

**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

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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	

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# BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

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# **BRANWOOD SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

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

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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

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### 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

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#### 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

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### 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***

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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

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#### 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

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#### 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

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- 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

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#### 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 £
<b>Income from:</b>			
Income from charitable activities	3	1,388,370	1,231,179
Investments	4	22,325	8,435
<b>Total income</b>		<u>1,410,695</u>	<u>1,239,614</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>			
Expenditure on charitable activities	5	<u>1,444,846</u>	<u>1,289,139</u>
<b>Net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments</b>		(34,151)	(49,525)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	<u>42,544</u>	<u>(10,280)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		8,393	(59,805)
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		<u>2,204,429</u>	<u>2,264,234</u>
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024</b>		<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 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	11	1,473,978		536,145	
Investments	12	-		1,038,261	
		<u>1,473,978</u>		<u>1,574,406</u>	
<b>Current assets</b>					
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>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	16	(605,748)		(294,745)	
Net current assets			738,844		630,023
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>2,212,822</u>		<u>2,204,429</u>
<b>Income funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds:					
Tangible fixed assets		1,473,978		536,145	
Development funds		250,000		750,000	
		<u>1,723,978</u>		<u>1,286,145</u>	
General unrestricted funds	19	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 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	23		343,294		118,868
<b>Investing activities</b>					
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	
<b>Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities</b>			74,854		(44,132)
<b>Net cash generated from financing activities</b>			-		-
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			418,148		74,736
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			885,250		810,514
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			1,303,398		885,250
<b>Relating to:</b>					
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

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### 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

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### 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

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### 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		

#### 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
Total	32	33

### 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
	938,959	864,655

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

### Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel is as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Aggregate compensation	125,446	116,228

### 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	-
	42,544	(10,280)

# 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
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>					
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
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>					
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
<b>Carrying amount</b>					
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 £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>	
At 1 September 2023	1,038,261
Gain on sale of investments	42,544
Disposals	(1,080,805)
At 31 August 2024	-
<b>Carrying amount</b>	
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

<b>13</b>	<b>Financial instruments</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Carrying amount of financial assets</b>		
	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>
	<b>Carrying amount of financial liabilities</b>		
	Measured at amortised cost	605,748	294,745
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>14</b>	<b>Debtors</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
	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>
<b>15</b>	<b>Current asset investments</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Unlisted investments	1,029,172	-
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>16</b>	<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	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.		
<b>17</b>	<b>Retirement benefit schemes</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	<b>Defined contribution schemes</b>		
	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

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

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
<b>At 31 August 2023:</b>	
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
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<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.

