

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 517679

Details

Other names	MENORAH SCHOOL
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1986-06-18
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ
Phone	01132370360
Email	jrefson@gmail.com

Activities

Objects: TO PAY OR APPLY THE WHOLE OF THE INCOME AND CAPITAL OF THE TRUST FUND IN SUPPORT OF THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE SCHOOL IN SUCH MANNER AS THE TRUSTEES SHALL FROM TIME TO TIME IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION DETERMINE, AND SUBJECT THERETO, TO HOLD THE INCOME THEREOF OR SO MUCH THEREOF AS SHALL NOT HAVE BEEN PAID OR SUPPLIED FROM TIME TO TIME IN SUPPORT OF THE CHARITABLE WORK OF THE SCHOOL PURSUANT TO THE TRUST HEREINBEFORE DECLARED UPON TRUST TO PAY OR APPLY THE SAME TO OR TOWARDS OR IN FURTHERANCE AND PROMOTION OF THE ORTHODOX JEWISH RELIGION, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN GENERAL IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD IN SUCH MANNER AS THE TRUSTEES IN THEIR ABSOLUTE DISCRETION SHALL FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE.

Activities: OBJECTS To pay or apply "the whole of the income and capital of the Trust Fund in support of the charitable work of the school and towards or in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion,.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, Religious Activities, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, People With Disabilities, People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LEEDS ANY PART OF THE WORLD
- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£152,801	£167,060	-	-
2024-08-31	£142,613	£158,213	-	-
2023-08-31	£139,025	£170,027	-	-
2022-08-31	£154,692	£174,139	-	-
2021-08-31	£149,600	£144,527	-	-
2020-08-31	£141,726	£121,139	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ETHEL REFSON	Chair	
RABBI REUVEN ZANVILL COHEN		2021-06-21
Rabbi Eliyohu Pink		2021-06-21

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 517679

Accounts

The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity number 517679

Trustees' Annual Report Financial year 01 September 2024 - 31 August 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

The name of the charity: The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity Number: 517679

Address: 24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ

The names of trustees who served during the year are:

Mrs Ethel Refson

Rabbi Reuven Zanvill Cohen

Rabbi Eliyohu Pink

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was formed and is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28 January 1986 for the purpose of promoting the Orthodox Jewish Religion, religious education and education in general, and in particular through the running of the Leeds Menorah School.

All funds are used in the educational activities of the school and in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion. The School aims to produce educated and well-adjusted observant Jews who will become an integral part of and contributors to modern society. This result is achieved by providing a standard of secular education to allow pupils to go on to secondary schools integrated with an intense religious study as to give the pupils a deep understanding of the moral and ethical richness of their Jewish heritage and traditions, and to provide them with a solid foundation for their lives.

Day-to-day governance of the charity is managed by the trustees They are assisted by a managing committee, a Board of Governors, Head Teacher and staff. The trustees have regard to the views of parents and teachers, where and to the extent appropriate, in their decision making.

New Trustees are appointed by the trustees for the time being and are expected to understand and support the needs and the ethos of the School, its pupils, parents and staff.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charity Bank: Yorkshire Bank
Branch: Moortown
Address: 370 Harrogate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 6QA.

Independent financial examiner: David Scott FCCA Chartered (certified accountant)
21 Willow Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2JP.

Financial Report

Income received was £152,801.02 (£142,612.96 in 2023-24) and expenditure was £167,059.88 (£158,212.71 in 2023-24), resulting in a deficit of £14,258.86 compared to the deficit last year of £15,599.75. Funds brought forward were £51,612.57. The “Building Improvements” figure refers to improvements to the leasehold property housing the school. This figure is being depreciated over the remaining five years of the lease from 2025 to 2029.

The income of the school comes from fees, and charitable donations. Full fees are currently £5,500.00 a year, but provision is made from charitable donations for those parents who cannot pay the fees in full or at all. The school is unlike most private schools, in that it is not a luxury for parents of means. The school is the only Orthodox Jewish school in Yorkshire which provides the education required by Haredi (Orthodox) parents and children, in which category most Jewish men of the cloth in Leeds belong, along with a number of lay people.

The trustees remain committed to ensuring that all liabilities, especially salaries, are paid in timely fashion. Nevertheless, fundraising and the generous support of donors to the School are essential to our operations, with the annual Charidy campaign of particular importance

The school began the year carrying approximately £12,000 of debt from the previous academic year. Since then, income has improved due to higher pupil numbers and the resulting increase in Early Years funding from Leeds City Council. Staffing has been reduced which will lower monthly expenditure over time.

A successful Charidy campaign took place on 2 and 3 March. The original target was £60,000, and the final campaign total reached £62,507. These funds secured stability through to the end of the school year. A grant application was submitted to Delapage on 20 June. On 27 July, they invited the school to proceed to the next stage. A meeting on 23 June with BHHS was held to discuss reductions in outstanding and future rental costs with a proposal from the school how to clear arrears and regularise future payments. After a positive meeting, they agreed to reduce the annual rental to £6,000 including the outstanding arrears. A commitment was made to repay £6,000 and to commence a monthly payment of £500 to maintain ongoing payments. Leeds City Council rates for the new year have risen significantly, and the insurance premium has not been reduced.

While recent fundraising has materially improved the position and enabled several liabilities to be settled, the overall outlook remains tight and vulnerable to unforeseen costs.

Policy on reserves

The charity’s funds are used for the day-to-day running of the School and any funds accrued throughout the year are reserved to meet these and additional needs as they present themselves. To the extent that surplus funds are received, these will be applied to meet medium and longer-term strategic goals and plans.

Public benefit statement

The trustee(s) confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties and are satisfied that the charity provides such a benefit.

Achievements and performance

We are delighted with the results of the Ofsted inspection which took place in July 2024 which recognises the GOOD efforts and results at Leeds Menorah School. The final report was received in September 2024, making the statement that "Leeds Menorah School is a good school".

We are especially pleased that the Inspectors noted the special character of the school:
"This is a small school with a big heart. It is friendly and welcoming. There are positive and supportive relationships between pupils and staff. Pupils are proud of their school. The proprietor's aspiration for pupils to thrive and feel 'loved and valued' is palpable. Leaders want the absolute best for all pupils."

Subsequently, the trustees have been diligently working to implement the feedback we received from Ofsted to continue raising the standards of the school.

One of the key areas we have identified for development is our IT. We have made plans to invest in computers, tablets and interactive whiteboard to support modern learning across both kodesh and chol lessons. We submitted a grant application to Delapage Charitable Trust and in July 2025 we received notification of a £20000 grant subject to successful due diligence. We anticipate receiving the grant funding before the end of the calendar year and look forward to using it to bring a new era of learning to the children.

The new IT will also support the children with additional needs, especially those with dyslexia and we look forward to providing a more inclusive learning environment for them.

The grant is in addition to the successful annual Charidy matching campaign, which provides much needed funds and as well as a moral boost to the school with hundreds of donations and messages of support coming in from both the local community and the across the world.

For a number of years the school has been supported by interns at Chabad Lubavitch Leeds who have provided teaching support. We are delighted that one of the interns this year was Miss Leah Pink, a former pupil of the school. It is gratifying when our alumna wants to give back to the school. Leah has also confirmed that she will be continuing in the role in the next school year. Another new addition to the teaching staff is Mr Adam Teeman who is supporting EYFS and maths. Mr Teeman came well recommended and with his warm and enthusiastic personality he built a good rapport with children and parents.

To further strengthen the teaching in the school, Mrs Rachel Levy is our new DSL, supported by Mr Chaim Bell and Ms Naomi Drapkin as DDSLs. This will enable Ms Drapkin to focus primarily on the science and maths curriculums.

The GOOD Ofsted rating has certainly put a spring in our step, and it has been an upbeat year for the school.

Looking ahead, the governing body and trustees are committed to continuing their efforts to support the teachers and staff and improve the standards of the school across all departments

Signature and declaration:

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf



Mrs Ethel Refson
Trustee
9th June 2026



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2024

Charity no (if any)

517679

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31.08.2025

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

5 JUNE 2026

Name:

DAVID SCOTT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

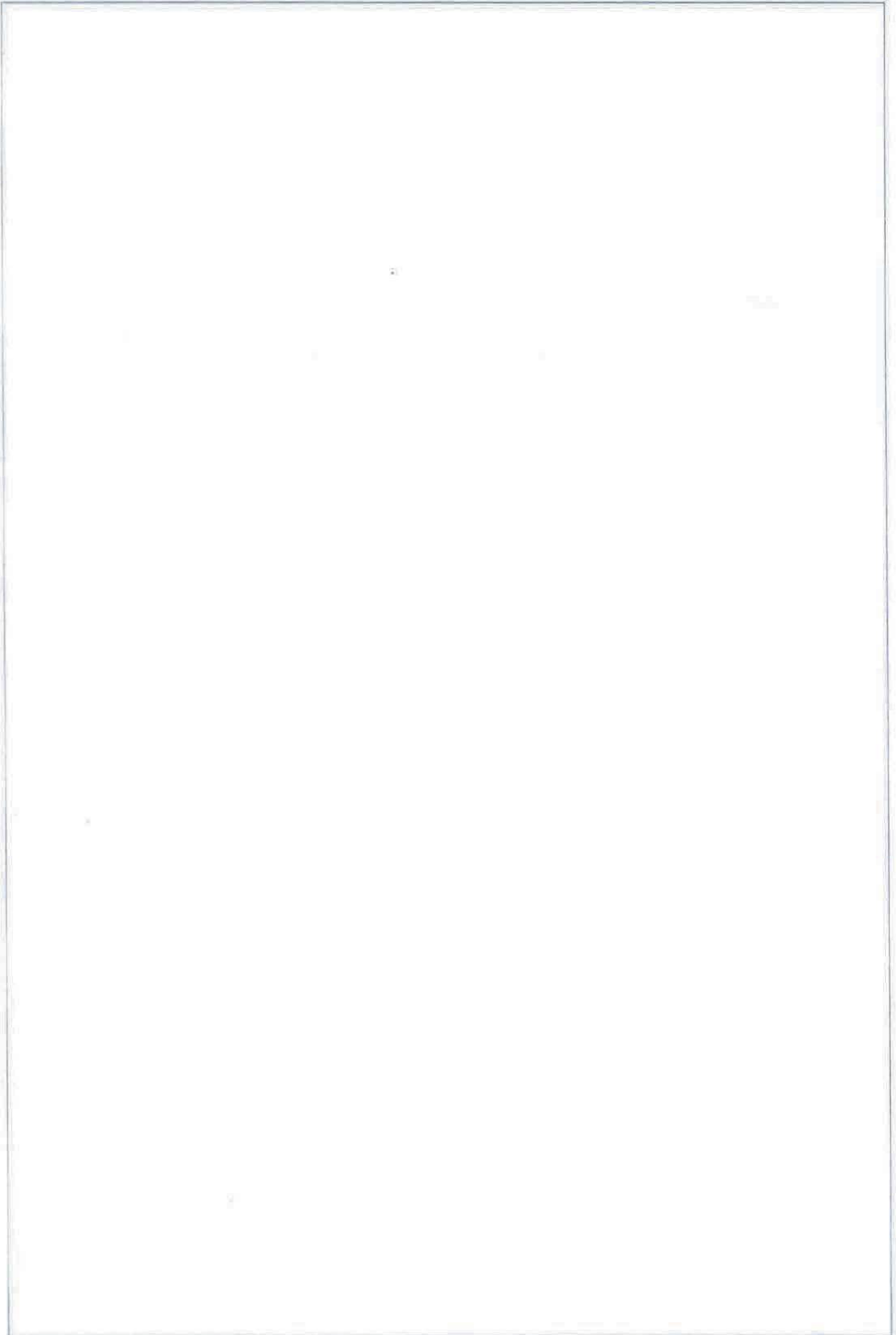
ICAEW – CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (FCA)

Address:

21 WILLOW PARK, WAKEFIELD, WF1 2JP

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2025	2024
<u>INCOME</u>		
Fees received	£ 38,521.54	£ 43,306.97
Donations received	£ 58,017.75	£ 45,959.22
Grant	£ 56,261.73	£ 43,346.77
Advertising		£ 10,000.00
	<u>£ 152,801.02</u>	<u>142,612.96</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages and Pension	£ 52,301.79	46,948.16
Self employed	£ 35,719.28	36,855.55
Rent & rates	£ 11,462.94	9,113.32
Light & heat	£ 6,449.11	7,782.97
Insurance / security	£ 33,710.23	30,607.59
Telephone	£ 676.07	839.95
Repairs & renewals	£ 2,152.76	1,867.99
Books, stationery & equipment	£ 3,214.49	1,626.28
Miscellaneous & swimming fees	£ 767.29	265.85
Legal and Professional	£ 2,341.80	1,159.80
Sundry	£ 458.26	1,222.52
Garden/Cleaning	£ 2,234.10	2,701.00
Depreciation	£ 15,571.76	15,571.76
Fees		1,650.00
Donor		
	<u>167,059.88</u>	<u>158,212.74</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>- 14,258.86</u>	<u>- 15,599.78</u>

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

BALANCE SHEET

FIXED ASSETS	2025	2024
Building Improvements	<u>35,445.42</u>	<u>51,017.18</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank:		
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	1,908.29	889.93
	<u>1,908.29</u>	<u>889.93</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
NIC & PAYE	-	294.54
	<u>-</u>	<u>294.54</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES	<u>1,908.29</u>	<u>595.39</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>37,353.71</u></u>	<u><u>51,612.57</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds brought forward	51,612.57	67,212.32
Surplus/Loss for year	- 14,258.86	- 15,599.75
Accumulated Funds carried forward	<u><u>37,353.71</u></u>	<u><u>51,612.57</u></u>

Approved by:

Name Mrs E Refson

Position Headteacher and Trustee

Signature 

Date 3rd June 2026

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 517679

Accounts

The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity number 517679

Trustees' Annual Report Financial year 01 September 2023 - 31 August 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

The name of the charity: The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity Number: 517679

Address: 24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ

The names of trustees who served during the year are:

Mrs Ethel Refson

Rabbi Reuven Zanvill Cohen

Rabbi Eliyohu Pink

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was formed and is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28 January 1986 for the purpose of promoting the Orthodox Jewish Religion, religious education and education in general, and in particular through the running of the Leeds Menorah School.

All funds are used in the educational activities of the school and in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion. The School aims to produce educated and well-adjusted observant Jews who will become an integral part of and contributors to modern society. This result is achieved by providing a standard of secular education to allow pupils to go on to secondary schools integrated with an intense religious study as to give the pupils a deep understanding of the moral and ethical richness of their Jewish heritage and traditions, and to provide them with a solid foundation for their lives.

Day-to-day governance of the charity is managed by the trustees They are assisted by a managing committee, a Board of Governors, Head Teacher and staff. The trustees have regard to the views of parents and teachers, where and to the extent appropriate, in their decision making.

New Trustees are appointed by the trustees for the time being and are expected to understand and support the needs and the ethos of the School, its pupils, parents and staff.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charity Bank: Yorkshire Bank
Branch: Moortown
Address: 370 Harrogate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 6QA.

Independent financial examiner: David Scott FCCA Chartered (certified accountant)
21 Willow Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2JP.

Financial Performance

Income received was £142,612.96 (£139,025.14 in 2022-23) and expenditure was £158,212.71 (£170,026.61 in 2022-23), resulting in a deficit of £15,599.75 compared to the deficit last year of £31,001.47. Funds brought forward were £51,615.27. The “Building Improvements” figure refers to improvements to the leasehold property housing the school. This figure is being depreciated over the remaining six years of the lease from 2024 to 2029.

The income of the school comes from fees, and charitable donations. Full fees are currently £5,500.00 a year, but provision is made from charitable donations for those parents who cannot pay the fees in full or at all. The school is unlike most private schools, in that it is not a luxury for parents of means. The school is the only Orthodox Jewish school in Yorkshire which provides the education required by Haredi (Orthodox) parents and children, in which category most Jewish men of the cloth in Leeds belong, along with a number of lay people.

Despite these challenges, the trustees are committed to ensuring that all liabilities, especially salaries, are paid in timely fashion. Nevertheless, fundraising and the generous support of donors to the School are essential to our operations, with the annual Charidy campaign of particular importance.

Campaigns:

We ran a very successful Charidy Campaign 28th – 30th January, raising altogether about £53,000. It is most impressive, reassuring, and rewarding to note that over 400 people supported the campaign. This is a statement of very long-standing appreciation of the school by ex-pupils. A further grant of £1500 (Seedlings) was also secured.

Innovative ideas:

A useful conversation was held with Mr Bill Holledge, a member of the Lubavitch London School MAT to discuss the possibility of the school joining that MAT, thereby becoming eligible for Government funding. This requires a long-term process and might take over a year to come to fruition if viable. This has not yet been followed up.

Insurance:

Insurance costs have risen as an automatic response to notes in our most recent OFSTED inspection, but regrettably were not been correspondingly reduced again after these issues were addressed. However, a new provider has now been found which will see a saving of £1,200.

Conclusion:

The Charidy campaign produced much needed funds for general overheads but also for some pending matters such as Early Years’ equipment and additional SENCO training. However, there was a deficit at the end of the year which means that not all of these items of expenditure could be addressed as comprehensively as the trustees would have liked.

Along with other costs pressures relating to the rise in the minimum wage and building repairs, it remains a constant challenge to maximise the returns on expenditure and control overheads. A very thorough draft plan has been prepared to consider the way in which staff are deployed with a view to reducing costs. We continue to look into creative fund-raising schemes to ensure continuous, rather than sporadic, stability.

Policy on reserves

The charity's funds are used for the day-to-day running of the School and any funds accrued throughout the year are reserved to meet these and additional needs as they present themselves. To the extent that surplus funds are received, these will be applied to meet medium and longer-term strategic goals and plans.

Public benefit statement

The trustee(s) confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties and are satisfied that the charity provides such a benefit.

Achievements and performance

We began the school year with the appointment of Mrs Rachel Levy as the HR and Compliance Officer as well as the new role of Mental Health and Wellbeing Lead. Unfortunately, she was soon required to earn her stripes, as the October 7th attacks on Israel had repercussions for the Jewish community around the world, including in Leeds. Immediately after the attacks, the school was in touch with CST and the Police to review our security arrangements until half term we had additional daily security volunteers arranged by CST. We further reviewed our security when one of the families received death threats from extremists. Although this was covered in the national press, fortunately the school which their children attended was never publicised. In addition to the effect on the young family, it had a wider effect on the school – children were asking questions about the protection officer that accompanied the father and what this meant for them. This persisted throughout the year and was closely monitored by our Senior Leadership and Safeguarding Team.

The school community also suffered losses with the passing of Mrs Louise Diamond who was a nursery assistant for 30 years and Mr Douglas Taylor, wife of Mrs Ruth Taylor, the school's long-time assistant and a supporter of the school.

The successful Charidy matching campaign, which has become an annual feature of the school calendar, provided a boost for the school both just financially and mentally as messages of support, as well as donations, poured in from across the Leeds Jewish community and the wider world. In order to promote the campaign, the school activated its Facebook account, and we have now connected with many families and alumni. We will continue to post appropriate content to raise the profile of the school.

We undertook a community and parent consultation about the expansion of our nursery to cater for children ages 2-3. There was a lot of support for the idea, and we have rehired Mrs Juliette Jacobs who will be the new full day Nursery and Reception teacher and coordinator. Mrs Jacobs used to work for the school several years ago. She brings with a wealth of experience and is a good fit for the school's ethos.

We produced a Nursery Prospectus and held an Open Day which was the first for many years and showcased the school to the wider community. Our hope is that the nursery will attract children from outside our usual school families and that these children will continue to attend the school.

We continued to engage Dr Rabbi Y Yodaiken M.A. B.A.I (Hons) P.G.C.E. PhD (Education) L.L.E. CEO Executive Headteacher of MAT and he ran a mock OFSTED visit in June 2024. This was followed by an actual visit by OFSTED in July 2024. (Although we did not officially receive the report until September 2024, the visit was successful.) When OFSTED saw how we were meeting their standards, including those related to curriculum, they were more in a mode of helping us with useful advice than criticising. Their advice has been noted and will enable us to tweak our planning to be even more confident in the future. Key areas that will be focusing on moving forward are computing and social enrichment. Unfortunately, the huge rise in antisemitism has meant that opportunities for trips for the children has been extremely limited, but we are hopeful the situation will improve.

The relief of a successful OFSTED visit means that we look forward to the coming year with anticipation as we can concentrate on energies on continued positive developments. We are extremely grateful to our staff,

governors and educational advisors for all their efforts. We will continue to work on striving for the very best for our pupils.

Signature and declaration:

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Refson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'E' and a long, sweeping tail.

Mrs Ethel Refson

Trustee

27th May 2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/directors/members of

Charity Name

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2024

Charity no.:

517679

Company no.:

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ("the 2006 Act").

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited for this year under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ("the 2011 Act"). In carrying out my examination, I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The company's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; or
- the accounts do not accord with such records; or
- the accounts do not comply with relevant accounting requirements under section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:  Date: 12 MAY 2025

Name: DAVID SCOTT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any): CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (CFCA)

Address: 21 WILLOW PARK, WAKEFIELD, WF1 2JP

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2024	2023
<u>INCOME</u>		
Fees received	£43,306.97	33,247.77
Donations received	£45,959.22	68,587.62
Grant	£43,346.77	37,189.75
Advertising	£10,000.00	
	<u>142,612.96</u>	<u>139,025.14</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages and Pension	46,948.16	50,524.65
Self employed	36,855.55	38,787.92
Rent & rates	9,113.32	7,369.20
Light & heat	7,782.97	10,129.18
Insurance / security	30,607.59	25,970.67
Telephone	839.95	659.51
Repairs & renewals	1,867.99	7,443.75
Books, stationery & equipment	1,626.28	5,386.20
Miscellaneous & swimming fees	265.82	1,904.14
Legal and Professional	1,159.80	1,443.60
Sundry	1,222.52	2,519.03
Garden/Cleaning	2,701.00	2,317.00
Depreciation	15,571.76	15,571.76
Fees	1,650.00	
	<u>158,212.71</u>	<u>170,026.61</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>- 15,599.75</u>	<u>- 31,001.47</u>

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024


BALANCE SHEET

<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	2024	2023
Building Improvements	<u>51,017.18</u>	<u>66,588.94</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at bank:		
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	889.93	889.93
	<u>889.93</u>	<u>889.93</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
NIC & PAYE	294.54	-
	<u>294.54</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES</u>	<u>595.39</u>	<u>889.93</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>51,612.57</u>	<u>67,478.87</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds brought forward	67,212.32	98,213.79
Surplus/Loss for year	-15,599.75	- 31,001.47
Accumulated Funds carried forward	<u>51,612.57</u>	<u>67,212.32</u>

Approved by:

Name Mrs E Refson

Position Headteacher and Trustee

Signature 

Date 2nd May 2025

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 517679

Accounts

The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity number 517679

Trustees' Annual Report Financial year 01 September 2022 - 31 August 2023

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
The name of the charity: The Leeds Menorah School Trust
Charity Number: 517679
Address: 24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ
<p>The names of trustees who served during the year are:</p> <p>Mrs Ethel Refson</p> <p>Rabbi Reuven Zanvill Cohen</p> <p>Rabbi Eliyohu Pink</p>
STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT
<p>The charity was formed and is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28 January 1986 for the purpose of promoting the Orthodox Jewish Religion, religious education and education in general, and in particular through the running of the Leeds Menorah School.</p> <p>All funds are used in the educational activities of the school and in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion. The School aims to produce educated and well-adjusted observant Jews who will become an integral part of and contributors to modern society. This result is achieved by providing a standard of secular education to allow pupils to go on to secondary schools integrated with an intense religious study as to give the pupils a deep understanding of the moral and ethical richness of their Jewish heritage and traditions, and to provide them with a solid foundation for their lives.</p> <p>Day-to-day governance of the charity is managed by the trustees They are assisted by a managing committee, a Board of Governors, Head Teacher and staff. The trustees have regard to the views of parents and teachers, where and to the extent appropriate, in their decision making.</p> <p>New Trustees are appointed by the trustees for the time being and are expected to understand and support the needs and the ethos of the School, its pupils, parents and staff.</p>

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charity Bank: Yorkshire Bank
Branch: Moortown
Address: 370 Harrogate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 6QA.

Independent financial examiner: David Scott FCCA Chartered (certified accountant)
21 Willow Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2JP.

Financial Performance

Income received was £139,025.14 (£154,691.66 in 2021-22) and expenditure was £170,026.61 (£174,139.47 in 2021-22), resulting in a deficit of £31,001.47 compared to the deficit last year of £19,447.81 Funds brought forward were £67,212.32. The “Building Improvements” figure refers to improvements to the leasehold property housing the School. This figure is being depreciated over the remaining seven years of the lease from 2023 to 2029.

The income of the School comes from fees, and charitable donations. Full fees are currently £5,500.00 a year, but provision is made from charitable donations for those parents who cannot pay the fees in full or at all. The School is unlike most private schools, in that it is not a luxury for parents of means. The school is the only Orthodox Jewish school in Yorkshire which provides the education required by Haredi (Orthodox) parents and children, in which category most Jewish men of the cloth in Leeds belong, along with a number of lay people.

The School had needed to draw on the reserves from the 2021 Charidy campaign. Several factors were contributing to this:

1. High costs of maintenance and repairs (some a result of OFSTED requirements, others just wear and tear).
2. Increased insurance costs
3. Reduced pupil numbers leading to reduced fees income and reduced council funding.

This was addressed by the following strategies:

Fees were increased by 10% for this year.

We successfully submitted a Gift Aid claim amounting to £10858.27. The funds were received very quickly. It was decided to run another Charidy campaign which generated £36,000 of income.

We claimed Gift Aid on the Charidy campaign for £2305. We can yet submit another claim for about £2500.

We changed Guarding provider as G&K were not up to scratch. Golden Crown seem better and are cheaper.

We received a kind donation to purchase “wish-list” items for the school. To date half of this has been spent, but it is specifically earmarked solely for the requested items.

An Early Years area was created by the gardener at the back of school.

Average expenditure is about £10,000 per month. Average income is about £6000 per month. A suggestion was made to implement an email fundraising campaign to promote monthly standing orders from those (around 300) who have supported the Charidy campaigns, to be sent out before the next school year.

The insurance came up for renewal. This had risen dramatically last year owing to our OFSTED report. Unfortunately, the improved rating recently obtained has not impacted to reduce the premium yet. Hopefully in the future we will see a reduction. We are paying this by monthly direct debit.

Discussions have been held with Achisomoch charity group. They support London schools, and as an initial token of good will they donated £1000.

Swimming expenditure has been reduced by providing just girls’ swimming i.e. every other week.

The low monthly income is exacerbated by reduced pupil numbers, and several families having asked for reduction in fees owing to their personal circumstances. That is, however, how we operate – no child is excluded for financial reasons.

Policy on reserves

The charity's funds are used for the day-to-day running of the School and any funds accrued throughout the year are reserved to meet these and additional needs as they present themselves. To the extent that surplus funds are received, these will be applied to meet medium and longer-term strategic goals and plans.

Public benefit statement

The trustee(s) confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties and are satisfied that the charity provides such a benefit.

Achievements and performance

We began the new school year still waiting for the Ofsted report from the visit on 19-21 July 2022 when the school underwent a full Ofsted inspection. We were extremely surprised when we underwent a further inspection on 29 September to gather more information which increased the stress on our staff. The report was finally received in November 2022 upgrading the school from Inadequate to Requires Improvement, with Good for Behaviour and Attitudes. While we are happy that the efforts that we have been putting in have been bearing fruit, we were disappointed not to be graded Good. It was explained to us that it is rare for a school to jump two ratings.

The school has continued to engage Dr Rabbi Y Yodaiken M.A. B.A.I (Hons) P.G.C.E. PhD (Education) L.L.E. CEO Executive Headteacher of MAT. We are continuing to implement our three-year Self Improvement plan covering all areas the school's development. Mr Chaim Bell, our Acting Headteacher and Curriculum Governor has been working closely with Ms. Rebecca Dresner, our new Head of EYFS to ensure that there is continuity in teaching and assessment all the way through the school. They have also been implementing changes in the curriculum so that the Jewish and Secular studies are integrated, and they are reinforcing each other. Curriculum was an important focus for us this year and we are going to continue developing our curriculum as well as a robust assessment regime for staff and pupils during the coming year.

We have had a few personnel changes. At the start of the year, Rabbi Aaron Stroh stood down as Buildings and Health and Safety Governor as he was moving away from Leeds. He has been replaced by Mr. Michael Eaton who is a previous Synagogue President and has decades of experience. Dr. Michael Zar also stood down as Safeguarding and SENCO Governor, and he has been replaced by Mrs. Dobra Baila Kohn. Mrs Rachel Levy is now employed as our new HR and Compliance Manager and Mental Health Lead.

A further two teachers gained their QTLS in May 2023. This means that the school now has four more qualified teachers than we did in 2021 and the results are being seen across the school. All our teachers have taken subject specific training and CPD.

The school's PTA held another successful online matched fundraising campaign. This has become an annual source of funding and moral support for the school with hundreds of donations and messages of support from the local community and alumni around the world.

Unfortunately, the school's roll has continued to decrease as more young families have moved away. This is not unusual for the school as the school generally caters for the more religious families in Leeds, often clergy who move onto other roles in the UK or abroad. We are confident that the roll will pick up in the future as new families move into Leeds.

All in all, it's been a very positive year, probably helped by the fact that we didn't have the concern of an imminent Ofsted visit for most of the year!

Looking ahead, the governing body and trustees are committed to continuing their efforts to support the teachers and staff and improve the standards of the school across all departments and are confident that we can continue to improve our Ofsted rating. We are continuing to engage Dr Rabbi Y Yodaiken M.A. B.A.I (Hons) P.G.C.E. PhD (Education) L.L.E. CEO Executive Headteacher of MAT and are quietly confident that our next Ofsted inspection will show further improvement.

Signature and declaration:

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Refson', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Ethel Refson

Trustee

21st June 2024



Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2023

Charity no (if any)

517679

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below*~~) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

22 MAY 2024

Name:

DAVID SCOTT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (FCA)

(if any):

Address:

21 WILLOW PARK, WAKEFIELD, Wf1 2JP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2023	2022
<u>INCOME</u>		
Fees received	33,247.77	47,956.47
Donations received	68,587.62	61,929.57
Grant	37,189.75	44,805.62
	<u>139,025.14</u>	<u>154,691.66</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages and Pension	50,524.65	41,839.69
Self employed	38,787.92	41,858.67
Rent & rates	7,369.20	7,362.08
Light & heat	10,129.18	7,282.18
Insurance / security	25,970.67	27,369.24
Telephone	659.51	741.44
Repairs & renewals	7,443.75	8,371.32
Books, stationery & equipment	5,386.20	4,164.15
Miscellaneous & swimming fees	1,904.14	4,776.30
Legal and Professional	1,443.60	5,046.62
Sundry	2,519.03	6,266.59
Garden/Cleaning	2,317.00	3,489.43
Depreciation	15,571.76	15,571.76
	<u>170,026.61</u>	<u>174,139.47</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>- 31,001.47</u>	<u>- 19,447.81</u>

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

BALANCE SHEET

<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	2023	2022
Building Improvements	<u>66,588.94</u>	<u>82,160.70</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at bank:		
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	623.38	16,062.90
	<u>623.38</u>	<u>16,062.90</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
NIC & PAYE	-	9.81
	<u>-</u>	<u>9.81</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES</u>	<u>623.38</u>	<u>16,053.09</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u><u>67,212.32</u></u>	<u><u>98,213.79</u></u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds brought forward	98,213.79	117,661.60
Surplus/Loss for year	- 31,001.47	- 19,447.81
Accumulated Funds carried forward	<u><u>67,212.32</u></u>	<u><u>98,213.79</u></u>

Approved by:

Name Mrs E Refson

Position Headteacher and Trustee

Signature 

Date 30th May 2024

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 517679

Accounts

The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity number 517679

Trustees' Annual Report Financial year 01 September 2021 - 31 August 2022**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS**

The name of the charity: The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity Number: 517679

Address: 24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ

The names of trustees who served during the year are:

Mrs Ethel Refson

Rabbi Reuven Zanvill Cohen

Rabbi Eliyohu Pink

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was formed and is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28 January 1986 for the purpose of promoting the Orthodox Jewish Religion, religious education and education in general, and in particular through the running of the Leeds Menorah School.

All funds are used in the educational activities of the school and in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion. The School aims to produce educated and well-adjusted observant Jews who will become an integral part of and contributors to modern society. This result is achieved by providing a standard of secular education to allow pupils to go on to secondary schools integrated with an intense religious study as to give the pupils a deep understanding of the moral and ethical richness of their Jewish heritage and traditions, and to provide them with a solid foundation for their lives.

Day-to-day governance of the charity is managed by the trustees, assisted by a managing committee and a Board of Governors. The trustees have regard to the views of parents and teachers, where and to the extent appropriate, in their decision making.

New Trustees are appointed by the trustees for the time being and are expected to understand and support the needs and the ethos of the School, its pupils, parents and staff.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charity Bank: Yorkshire Bank
Branch: Moortown
Address: 370 Harrogate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 6QA.

Independent financial examiner: David Scott FCCA Chartered (certified accountant)
21 Willow Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2JP.

Financial Performance

Income received was £154,691.66 (£149,600.48 in 2020-21) and expenditure was £174,139.47 (£144,527.25 in 2020-21), resulting in a deficit of £19,447.81 compared to a surplus of £5,073.23 in the previous year. Funds brought forward were £98,213.79. The “Building Improvements” figure refers to improvements to the leasehold property housing the School. This figure is being depreciated over the remaining seven years of the lease from 2022 to 2029.

The income of the School comes from fees, and charitable donations. Full fees are currently £5,000.00 a year, but provision is made from charitable donations for those parents who cannot pay the fees in full or at all. The School is unlike most private schools, in that it is not a luxury for parents of means. The school is the only Orthodox Jewish school in Yorkshire which provides the education required by Haredi (Orthodox) parents and children, in which category most Jewish men of the cloth in Leeds belong, along with a number of lay people.

Because of the 2020 Charidy fundraising Campaign, we finished last school year in the black. However, the actual annual deficit fluctuates between £10,000 and £20,000. The deficit and its variation are caused mainly by pupil numbers changing and the unpredictable call on resources for repairs, improvements etc, and other OFSTED related costs. Otherwise, general income (fees and grants) and expenditure (salaries, utilities, rental and the like) are uniform and stable.

In November 2021 the school’s PTA held a successful online matched fundraising campaign. The campaign attracted almost 500 donors and raised over £58,285 for the school, with a further Gift Aid claim of around £10,000. The messages and level of support were invigorating for the school and the funds have helped the financial stability and to secure its ongoing future.

To ensure the safety and welfare of pupils and staff, to address legal and regulatory requirements and partly owing to ‘wear and tear’, resources were allocated towards the upkeep and repairs of the school. This has included (1) smoke detectors, (2) electrical wiring, (3) IT improvements, (4) and hot water tank. The oil heating tank required replacing, but we are currently pursuing an insurance claim through the BHH insurance policy.

Since September 2021, we implemented the staff salary increases as agreed. Although modest, they do reflect an appreciation of teachers’ dedication and hard work.

Despite a suggestion to raise school fees, this was not implemented this year.

CST are continuing to fund the external security guards but have reduced their commitment owing to their own financial constraints, now no longer contributing to internal guards.

Insurance premiums have increased significantly from £920 to £4,420 due to the need to address issues raised by OFSTED, which necessitated obtaining cover from a new provider. Trustee liability insurance cover is also being obtained.

Following comparisons, we have changed electricity provider but of course we anticipate an increase in costs.

We have funded various teachers to undergo specialised courses to improve their skills set.

Policy on reserves

The charity's funds are used for the day-to-day running of the School and any funds accrued throughout the year are reserved to meet these and additional needs as they present themselves. To the extent that surplus funds are received, these will be applied to meet medium and longer-term strategic goals and plans.

Public benefit statement

The trustee(s) confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties and are satisfied that the charity provides such a benefit.

Achievements and performance

Efforts have continued by the trustees, managing committee and Board of Governors to raise the standards of the school and secure its financial stability.

The school has continued to engage Dr Rabbi Y Yodaiken M.A. B.A.I (Hons) P.G.C.E. PhD (Education) L.L.E. CEO Executive Headteacher of MAT. Together we have built a three-year Self Improvement plan covering all areas the school's development. Dr Rabbi Yodaiken has also worked with Mr Chaim Bell, our Acting Headteacher and Curriculum Governor to develop curriculums for English, Maths and Science. There are plans in place to develop curriculums for further subjects.

There has been significant progress in our EYFS. We have employed Mrs Juliette Jacobs as a new head of EYFS with oversight over the entire department, both the Kodesh and Chol departments. Together with a new EYFS lead teacher they are working on integrated curriculum across the morning and afternoon lessons, and this has led to a vast improvement of our EYFS.

The school community was saddened by the passing in May 2022 of a long serving teaching assistant who had been with the school for over fifteen years. The school engaged a qualified grief counsellor to support the children and staff and there is a memorial planned in her memory.

There has been a continued focus on training for all the staff in the school. Two teachers completed their Level 5 Diploma in Education and gained their QTLS in August 2022. A further two teachers are on track to gain QTLS in May 2023. Other subject specific training has taken place and we are using a new system of monitoring and feedback for teachers.

Unfortunately, the school's roll has decreased significantly this year as a number of families have moved away. This is not unusual for the school as the school generally caters for the more religious families in Leeds, often clergy who move onto other roles in the UK or abroad. We are confident that the roll will pick up in the future as new families move into Leeds.

The school received a further notice for an action plan from the Department of Education on 5 November 2021 and this was submitted on 20 December 2021. Unfortunately, this was rejected in April 2022, although it noted that a number of the Independent School Standards that were previously failed would now be met.

On the 19-21 July 2022 the school underwent full OFSTED visit but publication of the report was delayed and had not been received at the end of August 2022. (There was a further inspection on 29 September to gather more information and the report was finally received in November 2022 upgrading the school from Inadequate to Requires Improvement, with Good for Behaviour and Attitudes.).

The trustees, managing committee and Board of Governors are committed to continuing their efforts to support the teachers and staff and improve the standards of the school across all departments.

Signature and declaration:

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Refson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mrs Ethel Refson

Trustee

21st June 2023



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

On accounts for the year
ended

31 AUGUST 2022

Charity no
(if any)

517679

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. *Delete [] if not applicable.*

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

13 JUNE 2023

Name:

DAVID SCOTT

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (CFCA)

(if any):

Address: 21 WILLOW PARK, WAKEFIELD
WEST YORKSHIRE
WF1 2JP

Section B Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2022	2021
<u>INCOME</u>		
Fees received	47,956.47	50,843.51
Donations received	61,929.57	11,611.34
CST	28,281.12	58,542.38
Leeds City Council	16,524.50	18,669.90
Gift Aid		-
Other		7758.1
Furlough claims		2,175.25
Loan Waiver		
	<u>154,691.66</u>	<u>149,600.48</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages and Pension	41,839.69	42,133.79
Self employed	41,858.67	31,909.61
Rent & rates	7,362.08	6,365.56
Light & heat	7,282.18	4,977.84
Insurance / security	27,369.24	22,856.61
Telephone	741.44	600.55
Repairs & renewals	8,371.32	1,735.59
Books, stationery & equipment	4,164.15	4,839.18
Miscellaneous & swimming fees	4,776.30	2,359.30
Legal and Professional	5,046.62	2,654.61
Sundry	6,266.59	4,803.89
Garden/Cleaning	3,489.43	3,718.96
Depreciation	15,571.76	15,571.76
	<u>174,139.47</u>	<u>144,527.25</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>- 19,447.81</u>	<u>5,073.23</u>


LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

BALANCE SHEET

<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	2022	2021
Building Improvements	<u>82,160.70</u>	<u>97,732.46</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at bank:		
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	16,062.90	19,929.14
Other Debtor	-	-
	<u>16,062.90</u>	<u>19,929.14</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Loan	-	-
Leeds City Council Error	-	-
NIC & PAYE	9.81	
	<u>9.81</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES</u>	<u>16,053.09</u>	<u>19,929.14</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>98,213.79</u>	<u>117,661.60</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds brought forward	117,661.60	112,588.38
Surplus/Loss for year	- 19,447.81	5,073.23
Accumulated Funds carried forward	<u>98,213.79</u>	<u>117,661.60</u>

Approved by:

Name Mrs E Refson
Position Headteacher and Trustee
Signature 
Date 13th June 2023

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 517679

Accounts

The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity number 517679

Trustees' Annual Report Financial year 01 September 2020 - 31 August 2021

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

The name of the charity: The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity Number: 517679

Address: 24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ

The names of trustees who served during the year are:

Mrs Ethel Refson

Additional trustees were appointed as follows:

Rabbi Reuven Zanvill Cohen (21st June 2021)

Rabbi Eliyohu Pink (21st June 2021)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was formed and is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28 January 1986 for the purpose of promoting the Orthodox Jewish Religion, religious education and education in general, and in particular through the running of the Leeds Menorah School.

All funds are used in the educational activities of the school and in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion. The School aims to produce educated and well-adjusted observant Jews who will become an integral part of and contributors to modern society. This result is achieved by providing a standard of secular education to allow pupils to go on to secondary schools integrated with an intense religious study as to give the pupils a deep understanding of the moral and ethical richness of their Jewish heritage and traditions, and to provide them with a solid foundation for their lives.

Day-to-day management of the charity is conducted by the trustee(s), assisted by a managing committee and, latterly, a Board of Governors. The trustees have regard to the views of parents and teachers, where and to the extent appropriate, in their decision making.

New Trustees are appointed by the trustees for the time being and are expected to understand and support the needs and the ethos of the School, its pupils, parents and staff.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charity Bank: Yorkshire Bank
Branch: Moortown
Address: 370 Harrogate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 6QA.

Independent financial examiner: David Scott FCCA Chartered (certified accountant)
21 Willow Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2JP.

Financial Performance

Income received was £149,600.48 (£141,726.42 in 2019-20) and expenditure was £144,527.25 (£121,139.47 in 2019-20), resulting in a surplus of £5,073.23 compared to a surplus of £20,586.96 in the previous year. Funds brought forward were £117,661.60. The larger surplus at August 31st 2020 was due to the very successful fundraising campaign held that year.

The “Building Improvements” figure refers to improvements to the leasehold property housing the School. Although this figure is being depreciated over the remaining eight years of the lease, which runs until 2029, this year the School received a substantial grant of £31,912 from CST towards security equipment (CCTV and fencing fully enclosing the School property) which accounts for the overall increase of that figure.

A successful PTA cookery event was held that brought in a net income of £3236.

The income of the School comes from fees, and charitable donations. Full fees are currently £5,000.00 a year, but provision is made from charitable donations for those parents who cannot pay the fees in full or at all.

The School is unlike most private schools, in that it is not a luxury for parents of means. The school is the only orthodox Jewish school in Yorkshire which provides the education required by Haredi (Orthodox) parents and children, in which category most Jewish men of the cloth in Leeds belong, along with a number of lay people.

Policy on reserves

The charity’s funds are used for the day-to-day running of the School and any funds accrued throughout the year are reserved to meet these and additional needs as they present themselves. To the extent that surplus funds are received, these will be applied to meet medium and longer-term strategic goals and plans.

Public benefit statement

The trustee(s) confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties and are satisfied that the charity provides such a benefit.

Achievements and performance

The new governing body and trustees of the school have been making great efforts to meet and surpass all Ofsted requirements, raise the standards of the school and secure its financial stability.

A notice requiring the submission of an Action Plan was served by the Department of Education in September 2020, resulting in a further action plan dated 3 December 2020 which was unfortunately rejected in March 2021. Two subsequent progress monitoring inspections by Ofsted, on 5 May and 7 July 2021 noted that not all of the requisite standards had been met, but the report following the July inspection acknowledged the training and work that the new board of governors, appointed just seven months earlier had already put in place. This included safeguarding training for every member of staff and all volunteers, safer recruitment training and subject specific training.

The remaining unmet standards were mostly in the area of fire safety and risk assessments and the school governors immediately set to work to address these during August 2021, in time for the new school year. A new Designated Safeguarding Lead was appointed, taking the responsibility off the Acting Head so that Safeguarding would get the focus it needs. Among other steps we have trained and appointed a main fire marshal, together two other fire marshals to ensure that there would always be a fire marshal on site. We also worked with Fire Sharp and West Yorkshire Fire Service to ensure that all our fire risk assessments and processes are appropriate.

The governors have also focused on teaching and staffing improvements in the school. Four staff have enrolled on a course for a Level 5 Diploma in Education, two of them are on track to gain QTLS in August 2022 and a further two in August 2023. Other subject specific training has taken place and we've put in place a new system of monitoring and feedback for teachers.

The school has continued to engage Dr Rabbi Y Yodaiken M.A. B.A.I (Hons) P.G.C.E. PhD (Education) L.L.E. CEO Executive Headteacher of MAT and the governors and trustees are continuing their efforts to bring the school up to and beyond the required standard and are quietly confident that at our next inspection the outcome will be much better.

Signature and declaration:

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Refson', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Ethel Refson

Trustee

31st May 2022



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2021

Charity no (if any)

517679

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below*~~) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

23 MARCH 2022

Name:

DAVID SCOTT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (FCCA)

(if any):

--

Address:

21 WILLOW PARK, WAKEFIELD

WEST YORKS WF/ 2JP

--

Section B **Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

--

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2021	2020
<u>INCOME</u>		
Fees received	50,843.51	35,353.31
Donations received	11,611.34	44,930.57
CST	58,542.38	24,755.01
Leeds City Council	18,669.90	23,207.00
Gift Aid	-	-
Other	7,758.10	
Furlough claims	2,175.25	7,480.53
Loan Waiver		6,000.00
	<u>149,600.48</u>	<u>141,726.42</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages and Pension	42,133.79	35,703.65
Self employed	31,909.61	34,177.16
Rent & rates	6,365.56	7,788.13
Light & heat	4,977.84	5,677.48
Insurance / security	22,856.61	19,344.39
Telephone	600.55	395.99
Repairs & renewals	1,735.59	
Books, stationery & equipment	4,839.18	
Miscellaneous & swimming fees	2,359.30	2,102.77
Legal and Professional	2,654.61	2,437.62
Sundry	4,803.89	964.40
Garden/Cleaning	3,718.96	1,278.00
Depreciation	15,571.76	11,269.88
	<u>144,527.25</u>	<u>121,139.47</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>5,073.23</u>	<u>20,586.96</u>

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

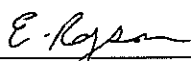
BALANCE SHEET

<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	2021	2020
Building Improvements	<u>97,732.46</u>	<u>78,889.13</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at bank:		
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	19,929.14	32,923.67
Other Debtor	-	775.58
	<u>19,929.14</u>	<u>33,699.25</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Loan	-	-
Leeds City Council Error	-	-
NIC & PAYE	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES</u>	<u>19,929.14</u>	<u>33,699.25</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>117,661.60</u>	<u>112,588.38</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds brought forward	112,588.38	92,001.42
Surplus/Loss for year	5,073.23	20,586.96
Accumulated Funds carried forward	<u>117,661.60</u>	<u>112,588.38</u>

Approved by:

Name Mrs E Refson

Position Headteacher and Trustee

Signature 

Date 24th March 2022

THE LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 517679

Accounts

The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity number 517679

Trustees' Annual Report Financial year 01 September 2019 - 31 August 2020

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

The name of the charity: The Leeds Menorah School Trust

Charity Number: 517679

Address: 24 Falkland Rise Leeds LS17 6JQ

The names of trustees who served during the year are:

Rabbi Julian J Refson (until his untimely passing on 23 March 2020)

Mrs Ethel Refson

Additional trustees were appointed as follows:

Rabbi Reuven Zanvill Cohen (21st June 2021)

Rabbi Eliyohu Pink (21st June 2021)

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was formed and is governed by a Declaration of Trust dated 28 January 1986 for the purpose of promoting the Orthodox Jewish Religion, religious education and education in general, and in particular through the running of the Leeds Menorah School.

All funds are used in the educational activities of the school and in furtherance and promotion of the Orthodox Jewish religion. The School aims to produce educated and well-adjusted observant Jews who will become an integral part of and contributors to modern society. This result is achieved by providing a standard of secular education to allow pupils to go on to secondary schools integrated with an intense religious study as to give the pupils a deep understanding of the moral and ethical richness of their Jewish heritage and traditions, and to provide them with a solid foundation for their lives.

Day-to-day management of the charity is conducted by the trustee(s), assisted by a managing committee and, latterly, a Board of Governors. The trustees have regard to the views of parents and teachers, where and to the extent appropriate, in their decision making.

New Trustees are appointed by the trustees for the time being and are expected to understand and support the needs and the ethos of the School, its pupils, parents and staff.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Charity Bank: Yorkshire Bank
Branch: Moortown
Address: 370 Harrogate Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS17 6QA.

Independent financial examiner: David Scott FCCA Chartered (certified accountant)
21 Willow Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2JP.

Financial Performance

Income received was £141,726.42 (£112,222.14 in 2018-19) and expenditure was £121,139.47 (£118,764.60 in 2018-19), resulting in a surplus of £20,586.96 compared to a deficit of £6,542.46 in the previous year. Funds brought forward were £112,588.38.

The “Building Improvements” figure refers to improvements to the leasehold property housing the School and relating to costs such as a new kitchen and security gates which were capitalised as being relevant to more than one accounting period. This figure is being depreciated over the remaining eight years of the lease, which runs until 2029.

The income of the School comes from fees, and charitable donations. Full fees are currently £5,000.00 a year, but provision is made from charitable donations for those parents who cannot pay the fees in full or at all. The School is unlike most private schools, in that it is not a luxury for parents of means. The school is the only orthodox Jewish school in Yorkshire which provides the education required by Haredi (Orthodox) parents and children, in which category most Jewish men of the cloth in Leeds, Hull and Sheffield belong, along with a growing number of lay people.

Policy on reserves

The charity’s funds are used for the day-to-day running of the School and any funds accrued throughout the year are reserved to meet these and additional needs as they present themselves. To the extent that surplus funds are received, these will be applied to meet medium and longer-term strategic goals and plans.

Public benefit statement

The trustee(s) confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties and are satisfied that the charity provides such a benefit.

Achievements and performance

The year between September 2019 and August 2020 was particularly challenging for the charity and all of those associated with the School.

First and foremost, the untimely passing in March 2020 of the Chairman of the Trustees, Rabbi Refson, dealt a massive blow to both the morale and running of the School.

The difficulties were exacerbated by the Government’s lockdown and closure of the School for four months as a result of Covid.

An ad hoc committee was immediately established comprising some dedicated parents and staff members to deal with the many immediate issues:

1. The school continued to operate very effectively for older children using zoom online classes. Younger children did find this difficult. However, at least the atmosphere of School and the School community was maintained during this time.
2. The financial situation needed addressing to ensure staff wages and other payments were kept up-to-date. Following up on income streams was required too.

3. The financial situation, although complex, was assisted by the extraordinarily successful Charidy fund-raising campaign that had run just prior to Rabbi Refson's passing. The funds were designated to meet the school's current and longer-term needs, including the costs of such improvements as are necessary to address the matters raised by OFSTED in an inspection that took place in February 2020. They have acted as useful reserve to borrow from to maintain cash flow.
4. The furlough scheme was used for those teachers not providing zoom classes.

In July, the school re-opened for one week an hour per day, then for two weeks for two hours per day, after which the summer holidays commenced. Much effort was put in to ensuring the premises were Covid-compliant to ensure a safe provision for children and staff alike.

As well as dealing with the ongoing running of the School, much effort has since been invested into addressing the OFSTED's requirements. The ad-hoc committee was formalised as an official Board of Governors in November 2020, and all the matters raised by of OFSTED are being dealt with methodically with the advice of an outside educational expert – Rabbi Y Yodaiken.

The Trustee(s) and the Board of Governors are confident that with dedicated and systematic effort, all the affairs of the School will be stabilised and ultimately lead to a high-quality provision for the future. It is fortunate that parents and staff together as a School community are all highly dedicated and motivated to work as a team to reach this goal.

Signature and declaration:

I declare, in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf



Mrs Ethel Refson
Trustee
22nd June 2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31 AUGUST 2020

Charity no (if any)

517 679

Set out on pages

1 & 2

(Remember to include the page numbers of any additional pages)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31.08.2020

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

[Signature]

Date:

8 JUNE 2021

Name:

[Name]

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

FCCA (CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANT)

(if any):

--

Address:

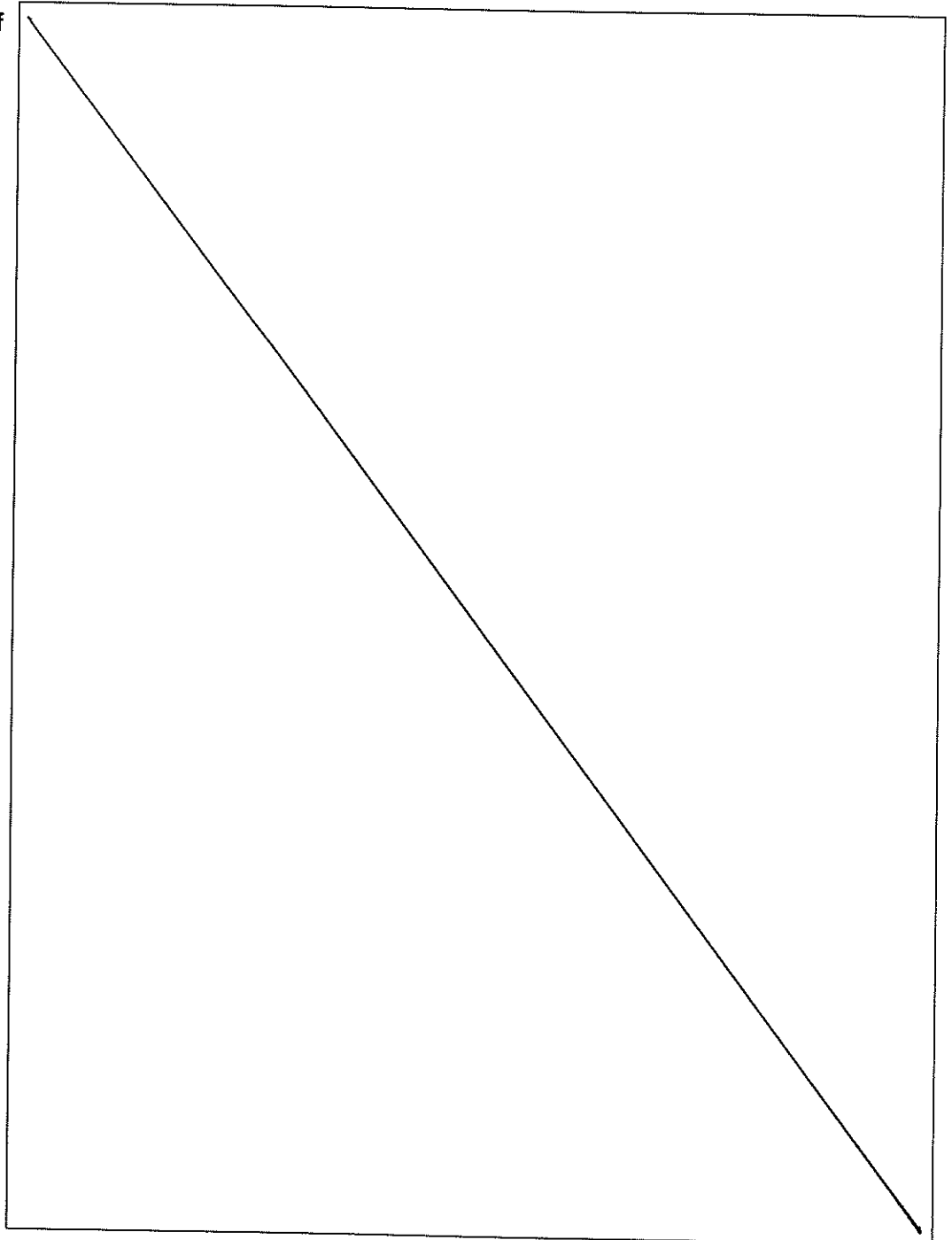
21 WILLOW PARK
WAKEFIELD WEST YORKS
WF1 2JP

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	2020	2019
<u>INCOME</u>		
Fees received	35,353.31	22,611.50
Donations received	44,930.57	31,543.50
CST	24,755.01	24,777.02
Leeds City Council	23,207.00	31,609.87
Gift Aid	-	1,680.25
Furlough claims	7,480.53	
Loan Waiver	6,000.00	
	<u>141,726.42</u>	<u>112,222.14</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Wages	35,703.65	46,254.93
Self employed	34,177.16	34,159.64
Rent & rates	7,788.13	4,878.21
Light & heat	5,677.48	5,764.44
Insurance and security	19,344.39	11,059.67
Telephone	395.99	977.48
Repairs & renewals		277.14
Books, stationery & equipment	2,102.77	5,098.30
Miscellaneous & swimming fees	2,437.62	8,969.79
Legal and Professional	964.40	
Garden/Cleaning	1,278.00	1,325.00
Depreciation	11,269.88	
	<u>121,139.47</u>	<u>118,764.60</u>
Surplus/Deficit for the year	<u>20,586.96</u>	<u>- 6,542.46</u>

LEEDS MENORAH SCHOOL - REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 517679

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

BALANCE SHEET

<u>FIXED ASSETS</u>	2020	2019
Building Improvements	<u>78,889.13</u>	<u>90,159.00</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at bank:		
Yorkshire Bank Current Account	32,923.67	13,297.35
Other Debtor	775.58	115.00
	<u>33,699.25</u>	<u>13,412.35</u>
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		
Loan	-	- 6,000.00
Leeds City Council Error	-	- 6,294.00
NIC & PAYE	-	- 397.70
	<u>-</u>	<u>- 12,691.70</u>
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES</u>	<u>33,699.25</u>	<u>720.65</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>112,588.38</u>	<u>90,879.65</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Accumulated Funds brought forward	92,001.42	98,543.88
Surplus/Loss for year	20,586.96	- 6,542.46
Accumulated Funds carried forward	<u>112,588.38</u>	<u>92,001.42</u>

Approved by:

Name Mrs E Refson

Position Headteacher and Trustee

Signature 

Date 2nd June 2021