to children. Fee income in the year increased slightly to £1,090,453 from £1,070,368 in 2020. Pupil numbers increased during the year.

Whilst the Trustees are mindful of the increasing pressures on parents, the charity is also faced with increasing costs.

A comparison of fees with other educational establishments in the area has shown that the fees agreed by Branwood School Trust are comparable. The Trustees review fees on an annual basis and will continue to do so to ensure that the school provides an excellent all round education, enabling its pupils to progress to independent grammar schools in the general Manchester area.

Resources expended

The charity adopts a strict control policy for expenditure. After approval by the school Governors, recommendations are made to the board of Trustees to consider proposals for expenditure above a set criteria. Staff remuneration is decided annually at Governors' meetings.

The total expenditure on charitable activities in the year amounted to £1,090,856 (2020: £1,089,153). Of this, salaries and associated costs for teaching and support staff amounted to £778,222 (2020: £743,787).

Thanks

The Trustees would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the Headteacher and staff for their dedication and efforts towards the charity over the past year.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to twelve months budgeted expenditure.

At the balance sheet date the free reserves, which include the charity's investments, amounted to £1,392,825 (2020: £1,006,021). Total reserves amounted to £2,364,736 (2020: £2,026,615). Designated reserves amounted to £971,904 (2020: £1,020,587) which relates to fixed assets held in the trust and amounts designated for the building of a new information technology suite. No fixed date has yet been agreed for the expenditure of the designated funds and will be determined at the Trustees' discretion.

Investment policy

The charity has invested money with The International Investment Bond.

As permitted by the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Trustees have given the investment managers discretion to manage the portfolio with an agreed low risk profile.

Risk management

The Governors have conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed and, where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate those risks by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff, volunteers and visitors to the school.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Future Plans

The Trustees are aware that for Branwood School Trust to continue as a successful educational resource, it must continue to develop both its facilities and its link with the local community.

Whilst it is not possible to open the school facilities to members of the public during school time, an invitation was issued to local groups requesting applications to use the school hall in the evenings and weekends. The uptake of the facilities has been limited, however the school is now able to offer both judo and gymnastics and a community choir group on Tuesday evenings.

The Trustees would like to see greater use of the school facilities but this is dependent upon suitable organisations coming forward and the necessary finance being available.

Structure, governance and management

The charity is a charitable limited company and was set up on 17 June 1982. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which was last amended on 13 June 2005.

The Trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr T S Cramant
Mr M N Fletcher
Mr D M Taylor
Mrs J E Wilcox
Mr M Foster

Trustee recruitment, appointment and training

The recruitment and appointment of Trustees at Branwood School Trust Limited follows the conditions established within the charity's memorandum and articles. Trustees are recruited to the board from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines.

None of the Trustees has any beneficial interest in the company. All of the Trustees are members of the company and guarantee to contribute £1 in the event of a winding up.

Whilst to date, the trust has not organised specific training for Trustees, it is considered that the trust has sufficient legal and financial expertise to enable it to operate effectively and to manage the charity's affairs appropriately.

Organisation structure

The Trustees and Governors determine the general policy of the school. The day to day running of the school is delegated to the Head, Mr A Whittell, supported by senior staff. The Head undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational and administrative functions in consultation with senior staff. The day to day administration of the school is undertaken within the policies and procedures approved by the Governors which provide for only 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. The Head and Bursar are invited to attend Governors' meetings.

Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Barlow Andrews LLP be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mr T S Cramant

Trustee

Dated: 26 January 2022

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

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

In preparing these accounts, the Trustees 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 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

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

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Branwood School Trust Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the accounts, 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 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, 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 charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

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:

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose 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 Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the 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 the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

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. Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, employment legislation, and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

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

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions; and
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative or potential bias.

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

Use of our report

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

Paul Burton (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Barlow Andrews LLP

26 January 2022

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Carlyle House
78 Chorley New Road
Bolton

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>			
Income from charitable activities	3	1,135,933	1,114,253
Investments	4	73	650
Other income	5	39,307	64,803
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		1,175,313	1,179,706
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Expenditure on:</u>			
Expenditure on charitable activities	6	1,090,856	1,089,153
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income and net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments		84,457	90,553
Net gains on investments	9	253,664	925
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net movement in funds		338,121	91,478
Fund balances at 1 September 2020		2,026,615	1,935,137
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 August 2021		2,364,736	2,026,615
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		571,904		620,587
Investments	11		1,210,036		956,372
			<u>1,781,940</u>		<u>1,576,959</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	13	452,995		61,568	
Cash at bank and in hand		821,182		565,463	
		<u>1,274,177</u>		<u>627,031</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(691,381)		(177,375)	
Net current assets			582,796		449,656
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>2,364,736</u>		<u>2,026,615</u>
Income funds					
<u>Unrestricted funds</u>					
Designated funds:					
Tangible fixed assets		571,904		620,587	
Information technology suite		400,000		400,000	
	16	<u>971,904</u>		<u>1,020,587</u>	
General unrestricted funds		1,392,825		1,006,021	
Share capital		7		7	
			<u>2,364,736</u>		<u>2,026,615</u>
			<u>2,364,736</u>		<u>2,026,615</u>

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26 January 2022

Mr T S Cramant

Trustee

Company Registration No. 01644174

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	20		256,552		(2,591)
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(906)		(360)	
Proceeds on disposal of investments		-		400,000	
Investment income received		73		650	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities			(833)		400,290
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			255,719		397,699
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			565,463		167,764
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			821,182		565,463
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Branwood School Trust Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Stafford Road, Monton, Eccles, Manchester, M30 9HN.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)". The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

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

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised at fair value on a receivable basis and is reported gross of any related expenditure and when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is a reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the money will be received.

Income that is invoiced in advance or arrears is apportioned so that only that relating to the period of the financial statements is included in income.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which can not be recovered and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

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

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and buildings	2% straight line
Property improvements	10% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	15% reducing balance
Computers equipment	33% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

1.7 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.8 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are measured at transaction price.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors, are recognised at transaction price.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.11 Taxation

The company has charitable status and is thus exempt from taxation of its income and gains falling within section 505 of The Taxes Act 1988 or section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objectives.

1.12 Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

1.13 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

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

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
School fees	1,090,453	1,070,368
School activities	39,385	38,820
Rental income	6,095	5,065
	<u>1,135,933</u>	<u>1,114,253</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Investments

	2021 £	2020 £
Interest receivable	73	650
	<u>73</u>	<u>650</u>

5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021 £	2020 £
Insurance claim receivable	250	1,350
Grant receivable	39,057	63,453
	<u>39,307</u>	<u>64,803</u>

Grants receivable relate to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff costs	778,222	743,787
Depreciation and impairment	49,589	50,730
Recruitment costs	-	5,705
Establishment costs	38,086	34,823
Postage and stationery	9,487	7,217
Repairs and maintenance	57,408	70,640
Office expenses	1,214	2,502
Services and supplies	120,808	130,206
Transport and security	2,208	7,464
Advertising and promotion	5,679	12,796
Bad debts	10,135	5,176
Bank charges	998	1,091
Accountancy fees	10,100	9,109
Cost of trustee meetings	244	871
Legal and professional fees	858	1,336
Auditors' remuneration	5,820	5,700
	<u>1,090,856</u>	<u>1,089,153</u>
Unrestricted funds	<u>1,090,856</u>	<u>1,089,153</u>

Governance costs

Governance costs of £5,820 (2020: £5,700), being auditors' remuneration, are included within expenditure on charitable activities.

7 Trustees

None of the Trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

Trustees' expenses

During the year trustees were reimbursed for a total of £244 relating to travel expenses (2020: £275).

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Teaching staff	22	21
Administration staff	4	5
Domestic staff	6	7
	<u>32</u>	<u>33</u>

Employment costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	686,597	667,837
Social security costs	59,474	45,417
Other pension costs	32,151	30,533
	<u>778,222</u>	<u>743,787</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more.

9 Net gains on investments

	2021	2020
	£	£
Revaluation of investments	<u>253,664</u>	<u>925</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Property improvements	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Computers equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2020	701,960	294,877	163,409	132,177	1,292,423
Additions	-	-	158	748	906
At 31 August 2021	701,960	294,877	163,567	132,925	1,293,329
Depreciation and impairment					
At 1 September 2020	336,730	80,719	122,499	131,888	671,836
Depreciation charged in the year	14,039	29,486	5,769	295	49,589
At 31 August 2021	350,769	110,205	128,268	132,183	721,425
Carrying amount					
At 31 August 2021	351,191	184,672	35,299	742	571,904
At 31 August 2020	365,230	214,158	40,910	289	620,587

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

11 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 31 August 2020	956,372
Revaluations	253,664
At 31 August 2021	<u>1,210,036</u>
Carrying amount	
At 31 August 2021	<u>1,210,036</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>956,372</u>

12 Financial instruments

	2021 £	2020 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	1,254,881	607,810
Equity instruments measured at cost less impairment	1,210,036	956,372
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	<u>675,858</u>	<u>153,332</u>

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	394,400	30,710
Other debtors	39,299	11,637
Prepayments and accrued income	19,296	19,221
	<u>452,995</u>	<u>61,568</u>

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	15,523	24,043
Trade creditors	20,002	17,849
Other creditors	9,301	107,379
Accruals and deferred income	646,555	28,104
	<u>691,381</u>	<u>177,375</u>

Deferred income of £629,733 (2020: £15,771) is included in accruals and deferred income.

15 Share capital

	2021	2020
	£	£
Ordinary share capital		
Issued and fully paid		
7 Ordinary shares of £1 each	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

16 Designated funds

The income funds of the charity include two designated funds. The tangible fixed assets fund relates to the tangible fixed assets held in the trust. As at 1 September 2020 the amount held in this fund was £620,587. During the year there was a net movement in this fund of £48,683, therefore at the year end the balance on the fund was £571,904.

The second fund amounts to £400,000 and relates to the building of a new information technology suite. This balance was designated in the prior year.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds
	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	571,904
Investments	1,210,036
Net current assets	582,796
	<u>2,364,736</u>

Prior year

	Unrestricted funds
	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:	
Tangible assets	620,587
Investments	956,372
Net current assets	449,656
	<u>2,026,615</u>

18 Operating lease commitments

At the reporting end date the charity had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	810	3,114
Between two and five years	-	810
	<u>810</u>	<u>3,924</u>

19 Related party transactions

Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows.

	2021	2020
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	<u>126,638</u>	<u>114,959</u>

Other than the above note there are no related party transactions to report for this or the previous year.

BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20	Cash generated from operations	2021	2020
		£	£
	Surplus for the year	338,121	91,478
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(73)	(650)
	Fair value gains and losses on investments	(253,664)	(925)
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	49,589	50,730
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase) in debtors	(391,427)	(24,662)
	Increase/(decrease) in creditors	514,006	(118,562)
	Cash generated from/(absorbed by) operations	<u>256,552</u>	<u>(2,591)</u>
21	Analysis of changes in net funds		
	The charity had no debt during the year.		