



ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 July 2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

The Board are delighted to note that Hereford Cathedral School is going from strength-to-strength in fulfilling its mission of growing people, transforming lives and shaping futures. Underpinned by our values of kindness, courage and integrity, we are educating children and young people to live lives of purpose, fulfilment and happiness.

While the fiscal headwinds of operating independent schools become increasingly challenging HCS has adapted with agility and dexterity to meet those pressures. Diversification of income and prudent financial management is at the heart of our approach in order to maximise affordability and to provide real value for money.

With impressive examination successes, an ever-broadening curriculum and strong pastoral care, we have excellent foundations upon which to build as we move into the second quarter of the twenty-first century. This year, Governors launched their new Q2 strategy to prepare pupils to be real-world ready as we embark on this new chapter.

We welcome Julian Palmer, Michele Lewis and Tim Evans onto our Board; their experience and expertise will enrich us and enable us to provide further, the scrutiny, strategic direction and regulatory oversight which is at the heart of what we do. I would also like to thank and acknowledge the work of our outgoing Chair of the General Purposes Committee, Jonathan Preece who joined the board in 2017.

I would also like to thank all those involved with our School: the parents for their ongoing confidence in us, the staff for their tireless dedication and the volunteers and friends of the School for their support. It is a privilege to be a part of this community and organisation, and we look to the future with renewed optimism and resolve.



Mr C Morgan-Jones
Chair of Governors

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

The Governors present the Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 July 2025, which incorporates the Strategic Report under the Companies Act.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The regulating document of Hereford Cathedral School is a Charity Commission Scheme made under the Endowed Schools Acts on 26 June 1893, with the latest amendment in 1987. The School is a registered charity, number 518889. The registered company number is 2081261. The governing instrument is the Memorandum and Articles of Association, adopted on 5 December 1986.

The charitable company does not have a share capital, but the directors, as members, have undertaken to contribute a sum not exceeding one pound each in the event of a deficiency on winding up the company's affairs.

Senior School and Registered Office:

Old Deanery
The Cathedral Close
Hereford
HR1 2NG

Junior School:

28 Castle Street
Hereford
HR1 2NW

www.herefordcs.com

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Organisational Management

Governors, as the charity trustees, are legally responsible for the overall management and control of the School. The governors determine the general policy, as well as being responsible for the strategic management and control of the business activities of the School. Meetings of the full governing body are held at least once a term, with occasional extra meetings called if matters arise of a sufficiently serious nature.

This year marked Dr Michael Gray's fourth year in-post as Headmaster of the School and he has continued to move the School forward with ambition and drive and delivering his clear strategic objectives. At the heart of his approach has been ensuring that all pupils leave the School 'real-world ready' and equipped for a rapidly changing world. This continues to evolve as the world changes at such a fast-paced and reflects the dynamic and agile approach of the School. An integral part of this has been the introduction of the digital strategy which saw the extremely successful implementation of the bring-your-own-device digital strategy. He has also led the School's international work and the signing of an important partnership in China which has enabled HCS to franchise its brand across programmes in Nanjing Province. We are also excited to be partnering with Savannah Creek Development Company to bring Rwanda's first British curriculum to Kigali under the auspices of Hereford International School, Kigali.

The operational management of the School is delegated to the Headmaster, Head of the Junior School and their respective Senior Leadership Teams (SLT) and together this group are the key management personnel. Delivery of the School's charitable vision and purpose is primarily dependent on our key management personnel. The Executive Headmaster, Principal and the Chief Operating Officer attend the meetings of the governing body's committees, which discuss issues for forwarding to the full governors' meetings. The main governor committees are Finance, Education, Safeguarding and General Purposes. In addition to these meetings, governors and senior leaders also attend meetings covering Health & Safety, Investments and Salaries and Personnel. Mr W Hanks is the designated governor for Safeguarding issues.

The School recognises the National Education Union (NEU) through an informal agreement for the purposes of pay, holidays and working hours. A Joint Negotiation Committee acts as the bargaining unit (all teachers). Remuneration policy and budget is set by the governors, with the objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance and of rewarding fairly and responsibly the individual contributions to the School's success. The appropriateness and relevance of the remuneration policy is reviewed annually, including reference to comparisons with other independent schools and the maintained sector to ensure that the School remains sensitive to the broader issues of pay and employment conditions elsewhere.

We aim to recruit, subject to experience, at the lower to medium point on the pay scale, recognising that staff costs are the largest single element of our charitable expenditure.

Recruitment and Training of Governors

The recruitment of new governors is based on a pre-determined set of skills and competences across a range of disciplines such as: education, finance, law, religion, land & buildings and business. The policy of the governors is to maintain a

balanced and diverse board, with a broad experience base, covering all of the topics outlined above. New governors are inducted into the workings of the School, including governing body policy and procedures, at an induction workshop specially organised for them by the Executive Headmaster, the Principal and Clerk. The new governors also attend specialist external and/or online courses on the role and responsibilities of charity trustees. All new governors are given access to the Governor's Handbook and library of resources, which seeks to assist in the understanding of the complex issues faced by a new charity trustee and non-executive director.

In addition, all new governors usually sit on each of the sub-committees in their first year in order to understand all aspects of the School's business. Governors attend external trustee training and information courses designed to keep them informed and updated on current issues in the sector and regulatory requirements.

Employment Policy

The School is an equal opportunities employer. Full and fair consideration is given to job applications from disabled persons and due consideration is given to their training and employment needs. All employees are appointed in accordance with safer recruiting guidelines and particular emphasis and attention is given to safeguarding and background checks.

Consultation with employees, or their representatives, has continued at all levels with the aim of taking the views of employees into account when decisions are made that are likely to affect their interests. Employees are made aware of the financial and economic performance of the School at an annual briefing.

Communication with employees continues through normal management channels in a variety of forms and also through exceptional channels to apprise staff of current issues.

Investment policy and objectives

The School's investment objectives are to balance the current and future needs by:

- Maintaining (at least) the value of the investments in real terms
- Producing a consistent and sustainable amount to support expenditure
- Delivering these objectives within acceptable levels of risk

To meet these objectives, the School's investments as a whole are managed on a total return basis, maintaining diversification across a range of asset classes in order to produce an appropriate balance between risk and return. In line with this approach, the Charity Commission has been made aware of the School's intention to invest permanent endowments to maximise total return and to make available an appropriate proportion of the total return for expenditure each year. The investment strategy and policy are monitored by the Investment Committee which reports to the Full Governing Board as is investment performance, which is reported below, within the Strategic Report.

CHARITY TRUSTEES AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The governors are elected at a full governors' meeting, and their appointment is confirmed at the next AGM. The Dean and Chapter (D&C) of Hereford Cathedral have the right to recommend up to one quarter of the total number of governors. One third of the governors, or if their number is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to, retire from office at each Annual General Meeting. They can be re-elected. The governors had no interests which were required to be disclosed under the Companies Act 2006. Unless otherwise determined by the company by ordinary resolution, the number of governors shall not be less than 10, or more than 18. The governors of the School, who are also the charity trustees and the directors of the company who served during the year and up to the date of approving these financial statements, were:

Elected Members

Mr C Jones (Morgan-Jones) (Chairman)
Mr A Teale
Mr W Hanks
Mr J Sheldon
Mr J Preece (resigned 17 August 2025)
Mrs J Millar
Mrs J Deval-Reed
The Reverend Prebendary N Lowton
Mr J Storey
Mrs L Atkins
Mr D Snow (appointed 10 October 2024)
Dr S Hitt (appointed 18 September 2024)
Mr J Palmer (appointed 28 March 2025)
Mr T Evans (appointed 1 May 2025)
Mrs Michele Lewis (appointed 18 August 2025)

D&C Nominated Members

Mr W Hanks
Canon A Teale
The Reverend Prebendary N Lowton

Officers

Dr M E P Gray	Executive Headmaster / CEO
Mr C Dawson	Principal (joined 1 September 2025)
Mrs H Hoffmann	Head of the Junior School (resigned 31 August 2025)
Mr P Jerram	Chief Operating Officer, Secretary and Clerk to the Governors
Mrs M Cussans	Secretary and Clerk to the Governors (appointed 1 st January 2025)

Finance Committee

Mrs J Millar (Chair)
Mr W Hanks
Mr D Ashcroft
Mr J Sheldon
Mr J Preece
Mr D Snow
Dr S Hitt
Mr J Palmer
Mrs M Lewis
In attendance: Executive Headmaster, Principal, COO, Finance Manager, Chairman of the Board.

Education Committee

Mrs J Deval-Reed (Chair)
Canon A Teale
The Reverend Prebendary N Lowton
Mr J Storey
Mrs L Atkins
Mr J Sheldon
Mr W Hanks
Mrs M Lewis
In attendance: Executive Headmaster, Principal, Deputy Head (Academic), Deputy Head (Junior School), Head of Pre Prep, Chairman of the Board.

General Purposes Committee

Mr J Preece (Chairman)
Mr J Sheldon
Mrs J Millar
Mr T Evans
In attendance: Executive Headmaster, Principal, COO, Chairman of the Board.

Safeguarding Committee (Established 25 May 2022)

Mr W Hanks (Chairman)
Mrs J Deval-Reed
The Reverend Prebendary N Lowton
Mr J Storey
Mrs L Atkins
In attendance: Executive Headmaster, Principal, Senior Deputy Head, Deputy Head (Junior School), Head of Pre Prep, Chairman of the Board.

Investment Committee

Mr J Sheldon (Chairman)
Mrs J Millar
Mr D Snow
Mr J Palmer
In attendance: Executive Headmaster, COO, Finance Manager, Chairman of the Board.

SUBSIDIARIES

During the financial year, the School had one trading wholly-owned subsidiary, HCS Educational Services Limited. Hereford International School Ltd was dormant during the year.

SOLICITORS

Humfrys & Symonds
St John's Chambers
St John Street
Hereford
HR1 2NG

Harrison Clark Rickerbys Ltd
Ellenborough House
Wellington Street
Cheltenham
GL50 1YD

BANK

Lloyds Bank Plc
6-8 High Street
Hereford
HR1 2AE

AUDITOR

Crowe U.K. LLP
4th Floor
St James House
St James' Square
Cheltenham GL50 3PR

INVESTMENT MANAGERS

Kingfurness
(appointed October 2025)
House 32
Broadway
35 Broad St
Hereford
HR4 9AR

Brewin Dolphin
(ended October 2025)
St James' House
St James' Square
Cheltenham
GL50 3PR

Investec/Rathbones
(ended October 2025)
30 Gresham Street
London
EC2V 7QP

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Risk Management

The governors undertake a full review of risk management procedures each year, with each sub-committee tasked with assessing and rating risks relevant to the areas for which they hold responsibility. The risks faced by the School include political and economic in light of increased macro-economic pressures, buildings (on-going maintenance and health and safety considerations), demographic changes and recruitment and retention of high-quality staff and pupils. Issues are identified and discussed with the specific purpose of reducing risk in all areas, with the findings reviewed annually at full Board level.

The other key control mechanisms used to mitigate risk wherever possible are:

- Formal agendas for all governors' meetings.
- Full and thorough management accounting, budgeting and 5-year planning.
- Preparation of, and reference to, written policies and committee terms of reference.
- Operational management through an organisational structure.
- Clear authorisation and approval levels for expenditure of budgets.
- Robust procedures for legislative compliance educationally, financially and legally.
- Membership of professional bodies which advise and support the school: AGBIS, HMC, IAPS, ISBA and BSA.
- Full insurance cover which is reviewed annually.

Principal Risks

The 2024 Budget which saw the introduction of VAT onto independent school fees, increased employers' National Insurance contributions and removal of business rate relief for schools in England represents a risk to the affordability of the fees and in particular, in reducing the socio-economic breadth of families which can afford to send their children to the School. Geopolitical concerns continue to provide challenges but there continue to be opportunities within international education.

The affordability of the fees, which have increased this year, remains something of which the Board is eminently mindful. The Board continues to look to mitigate that risk by diversifying income and generating non-fee sources of income through HCS Educational Services Ltd. Additionally, the school operates in a way which seeks to be financially prudent and to operate as efficiently as possible to maximise fee affordability.

Political and economic risks remain and the Board and School are taking steps to mitigate these:

- Political pressures on the sector;
- Affordability of the fee at a time of increased taxation;
- Geopolitical impacts on boarding; and
- Demography of Herefordshire.

Uncertainty

"There are known knowns. These are things we know that we know. There are known unknowns. That is to say, there are things that we know we don't know. But there are also unknown unknowns. There are things we don't know we don't know."

- Donald Rumsfeld

Governors and the SLT are fully aware of Donald Rumsfeld's "known unknowns" and "unknown unknowns". They endeavour to understand the implications of uncertainty by keeping abreast of developments within the sector through regular networking meetings, ongoing training and the use of consultants where appropriate.

Insofar as the governors are aware:

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

OBJECTIVES

The charitable objects of the School are to promote the advancement of education by acquiring, establishing, providing, conducting and carrying on schools in which boys and girls of all sections of the community may receive a sound general education (including religious instruction in accordance with the doctrines of the Church of England). The charitable company's principal activity continues to be the running of the Hereford Cathedral Senior and Junior Schools.

It is the policy of the School to attain the highest academic standards for our pupils and to encourage each individual to achieve his or her highest potential intellectually, culturally and physically. The School welcomes pupils from all backgrounds. Entrance interviews and assessments are undertaken to satisfy ourselves and parents that potential pupils can cope with the pace of learning and benefit from the education provided. An individual's economic status, gender, ethnicity, race, religion or disability do not form part of the assessment process.

AIMS

The School's aims and the intended impact of its activities are:

- To produce well-rounded individuals not only through the national curriculum, but also the opportunities of a wide range of additional activities, including: music, sport, drama, the Duke of Edinburgh (DoE) award scheme and the Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- To provide a structured educational environment that develops pupils' capabilities, where each student can develop and fulfil his or her potential, building their self-confidence and creating a desire to contribute to the wider community. The School recognises that a diverse range of cultures will significantly add to this goal, and therefore welcomes pupils from other countries who would directly benefit from our unique Cathedral School education. In addition, the School provides music and community support to the Cathedral, as well as the sub-letting and sharing of School facilities with the wider community

The School was extremely successful in fulfilling its aims and ensuring that it provided a very high quality and holistic education, which maximised opportunities and provided a real breadth of educational experience.

REPORT ON OBJECTIVES TO DATE

Governors and the SLT placed an emphasis on a new set of Strategic Objectives, focussed on the delivery of Vision 2030. The main objectives for the period were:

- Academic Excellence. Through: tracking, exam experience, curricular continuity, scholars' extension programme, broadening the Sixth Form curriculum and reviewing marking policies, feedback and reports.
- Breadth of Opportunity. Implementation of the digital strategy, a range of extra-curricular enhancements, outreach, guidance through our Futures Department and building on our status as a CyberFirst school.
- Caring for Everyone. Coordinated programme of CPD, introduction of Women in Leadership programme; ongoing development of PSHE curriculum and Horizons programme.
- Expanding Demand. Marketing strategy and building on the School's strong reputation locally and growing reputation nationally and globally.
- Finance and Facilities. Ongoing diversification of income and exploration of commercial projects at home and abroad.

STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES IN 2024/25

The various governor committees work together to assess the needs of the School from an educational, charitable and financial perspective.

- The Education Committee seeks to continually develop the academic, pastoral and extra-curricular provision offered at the School, and also encourages facility development in conjunction with the General Purposes and Finance Committees.
- The Finance Committee continues to apply controls to ensure that the development of the staffing and the fabric of the School is delivered effectively, as well as providing sufficient funds to increase the level of bursary awards granted, as a mainstay of the School's delivery of public benefit.
- The General Purposes Committee seeks to prioritise those areas of the School identified as needing physical improvement and works to a medium-term plan, with surpluses in excess of budget used to accelerate the plan.
- A Safeguarding Committee has been created, in recognition of the importance of this issue and the Governors' role in overseeing safeguarding matters and managing risks. This also provides them with an opportunity to anonymously review particular cases to ensure that best practice was followed.
- The Investment Committee has also been created to oversee strategy, policy and performance of the School's investments which reports to the Full Governing Board.
- The Trustees hold an annual 'Strategy Day', devoted to developing the School's long-term vision and objectives.

The governors continued to support the SLT to build links and encourage community access of the School facilities for educational purposes and the delivery of outreach programmes.

GRANT-MAKING POLICY

The governors' policy, in line with other independent schools, is to award scholarships on the basis of the individual's academic, musical, dramatic, artistic and sporting ability. Bursaries and Fees Assistance are awarded to individuals who qualify under a stringent means-testing system but are not required to be academic high-flyers. Hardship bursaries are also awarded, usually of a short-term duration, to families facing immediate financial crises and who would otherwise be required to withdraw their children from the School.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The future success of the School is obviously linked to a high demand for places at the School, which in-turn is achieved by providing the highest quality of education. There has been a dynamic momentum over the past year as a result of the very successful implementation of several new strategies and initiatives. The academic year 2025-26 will not only see these embedded but strengthened through the development of Quay House, the installation of a music recording studio, relocation of the Nursery, and the development of international opportunities for income diversification. The School's international reputation is also growing, through the success of its boarding and considerable work taking place as it continues its work on its overseas franchise.

Governors and Senior Leadership are continuing to develop a medium and long-term strategy for the School and have taken decisive steps towards increasing the number of international students which will help secure the future of the School for generations to come. The governors have replaced Vision 2030 with Q2, which focuses on educational excellence, strong admissions and business success.

OVERVIEW OF 2024/25

PUBLIC BENEFIT – FEES ASSISTANCE

The School offers substantial financial provision, funding a significant number of transformational bursaries and provides a greater ratio of bursaries to scholarships within its recruitment and charitable strategies, including free places to some individuals. The school seeks to provide approximately 10% of gross fee income in the form of scholarship and bursary awards. Bursaries and scholarships awarded in 2024/25 were 7.5% and 1.5% of fee income, respectively. Bursaries were awarded to 11% of pupils in the Senior School and included 26 at 75% and above, of which there were 7 100% awards. The average fee assistance award was 62%. Special scholarships are also awarded to children of military personnel serving within the Hereford Garrison.

The School prospectus and website includes reference to the availability of Fees Assistance; "Entrance Bursaries" are only awarded after undertaking robust means testing procedures, usually including home visits and interviews of all parents by an independent company. In assessing means we take a wide range of factors into consideration which include family net worth, including: income, investment and savings, and family circumstances such as dependants and siblings. This enables wider access to the school for those who would not otherwise be able to meet the full fee. "Hardship Bursaries" are not always subject to the same assessment procedure and are normally awarded to pupils who have been at the School for at least 12 months (although exceptions may be made in the event of extraordinary circumstances, e.g. death of a parent). These are generally short-term awards to allow parents time to resolve their financial difficulties.

The School continues to support Ukrainian children following the Ukraine hardship bursary fund which was set up in 2022. The scheme was supported by a number of generous parents and other benefactors with the aim of supporting those who had relocated due to the war in their home country.

PUBLIC BENEFIT – OTHER

Local groups and clubs usually have the opportunity to hire and use the School's facilities, including the sports hall, the Powell Theatre, St David's Hall, playing fields and minibuses which are used for a variety of sporting, educational and music activities within the local community. The CCF partnership with a local academy school continues and provides wonderful opportunities for local children to develop their skills and broaden their opportunities. The School provides a Cadet in support of the Lord Lieutenant and their civic duties.

The School hosts and sponsors sporting events involving local primary and secondary schools, including: the County Primary Schools Football Tournament and a variety of county schools' events. Our sports pitches are used weekly by local community clubs, the School also continues to work closely with the County Cricket establishment.

The School continues to support the local community with outreach work in the state education sector, particularly in musical activities. The School has been awarded the status of becoming a CyberFirst school which reflects its work within the community around supporting Computer Science and cyber security. Staff deliver workshops and specialist lessons in other school. Pupils volunteer as part of the DoE scheme and the 6th Form HCS Diploma. The Junior School partners with Umubano Academy in Kigali as a cultural knowledge exchange.

Music outreach includes a new Music Makers series for aspiring musicians and two community choirs. The School's music department brings together a number of the County's primary schools for a number of large-scale events: such as a Primary Schools' Advent carol service (200 children) and a major choral & orchestral concert in the Spring Term (200 children).

The School supports members of staff who volunteer to sit on local boards of governors or trustees across educational and other not-for-profit organisations. This involves releasing them from their duties to attend meetings and fulfil other commitments in their capacities as governors or trustees. Other members of staff help at local schools and academies, particularly with exam moderation and PGCE teacher placements. The school also supports those wishing to stand for public office or supporting the democratic process. The School's activities and partnerships are recorded in the Schools Together website: www.schoolstogether.org. The School's Charity Committee continues to be busy raising money for various worthwhile causes locally and nationally.

In drafting the above statements, the governors have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

Hereford Cathedral School achieved excellent A Level results and combined with its GCSE, it once again places the School as the highest performing School or College in the County and it remains a highly respected and well established coeducational HMC School.

This year saw record-breaking GCSE results for the Year 11 cohort. A third of grades achieved 9-8, over half of all grades were 9-7 and over three quarters were 9-6. The School had a 100% pass rate in English Language and Literature, as well as a 99.5% pass rate in Maths and Science. This compares extraordinarily well against national data.

FUNDRAISING PERFORMANCE

2024/25 saw significant progress made in the School's on-going work of raising voluntary funding and building a legacy/bequest stream. A Bursary Fund Appeal was launched in Feb 2020 and this is promoted promoting to alumni and other benefactors through social media, in person conversations and through the annual alumni magazine. In addition, the Executive Headmaster – who leads on development – works to build relationships with charitable trusts and foundations to obtain grant funding wherever possible.

For the Academic year 2024/25 the following voluntary income has been generated:

- *HCS received £285k of grants, gifts and donations:*
 - *£264k was received for bursarial support. Of this, £74.8k was used by HCS to support 9 specific pupils with the remainder being used to support HCS bursaries across the High School.*
 - *Included in the bursarial support is £160,000 from the Old Herefordian Fund and £6,000 from the No 1 Fund for Choristers*
 - *£13.1k from the Parent Teacher Association*
 - *£7.9k of other donations for prizes, awards and specific requests*
- *The Knaption Legacy continues to grow and generate income for a funded day place*
- *Restricted Funds – The Charitable bursary fund saw donations of £24.6k and the Friends bursary fund grew by £9k.*

The School is particularly grateful to the Mosawi Foundation, the Tabor Fund; The Julian Bewick Educational Trust, the French Huguenot Church, the Old Herefordian Fund, the No 1 Fund for Choristers and one anonymous donor for their continued support.

The School raises funds either through applications to external grant making bodies or through appeals to alumni, benefactors and parents. Funds raised are most typically used for fee support for pupils. The School does not use external or “professional” fundraisers. The School is a member of The Institute for Development Professional in Education (IDPE) which is a body that advises members on best practice in fundraising and compliance with fundraising regulations. The charity monitors its fundraising activities of any person acting on its behalf, through regular meetings with the Executive Headmaster and termly reports to the governors. There is a governor with specific focus on Fundraising compliance as part of their role.

The governors do not know of any failure by the charity, or of any person acting on its behalf, to comply with fundraising standards. The charity received no complaints relating to its fundraising activities. The charity protects vulnerable people and other members of the public from behaviour which; is unreasonable intrusion on a person's privacy, is unreasonable persistent, places undue pressure on a person to give money. The charity does not approach members of the public for fundraising. All applications relating to pupils are confidential and data is handled accordingly. The School raised funds from alumni and parents in the last year; these people have an existing relationship with the School. The School does not undertake cold calling, telephone campaigns or employ any third parties to raise funds on our behalf. The School, through its Executive Headmaster, is aware of the duty of care when raising money from former pupils and parents who might be classed as vulnerable and of the need to be sensitive; not invade privacy or be unreasonably persistent. The Executive Headmaster ensures that he aware of, compliant with and sensitive to, the letter and spirit of regulatory guidelines, legislation and best practice in our fundraising.

The governors are aware of the increasing regulations with regards to fundraising and are keen to adopt an ethical and transparent approach in this respect.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year is set out on page 19. The financial statements comply with the applicable Accounting Standards in the United Kingdom, including the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities (Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102)).

Gross Fee income increased by £463,890 (3.8%) during the year.

The Bursary worked hard with parents to manage fee payments, flexibility was offered over timing and ultimately a high percentage of the fees due were paid in the period. Fee debt has continued to be well managed, although debtor days have increased from 4.0 to 7.5 reflecting the cost-of-living crisis in the wider economy.

The School's financial position continues to be strong. The surplus for the year (before transfers between funds and losses on investment assets) amounted to £1.2m (2024: £0.72m). The surplus for the year after transfers between funds and losses on investment assets amounted to £1.22m (2024: £0.83m) and has been transferred to reserves. Total funds amounted to £9.6m (2024: £8.38m). The majority of the increase on 2024 is due to the deferment of major repairs and improvements until 25/26 in order to maximise VAT recoverability. The Board continue to be alert to the threats and pressures on the School and wider economy; the strong closing position gives the Board confidence that the School was, and remains, a "going concern".

INVESTMENT POLICY AND PERFORMANCE

The governors' investment powers are set out in the regulating document.

Governors have continued to manage the investments in accordance with this policy and returns are considered to be satisfactory in view of the performance of the stock market during the year.

In common with other independent schools, the governors have invested substantial sums into School buildings in recent years and have a continuing programme of refurbishment, development and investment to maintain excellent teaching facilities for our pupils. The "free reserves" as at 31 July 2025 consist of unrestricted net current assets as shown in note 21 amounting to £3.16m (2024: (£3.82m)), with the variance between years largely due to reducing "Fees in Advance". The governors continue to invest in boarding and technology as part of the long-term strategy to increase pupil numbers and innovate teaching and learning and therefore do not consider it appropriate at this time to place a great deal of emphasis on this figure. Rather, the figure illustrates the extent of the investment in our School, which is a common practice by independent schools which have to finance their own capital investment plans. The closing value of our tangible assets, property, plant and equipment, was £8.9m (2024: £9.3m).

Despite the strength of the charity's balance sheet, the stable cash flow, the on-going popularity and academic success of our School, we will look to build our free cash reserves over the next three years to increase our resilience during these uncertain times.

The School had total reserves of £9.6m at the year-end (2024: £8.38m), of which £1.43m is restricted (2024: £1.39m), £0.67m is endowed (2024: £0.65m), leaving £7.5m of unrestricted funds (2024: £6.34m).

The governors recognise that the level of reserves fluctuates during periods of investment in the School estate and the arrangements with our bank are in place to provide an adequate "safety net" should it be required.

The School's long-term investments were managed by two investment companies. At the year-end the total value of the investment portfolio was £1.52m (2024: £1.47m). The overall investment return amounted to £59,469 (2024: £126,256) (calculated as the net investment gain of £49,213 plus dividends and interest received of £25,054 less management fees of £14,798). This year's results validate the objective to hold these investments in the long-term and accept short-term fluctuations in value.

Under the total return accounting basis, it is the governors' policy to extract as income one tuition fee. This fee is used to support the bursary of the "Knapton Music Scholar" thanks to the generosity of the benefactors: Miss Barbara Knapton and Mrs Kathleen Cavill. The governors will keep the level of income withdrawn under review to balance the need and interests of current and future beneficiaries of the School's activities.

GOING CONCERN

The Board has paid due attention to the advice and modelling of the School's employees, the SLT and professional advisors including the School's auditors and consider that the School remains financially viable.

A range of five-year scenarios were modelled and refined, with varying degrees of stress on pupil numbers, fee recovery, debt, operational costs and a range of other factors. Performance against budget has been steady, and the School emerged from the pandemic with strong growth. Additional emphasis and resources are being allocated to marketing and the management and Board remain alert to the possibility of further structural changes based on the budget projections.

Political threats, particularly around the Government's fiscal policy are the subject of regular review by the SLT and the Board. It is considered that the School's cash and investments will protect it from unexpected sudden shocks, giving time for structural adjustments, should these prove necessary.

The School's bankers, Lloyds, have continued to be fully engaged and remain supportive of the School's aspirations.

The Trustees Annual Report is approved by the Board of Governors and the Strategic Report (included therein) is approved by the Board of Governors in their capacity as directors at their meeting on 10 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr C Morgan-Jones
Director

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who are also the directors of the charity for purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' annual 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 Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing those financial statements, governors are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 charity will continue in business.

The Governors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of 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.

Approved by the order of the Board of Governors on 10 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr C Morgan-Jones
Director

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

Opinion

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

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

This has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent charity's affairs as at 31 July 2025 and of the Group's 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 Charities Act 2011.

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 Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

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 Governors 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.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement, the Governors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Governors are responsible for assessing the Group's and the parent charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Governors either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company and group operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's and the group's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company and the group for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context for the UK operations were The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within Bursaries, Scholarships and other discounts and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Finance & Resources Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, designing audit procedures over Bursaries, Scholarships and other discounts, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission, Independent schools Inspectorate and Ofsted and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

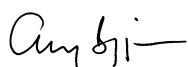
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 charity and its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Crowe U.K. LLP

Guy Biggin (Senior statutory auditor)
Statutory Auditor
Fourth Floor
St James House
St James Square
Cheltenham
GL50 3PR

Date: 05 March 2026

Crowe U.K. LLP are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

		Endowment funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted and designated funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Note					
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and legacies		-	318,705	17,165	335,870	602,723
Charitable activities	4	-	-	12,852,747	12,852,747	12,616,677
Other trading activities	5	-	-	135,139	135,139	92,833
Investments	6	10,694	14,361	285,380	310,435	67,028
Total income and endowments		10,694	333,066	13,290,431	13,634,191	13,379,261
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds:						
Costs of raising voluntary income	7	5,994	6,957	82,958	95,909	136,581
Finance costs	8	-	-	257,880	257,880	143,938
Charitable activities:						
Other charitable activities	9	-	306,016	11,799,776	12,105,792	12,381,490
Total expenditure		5,994	312,973	12,140,614	12,459,581	12,662,009
Net income before net gains on investments		4,700	20,093	1,149,817	1,174,610	717,252
Gains/(losses) on investments		34,574	14,639	-	49,213	114,186
Net income		39,274	34,732	1,149,817	1,223,823	831,438
Transfers between funds	19	(10,694)	-	10,694	-	-
Net movement in funds		28,580	34,732	1,160,511	1,223,823	831,438

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

	Endowment funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Note					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	645,759	1,394,308	6,340,316	8,380,383	<i>7,548,945</i>
Net movement in funds	28,580	34,732	1,160,511	1,223,823	<i>831,438</i>
Total funds carried forward	674,339	1,429,040	7,500,827	9,604,206	<i>8,380,383</i>

The notes on pages 24 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	8,936,254	9,323,354
Investments	14	1,518,732	1,473,423
		<u>10,454,986</u>	<u>10,796,777</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	452,937	302,383
Cash at bank and in hand		6,406,689	7,973,557
		<u>6,859,626</u>	<u>8,275,940</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(3,118,517)	(3,889,565)
Net current assets		<u>3,741,109</u>	<u>4,386,375</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>14,196,095</u>	<u>15,183,152</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(4,591,889)	(6,802,769)
Total net assets		<u><u>9,604,206</u></u>	<u><u>8,380,383</u></u>
School funds			
Endowment funds	19	674,339	645,759
Restricted funds	19	1,429,040	1,394,308
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	19	34,017	28,333
General funds	19	7,466,810	6,311,983
Total unrestricted funds	19	<u>7,500,827</u>	<u>6,340,316</u>
Total funds		<u><u>9,604,206</u></u>	<u><u>8,380,383</u></u>

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



Christian Morgan-Jones
Governor
Date: 10 December 2025



Jacqueline Millar
Governor


The notes on pages 24 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

**SCHOOL BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 JULY 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	8,850,343	9,215,961
Investments	14	1,518,734	1,473,425
		<u>10,369,077</u>	<u>10,689,386</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	553,004	386,117
Cash at bank and in hand		6,383,422	7,959,215
		<u>6,936,426</u>	<u>8,345,332</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(3,109,408)	(3,842,629)
Net current assets		<u>3,827,018</u>	<u>4,502,703</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>14,196,095</u>	<u>15,192,089</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(4,591,889)	(6,802,769)
Total net assets		<u><u>9,604,206</u></u>	<u><u>8,389,320</u></u>
Charity funds			
Endowment funds	19	674,339	645,759
Restricted funds	19	1,429,040	1,367,081
Unrestricted funds			
Designated funds	19	34,017	28,333
General funds	19	7,466,810	6,348,147
Total unrestricted funds	19	<u>7,500,827</u>	<u>6,376,480</u>
Total funds		<u><u>9,604,206</u></u>	<u><u>8,389,320</u></u>

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


Christian Morgan-Jones
Governor
Date: 10 December 2025


Lorraine Michaela Atkins
Governor

The notes on pages 24 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	23	1,179,518	1,535,944
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividend income		19,056	21,044
Investment income		291,381	45,984
Interest on loans		(91,031)	(124,038)
Acquisition of fixed asset investments		3,904	2,090
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(245,115)	(1,241,933)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		11,312	502
Net cash used in investing activities		(10,493)	(1,296,351)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Advance fees receipts from new contracts		614,279	7,315,924
Advance fees utilised during the year		(2,845,818)	(352,834)
Repayments of borrowing		(504,354)	(335,732)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(2,735,893)	6,627,358
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,566,868)	6,866,951
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		7,973,557	1,106,606
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	24	6,406,689	7,973,557

The notes on pages 24 to 54 form part of these financial statements

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

1. General information

Hereford Cathedral School is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The School is registered with the Charity Commission England and Wales (registered no: 518889). The charity was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee with Companies House England and Wales (registered no: 02081261). Its registered and principal office is Old Deanery, The Cathedral Close, Hereford, Herefordshire, HR1 2NG.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

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

The Consolidated statement of financial activities (SOFA) and Consolidated balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the School and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The School has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own treatment of financial activities in these financial statement.

2.2 Basis of consolidation

These financial statements consolidate the results of the School and the wholly owned subsidiary, HCS Educational Services Limited. All intragroup transactions are fully eliminated on consolidation.

The School has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of financial activities in these financial statements.

2.3 Going concern

These financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, which the governors consider to be appropriate as a result of projections prepared, having reviewed the funding facilities available to the School together with the expected ongoing demand for places and the School's future projected cash flows. The governors have a reasonable expectation that the School has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future and consider that there were no material uncertainty's over the School's financial viability and accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements as outlined in the governors' responsibilities on page 4.

2.4 Taxation

As a charity the company is generally exempt from the corporation tax on income it receives. Although this exemption does not normally extend to trading income the company benefits from a concession, which also exempts such income from taxation, as the trade carried out is part of the primary purpose of the charity i.e. provision of education.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Income

All income is recognised once the School has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Fees consist of charges for the school year, less scholarships, bursaries and allowances granted by the School. Fees receivable and charges for services and use of premises, are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided.

To secure a place at the School, a registration fee is paid by all pupils, both domestic and international. This sum is non-refundable and part of the non-refundable sum includes an element which goes towards the HCS Charitable Bursary Scheme. The HCS Charitable Bursary Scheme is used to support pupils who would not otherwise be able to access education at an independent school. As the fee is non-refundable, the income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Position upon receipt of the funds.

Donations subject to specific wishes of the donors are carried to relevant restricted funds. Any donations received for the general purposes of the School are credited to "Unrestricted Funds". Donations are accounted for on receipt.

All investment income is credited according to the date of receipt into the investment cash account.

2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Certain expenditure is apportioned to cost categories based on the estimated amount attributable to the activity in the year. Irrecoverable VAT is included with the item of expense to which it relates. Support costs are those costs incurred in directly administering school operations as an educational establishment.

Governance costs comprise the costs of running the school, including strategic planning (for its future development), also external audit, any legal advice for the governors, and all the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements, such as costs of governors' meetings and of preparing statutory accounts and satisfying public accountability.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Group to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Charitable activities

Charitable activities include expenditure on providing education and include both direct costs and support costs relating to the activity

Allocation and apportionment of support costs

Support costs include central functions and are allocated to activity cost categorised on a basis consistent with the use of resources e.g. staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage

2.7 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

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

The School decided to take advantage of the transition option under FRS 102 to accept the property revaluation done in 2016 as deemed cost.

Freehold Property is depreciated between 1% and 10% each year. Land is not depreciated. The non-depreciable land element of the Freehold Property has been deemed to be 30% of the full cost, with depreciation being charged on the remaining 70%.

Leasehold property improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term or the expected useful life of the asset.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of tangible fixed assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method.

Depreciation is provided on the other assets on the following bases:

Motor vehicles	- 7 years
Fixtures and fittings	- 5 - 20 years
Computer equipment	- 3 - 5 years

2.9 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Consolidated statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

Investments held as fixed assets are shown at cost less provision for impairment.

2.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Advance fees

Fees paid in advance are included in creditors and released to the Statement of Financial Activities as they fall due.

Deposits

The governors have reviewed the contract terms under which pupil fee deposits are held by the School. Although under normal circumstances these will be repaid in future years when the pupils complete their education at the School, pupils can leave at earlier dates. The School does not therefore have an unconditional right to retain the individual deposits for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date and, in line with the requirements in FRS 102, the balance of deposits held at the reporting date has been included within current liabilities. The prior year pupil fee deposits balance has been similarly represented.

Termination benefits

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

2.13 Financial instruments

The Group only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.14 Finance lease and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts or finance leases are capitalised in the balance sheet. Those held under hire purchase contracts are depreciated over their estimated useful lives. Those held under finance leases are depreciated over their estimated useful lives or the lease term, whichever is shorter.

The interest element of these obligations is charged to the statement of financial activities over the relevant period. The capital element of the future payments is treated as a liability.

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged in the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.15 Pensions

The School has the following pension schemes in place:

Defined contribution pension schemes

Halifax Bank of Scotland Investment Service (HBOS) and Nest for non-teaching staff. Aviva, a defined contribution scheme, for teaching staff.

Defined benefit scheme

Retirement benefits to teaching staff of the School are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS'). This is a defined benefit scheme, contracted out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme. TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the School in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in Note 25, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the School is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they become due each year.

All pension costs are charged against unrestricted funds in line with the associated staff costs.

2.16 Fund accounting

Unrestricted general funds are available for use at the discretion of the governors in furtherance of the general objectives of the school.

Restricted funds are those funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the school for particular purposes.

Permanent endowment arises where a donor intends the gift to be retained permanently for use by the School or for its financial benefits. Endowment funds cannot be expended but any interest earned can be used to further the general objectives of the school. The Philpotts Educational Charity was originally established as a Scholarship Fund but under a Ministry of Education Order of 1947, the Scheme was varied to allow income to be used for the benefit of the School generally. It can be invested on a Total Returns basis.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charges for tangible assets are sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See Note 12 for the carrying amount of the tangible fixed assets and Note 2.8 for the useful lives for each class of fixed asset.

Impairment of debtors

The School makes an estimate of the recoverable value of trade and other debtors. When assessing impairment of trade and other debtors, management considers factors including the current credit rating of the debtor, the ageing profile of debtors and historical experience. See Note 14 for the net carrying amount of the debtors and associated impairment provision.

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
School fee income	11,488,956	11,488,956
Ancillary trading income	1,352,601	1,352,601
Entrance fees	11,190	11,190
	<u>12,852,747</u>	<u>12,852,747</u>
	<u><u>12,852,747</u></u>	<u><u>12,852,747</u></u>
	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
School fee income	11,162,468	11,162,468
Ancillary trading income	1,432,984	1,432,984
Entrance fees	21,225	21,225
	<u>12,616,677</u>	<u>12,616,677</u>
	<u><u>12,616,677</u></u>	<u><u>12,616,677</u></u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

4. Income from charitable activities (continued)

	2025	2024
	£	£
School fee income		
Gross fees	12,642,807	12,178,917
Less: Total bursaries, scholarships, allowances and discounts	(1,436,640)	(1,320,234)
Add: Bursaries paid from restricted funds	282,788	294,840
	11,488,955	11,153,523

5. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Rent and hire of school facilities	48,965	48,965
Hire of sports hall	33,097	33,097
Other	13,077	13,077
Educational partnership	40,000	40,000
	135,139	135,139

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Teacher release	320	320
Rent and hire of school facilities	18,798	18,798
Hire of sports hall	47,004	47,004
Other	6,711	6,711
Educational partnership	20,000	20,000
	92,833	92,833

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HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

6. Investment income

	Endowment funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Investment income	10,694	14,361	285,380	310,435
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<i>Endowment funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Investment income	10,665	15,460	40,903	67,028
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

7. Expenditure on raising funds

Costs of raising voluntary income

	Endowment funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Management fees	5,994	6,957	-	12,951
Generating donations - wages and salaries	-	-	70,249	70,249
Generating donations - NI	-	-	6,597	6,597
Generating donations - pension costs	-	-	6,112	6,112
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,994	6,957	82,958	95,909
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<i>Endowment funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Management fees	5,485	8,569	-	14,054
Generating donations - wages and salaries	-	-	104,120	104,120
Generating donations - NI	-	-	9,348	9,348
Generating donations - pension costs	-	-	9,059	9,059
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,485	8,569	122,527	136,581
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

8. Financing costs

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Fees in advance discount	166,849	166,849
Loan interest	91,031	91,031
	<u>257,880</u>	<u>257,880</u>
	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Fees in advance discount	19,900	19,900
Loan interest	124,038	124,038
	<u>143,938</u>	<u>143,938</u>

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Charitable activities	11,053,958	725,584	11,779,542
School trips and activities	326,250	-	326,250
	<u>11,380,208</u>	<u>725,584</u>	<u>12,105,792</u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2024 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Charitable activities	11,110,268	804,684	11,914,952
School trips and activities	466,538	-	466,538
	<u>11,576,806</u>	<u>804,684</u>	<u>12,381,490</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Activities 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Staff costs	407,555	407,555
Legal and professional fees	52,695	52,695
Insurance	142,202	142,202
Advertising and marketing	58,097	58,097
Other support costs	65,035	65,035
	<u>725,584</u>	<u>725,584</u>

	<i>Activities 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	416,124	416,124
Legal and professional fees	98,133	98,133
Insurance	137,136	137,136
Advertising and marketing	40,300	40,300
Other support costs	112,991	112,991
	<u>804,684</u>	<u>804,684</u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

10. Net income/expenditure

	2025	2024
	£	£
Fees payable to the School's auditor for the audit of the School's annual accounts	21,080	24,456
Fees payable to the School's auditor in respect of:		
All non-audit services not included above	17,908	9,144
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>
 Depreciation	 620,899	 650,801
Operating lease rentals - land and building	326,034	325,476
Operating lease rentals - equipment	23,829	106,078
	<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

11. Staff costs

	Group	Group	School	School
	2025	2024	2025	2024
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	6,103,182	6,146,894	6,103,182	6,146,894
Social security costs	631,147	577,204	631,147	577,204
Pension contributions	1,015,315	967,763	1,015,315	967,763
	<u><u>7,749,644</u></u>	<u><u>7,691,861</u></u>	<u><u>7,749,644</u></u>	<u><u>7,691,861</u></u>

The Headmaster, Head of Junior School and Bursar are considered to be the key management personnel, along with the Senior Leadership Team. Aggregate employee-benefits of key management personnel totaled £1,023,157 during the year (2024: £1,025,178).

During the year, there were termination payments made which amounted to £15,000 (2024: £82,273). None were outstanding at the year-end (2024: £Nil).

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

	Group	Group
	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Teaching and teaching support	133	138
Administration	39	37
Domestic and maintenance	50	49
	<u><u>222</u></u>	<u><u>224</u></u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

11. Staff costs (continued)

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

	Group 2025 No.	<i>Group 2024 No.</i>
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	2
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	-
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	-	-
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	1	1

12. Governors' remuneration and expenses

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

During the year ended 31 July 2025, £1,344 of Governor expenses have been incurred (2024 - £NIL).

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

Group

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold property £	Short-term leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 August 2024	6,219,653	4,077,036	900,460	2,637,619	13,834,768
Additions	-	106,831	-	138,284	245,115
Disposals	-	(912)	-	(61,225)	(62,137)
Transfers between classes	(108,118)	77,650	-	30,468	-
At 31 July 2025	6,111,535	4,260,605	900,460	2,745,146	14,017,746
Depreciation					
At 1 August 2024	436,448	1,680,460	523,793	1,870,713	4,511,414
Charge for the year	126,911	140,012	37,318	316,662	620,903
On disposals	-	-	-	(50,825)	(50,825)
At 31 July 2025	563,359	1,820,472	561,111	2,136,550	5,081,492
Net book value					
At 31 July 2025	5,548,176	2,440,133	339,349	608,596	8,936,254
At 31 July 2024	5,783,205	2,396,576	376,667	766,906	9,323,354

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

13. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

School

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold property £	Short-term leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 August 2024	6,219,654	4,077,035	900,460	2,357,123	13,554,272
Additions	-	106,831	-	138,284	245,115
Disposals	-	(912)	-	(61,225)	(62,137)
Transfers between classes	(108,118)	77,650	-	30,468	-
At 31 July 2025	6,111,536	4,260,604	900,460	2,464,650	13,737,250
Depreciation					
At 1 August 2024	436,448	1,680,460	523,997	1,697,406	4,338,311
Charge for the year	126,911	140,012	37,318	295,180	599,421
On disposals	-	-	-	(50,825)	(50,825)
At 31 July 2025	563,359	1,820,472	561,315	1,941,761	4,886,907
Net book value					
At 31 July 2025	5,548,177	2,440,132	339,145	522,889	8,850,343
At 31 July 2024	5,783,206	2,396,575	376,463	659,717	9,215,961

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

14. Fixed asset investments

Group	Philpotts Educational Charity £	Music Bursary Fund £	Bursary Fund £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 August 2024	689,204	412,585	371,634	1,473,423
Additions	97,099	490,552	220,948	808,599
Disposals	(95,568)	(522,276)	(216,084)	(833,928)
Revaluations	34,574	(5,464)	20,103	49,213
Movement in cash	3,169	21,780	(3,524)	21,425
At 31 July 2025	<u>728,478</u>	<u>397,177</u>	<u>393,077</u>	<u>1,518,732</u>
Net book value				
At 31 July 2025	<u>728,478</u>	<u>397,177</u>	<u>393,077</u>	<u>1,518,732</u>
At 31 July 2024	<u>689,204</u>	<u>412,585</u>	<u>371,634</u>	<u>1,473,423</u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

14. Fixed asset investments (continued)

School	Investments in subsidiary companies £	Philpotts Educational Charity £	Music Bursary Fund £	Bursary Fund £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 August 2024	2	689,204	412,585	371,634	1,473,425
Additions	-	97,099	490,552	220,948	808,599
Disposals	-	(95,568)	(522,276)	(216,084)	(833,928)
Revaluations	-	34,574	(5,464)	20,103	49,213
Movement in cash	-	3,169	21,780	(3,524)	21,425
At 31 July 2025	<u>2</u>	<u>728,478</u>	<u>397,177</u>	<u>393,077</u>	<u>1,518,734</u>
Net book value					
At 31 July 2025	<u>2</u>	<u>728,478</u>	<u>397,177</u>	<u>393,077</u>	<u>1,518,734</u>
At 31 July 2024	<u>2</u>	<u>689,204</u>	<u>412,585</u>	<u>371,634</u>	<u>1,473,425</u>

Included within the Group's Fixed Assets investments is cash held of £126,717 (2024: £40,555).

Principal subsidiaries

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the School:

Name	Class of shares	Holding	Included in consolidation
HCS Educational Services Limited	Ordinary	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

Name	Income £	Expenditure £	Profit/(Loss) / Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year £	Net liabilities £
HCS Educational Services Limited	141,565	(118,848)	22,717	(109,167)

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

15. Debtors

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	School 2025 £	School 2024 £
Due within one year				
School fees	216,810	94,673	216,810	64,673
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	100,067	119,723
Other debtors	28,829	13,080	28,829	11,197
Prepayments and accrued income	139,581	143,394	139,581	139,288
School fee extras	67,717	51,236	67,717	51,236
	452,937	302,383	553,004	386,117

Amounts owed by subsidiary are stated after impairment provisions totalling £109,163 (2024: £131,882).

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £	School 2025 £	School 2024 £
Bank loans	56,762	254,765	56,762	254,765
Advance fee payments	2,118,335	2,445,350	2,118,335	2,445,350
Trade creditors	121,580	171,282	121,580	171,282
Registration deposits	185,605	227,237	185,605	227,237
Other taxation and social security	149,846	141,604	149,846	141,604
Other creditors	265,105	97,384	265,105	97,384
Accruals and deferred income	221,284	551,943	212,175	505,007
	3,118,517	3,889,565	3,109,408	3,842,629

	Group 2025 £	Group 2024 £
Deferred income at 1 August 2024	242,161	250,917
Resources deferred during the year	147,338	242,161
Amounts released from previous periods	(242,161)	(250,917)
	147,338	242,161

Deferred income comprises of overseas tuition fees paid in advance of the start of term.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>	School 2025 £	<i>School 2024 £</i>
Bank loans	1,569,895	<i>1,876,250</i>	1,569,895	<i>1,876,250</i>
Fees in advance	3,021,994	<i>4,926,519</i>	3,021,994	<i>4,926,519</i>
	<u>4,591,889</u>	<i><u>6,802,769</u></i>	<u>4,591,889</u>	<i><u>6,802,769</u></i>

Advance fee payments due in more than 1 year include £1,255,610 (2024: £1,807,011) that is due between 1 and 2 years, £1,469,376 (2024: £2,544,049) that is due between 2 and 5 years and £297,009 (2024: £575,458) that is due after more than 5 years. Amounts received and deferred during the year were £614,279 (2024: £7,315,924) with amounts utilised in the year of £2,612,809 (2024: £352,834) and capital repaid of £233,009 (2024: £Nil).

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>	School 2025 £	<i>School 2024 £</i>
Between one and two years				
Bank loans	<u>58,917</u>	<i><u>256,354</u></i>	<u>58,917</u>	<i><u>256,354</u></i>
Between two and five years				
Bank loans	<u>194,217</u>	<i><u>235,636</u></i>	<u>194,217</u>	<i><u>235,636</u></i>
Over five years				
Bank loans	<u>1,316,761</u>	<i><u>1,384,260</u></i>	<u>1,316,761</u>	<i><u>1,384,260</u></i>

Bank loan is being repaid by instalments as follows:

- 12 monthly instalments at a fixed rate of 4.34% per annum, after an initial interest-only period which ended in July 2020. The loan matures on 30th June 2044.

The bank loan is secured by first legal charges over Nos. 28 and 31 Castle Street, St. David's Hall Hereford, Quay House & Wilmot House.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

18. Financial instruments

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>	School 2025 £	<i>School 2024 £</i>
Financial assets				
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	1,518,732	<i>1,473,424</i>	1,518,734	<i>1,473,426</i>
	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>	School 2025 £	<i>School 2024 £</i>
Financial liabilities				
Other financial liabilities measured at fair value through income and expenditure	(2,272,893)	<i>(2,936,700)</i>	(2,263,951)	<i>(2,936,700)</i>

Financial assets held at fair value include assets held as investments.

Financial liabilities include loans, fee deposits, trade creditors, other creditors and accruals.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

19. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 August 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 July 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Outreach Music	24,131	14,573	(8,889)	-	-	29,815
Cantabile	4,202	-	-	-	-	4,202
	<u>28,333</u>	<u>14,573</u>	<u>(8,889)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,017</u>
General funds						
General Funds	6,311,983	13,275,858	(12,131,725)	10,694	-	7,466,810
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>6,340,316</u>	<u>13,290,431</u>	<u>(12,140,614)</u>	<u>10,694</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,500,827</u>
Endowment funds						
Philpotts - Preserved value	158,277	-	-	6,015	-	164,292
Philpotts - Unapplied total return	487,482	10,694	(5,994)	(16,709)	34,574	510,047
	<u>645,759</u>	<u>10,694</u>	<u>(5,994)</u>	<u>(10,694)</u>	<u>34,574</u>	<u>674,339</u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 August 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 July 2025 £
Restricted funds						
Old Herefordian Bursary Fund	-	160,000	(160,000)	-	-	-
Charitable Bursary Fund	696,918	29,932	(4,016)	-	20,103	742,937
Music Bursary Fund	425,756	9,004	(28,589)	-	(5,464)	400,707
Friends Bursary Fund	197,119	8,990	-	-	-	206,109
Other Bursary Funds	73,410	125,140	(120,368)	-	-	78,182
Rowing Fund	1,105	-	-	-	-	1,105
	<u>1,394,308</u>	<u>333,066</u>	<u>(312,973)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,639</u>	<u>1,429,040</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>8,380,383</u></u>	<u><u>13,634,191</u></u>	<u><u>(12,459,581)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>49,213</u></u>	<u><u>9,604,206</u></u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

19. Statement of funds (continued)

The income on restricted funds comprised donations received during the current academic year.

a. The Old Herefordian Bursary Fund includes donations of £160,000 from The Old Herefordian Fund which contribute to the costs of scholarships and bursaries.

b. The source of the Charitable Bursary Fund is the donation of bursary fund contributions paid by parents when their child starts at Hereford Cathedral School. The purpose of the Charitable Bursary Fund is to make the School accessible to pupils who would not otherwise be able to access education at an independent school. The governors consider that giving access in this way fits with the ethos of the School, and is appropriate to a school which has close links to the church.

c. In 2011 the School was given a £325,000 legacy from the estates of two generous benefactors. The legacy stipulated that it should be used for a musical purpose. The governors decided that the legacy would be used to provide assistance for musically gifted children who would not otherwise be in a position to attend the School.

d. A Friends Bursary Fund has been set up which is intended to support the development of bursaries for talented pupils from families who would not be able to afford the fees. Funds are received in the form of donations made by friends of the School.

e. Other bursary funds are other small donations restricted for use towards school bursaries.

f. The rowing fund is used to support the rowing activities of the School.

Endowment funds

The Philpotts Educational Charity was originally established as a Scholarship Fund but under a Ministry of Education Order of 1947. the Scheme was varied to allow income to be used for the benefit of the School generally. The School operates a policy of total return on its Endowment Funds and the School extracts the dividend income and investment management fees each year. This totals £6,015 (2024: £5,180) and can be seen as a transfer on the Statement of Financial Activities from Endowment Funds to Unrestricted Funds.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	<i>Balance at 1 August 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 July 2024 £</i>
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
SAS Support Fund	52,331	-	(52,331)	-	-	-
Outreach Music	25,271	11,077	(12,217)	-	-	24,131
Cantabile	4,632	-	(430)	-	-	4,202
	<u>82,234</u>	<u>11,077</u>	<u>(64,978)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,333</u>
General funds						
General Funds	5,582,013	12,739,336	(12,271,163)	261,797	-	6,311,983
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>5,664,247</u>	<u>12,750,413</u>	<u>(12,336,141)</u>	<u>261,797</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,340,316</u>
Endowment funds						
Philpotts - Preserved value	154,417	-	-	3,860	-	158,277
Philpotts - Unapplied total return	434,470	10,665	(5,485)	(14,082)	61,914	487,482
	<u>588,887</u>	<u>10,665</u>	<u>(5,485)</u>	<u>(10,222)</u>	<u>61,914</u>	<u>645,759</u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 August 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 July 2024 £</i>
Restricted funds						
Old Herefordian Bursary Fund	-	150,000	(150,000)	-	-	-
Charitable Bursary Fund	626,521	44,102	(3,650)	-	29,945	696,918
Music Bursary Fund	411,806	10,584	(18,961)	-	22,327	425,756
Friends Bursary Fund	178,023	19,096	-	-	-	197,119
Other Bursary Funds	78,356	394,401	(147,772)	(251,575)	-	73,410
Rowing Fund	1,105	-	-	-	-	1,105
	<u>1,295,811</u>	<u>618,183</u>	<u>(320,383)</u>	<u>(251,575)</u>	<u>52,272</u>	<u>1,394,308</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>7,548,945</u></u>	<u><u>13,379,261</u></u>	<u><u>(12,662,009)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>114,186</u></u>	<u><u>8,380,383</u></u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

20. Summary of funds

Summary of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 August 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 July 2025 £
Designated funds	28,333	14,573	(8,889)	-	-	34,017
General funds	6,311,983	13,275,858	(12,131,725)	10,694	-	7,466,810
Endowment funds	645,759	10,694	(5,994)	(10,694)	34,574	674,339
Restricted funds	1,394,308	333,066	(312,973)	-	14,639	1,429,040
	<u>8,380,383</u>	<u>13,634,191</u>	<u>(12,459,581)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>49,213</u>	<u>9,604,206</u>

Summary of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 August 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 July 2024 £
Designated funds	82,234	11,077	(64,978)	-	-	28,333
General funds	5,582,013	12,739,336	(12,271,163)	261,797	-	6,311,983
Endowment funds	588,887	10,665	(5,485)	(10,222)	61,914	645,759
Restricted funds	1,295,811	618,183	(320,383)	(251,575)	52,272	1,394,308
	<u>7,548,945</u>	<u>13,379,261</u>	<u>(12,662,009)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>114,186</u>	<u>8,380,383</u>

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

21. Statement of funds (School)

	Balance as at 1 August 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in/out	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance as at 31 July 2025
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds						
Outreach Music	24,131	14,573	(8,889)	-	-	29,815
Cantabile	4,202					4,202
	28,333	14,573	(8,889)	-	-	34,017
General funds						
General funds	6,348,147	12,971,841	(11,863,872)	10,694	-	7,466,810
Total Unrestricted funds	6,376,480	12,986,414	(11,872,761)	10,694	-	7,500,827
Endowment funds						
Philpotts - Preserves value	158,277	-	-	6,015	-	164,292
Philpotts - Unapplied total return	487,482	10,694	(5,994)	(16,709)	34,574	510,047
	645,759	10,694	(5,994)	(10,694)	34,574	674,339
Restricted funds						
Old Herefordian Bursary Fund	-	160,000	(160,000)	-	-	-
Charitable Bursary Fund	669,701	57,159	(4,016)	-	20,103	742,947
Music Bursary Fund	425,756	9,004	(28,589)	-	(5,464)	400,707
Friends Bursary Fund	197,119	8,990	-	-	-	206,109
Other Bursary Funds	73,400	125,140	(120,368)	-	-	78,172
Rowing Fund	1,105	-	-	-	-	1,105
	1,367,081	360,293	(312,973)	-	14,639	1,429,040
Total of funds	8,389,320	13,357,401	(12,191,728)	-	49,213	9,604,206

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

Statement of funds (School) - prior year

	<i>Balance as at 1 August 2023</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance as at 31 July 2024</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds						
SAS Support Fund	52,331	-	(52,331)	-	-	-
Outreach Music	25,271	11,077	(12,217)	-	-	24,131
Cantabile	4,632	-	(430)	-	-	4,202
	82,234	11,077	(64,978)	-	-	28,333
General funds						
General funds	5,593,363	12,476,357	(12,001,642)	280,069	-	6,348,147
Total Unrestricted funds	5,675,597	12,487,434	(12,066,620)	280,069	-	6,376,480
Endowment funds						
Philpotts - Preserves value	154,417	-	-	3,860	-	158,277
Philpotts - Unapplied total return	439,685	10,665	(5,485)	(19,297)	61,914	487,482
	594,102	10,665	(5,485)	(15,437)	61,914	645,759
Restricted funds						
Old Herefordian Bursary Fund	-	150,000	(150,000)	-	-	-
Charitable Bursary Fund	612,361	44,102	(3,650)	(13,057)	29,945	669,701
Music Bursary Fund	411,806	10,584	(18,961)	-	22,327	425,756
Friends Bursary Fund	178,023	19,096	-	-	-	197,119
Other Bursary Funds	78,356	144,401	(147,782)	(1,575)	-	73,400
Byre House Fund	-	250,000	-	(250,000)	-	-
Rowing Fund	1,105	-	-	-	-	1,105
	1,281,651	618,183	(320,393)	(264,632)	52,272	1,367,081
Total of funds	7,551,350	13,116,282	(12,392,498)	-	114,186	8,389,320

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Endowment funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,936,254	8,936,254
Fixed asset investments	728,478	790,254	-	1,518,732
Current assets	-	638,786	6,220,840	6,859,626
Creditors due within one year	(54,139)	-	(3,064,378)	(3,118,517)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(4,591,889)	(4,591,889)
Total	674,339	1,429,040	7,500,827	9,604,206

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Endowment funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,323,354	9,323,354
Fixed asset investments	689,204	784,219	-	1,473,423
Current assets	-	610,089	7,665,851	8,275,940
Creditors due within one year	(43,445)	-	(3,846,120)	(3,889,565)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(6,802,769)	(6,802,769)
Total	645,759	1,394,308	6,340,316	8,380,383

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

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

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	1,223,823	831,438
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	620,899	650,801
Gain on investments	(49,213)	(114,186)
Dividends, interests and rents from investments	(219,406)	57,010
Increase in debtors	(150,554)	(1,189)
(Decrease)Increase in creditors	(246,031)	112,070
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,179,518	1,535,944

24. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>
Cash in hand	6,406,689	7,973,557
Total cash and cash equivalents	6,406,689	7,973,557

As at 31 July 2025, the school's standalone cash balance amounted to £6,383,422 (2024: £7,959,215).

25. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 August 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 July 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	7,973,557	(1,566,868)	-	6,406,689
Debt due within 1 year	(482,002)	545,990	(306,355)	(242,367)
Debt due after 1 year	(1,876,250)	-	306,355	(1,569,895)
	5,615,305	(1,020,878)	-	4,594,427

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

26. Capital commitments

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>
The Group and the School had the following contracted capital commitments:		
Capital commitments	92,677	<i>140,341</i>

27. Pension commitments

Defined contribution scheme

The School operates defined contribution schemes for teaching and non-teaching staff. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the company in a fund independently administered by HBOS, Nest and Aviva. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the company to these funds and amounted to £437,911 (2024: £420,684). The Aviva scheme was opened on 1 January 2021 to all teaching staff, and is a defined contribution scheme offered as an alternative to the Teachers Pension Scheme.

Defined benefit scheme

The School participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £577,402 (2024: £547,079) and at the year-end £116,148 (2024: £90,683) was accrued in respect of contributions to these schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended) and The Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set by the Secretary of State following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary's Department. The most recent actuarial valuation of the TPS was prepared as at 31 March 2020 and the Valuation Report was published in October 2023. The Valuation Report shows notional assets of £222.2bn and liabilities of £262bn, resulting in a scheme deficit of £39.8bn.

The employer contribution rate for the TPS is 28.6%, and employers are also required to pay a scheme administration levy of 0.08% giving a total employer contribution rate of 28.68%.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

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

28. Operating lease commitments

At 31 July 2025 the Group and the School had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	Group 2025 £	<i>Group 2024 £</i>
Not later than 1 year	347,849	357,651
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,328,020	1,278,976
Later than 5 years	8,739,275	9,054,019
	<u>10,415,144</u>	<u>10,690,646</u>

29. Related party transactions

A number of governors have, or did have, children who are educated at the School. All fees are paid under normal terms. 4 governors also have spouses employed by the school, under normal contractual terms.

Governors made donations of £Nil to the school towards bursary funds (2024: £2,630).

The Old Herefordian Fund (charity number: 504119) is a charity in which J Sheldon, a governor at the School, is also a trustee. The Old Herefordian Fund contributed £170,485 (2024: £150,000) towards the cost of scholarships and bursaries. This contribution is given for this specific purpose and is therefore categorised as a restricted donation. During the year £191,244 (2024: £173,159) of rent was paid to the Old Herefordian fund.