

**Registered number: 00480293**

**Charity number: 528076**

**Newcastle Diocesan Education Board**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Unaudited**

**Annual report**

**31 December 2024**

**Newcastle Diocesan Education Board**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and administrative details  
Year ended 31 December 2024

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Directors	Ex Officio The Bishop of Newcastle - Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley Reverend Dr Gill Alexander, Chair The Very Reverend Lee Batson, Vice Chair Reverend D R Cleugh (resigned 31 December 2024) Reverend G R Curry (resigned 31 December 2024) Ms B Fryer (appointed 1 January 2025) Mr A Hardie (appointed 1 January 2025) Professor Gary Holmes Reverend J Lacey (appointed 1 January 2025) Reverend S Lockhead (appointed 1 January 2025) Ms K Massey (appointed 1 January 2025) Reverend J McGowan (resigned 31 December 2024) Reverend P H Pearson Mr R Restall Mrs D Robertson (resigned 31 December 2024) Ms R Simpson (appointed 1 January 2025) Professor Lesley Twomey (resigned 31 December 2024)
Company registered number	00480293
Charity registered number	528076
Registered office	Church House St John's Terrace Percy Main North Shields Tyne & Wear NE29 6HS
Company secretary	Mr D Akers (appointed 1 January 2025)
Bankers	Barclays Bank PLC
Solicitors	Muckle LLP

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Directors' report

Year ended 31 December 2024

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

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

## Legal objects

### Policies and objectives

NDEB aims to promote, facilitate and assist the work and purposes of the Church of England in education across the Diocese of Newcastle and elsewhere. NDEB's principal objects, set out in the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure, are:

- The promotion of education in the Diocese, consistent with the faith and practice of the Church of England.
- The promotion of religious education and religious worship in (all) schools.
- The promotion of Church schools in the Diocese and provision of advice to their Governors.
- The promotion of co-operation between the Board and bodies concerned in any respect with education in the Diocese.

The NDEB Articles were updated by special resolution of the Members in December 2021 (effective from 4th March 2022 following Charity Commission consent) to reflect the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 2021 and additional objects to those above set out in the new Articles are:-

- To promote or assist in the promotion of children and youth work in the Diocese that is consistent with the faith and practice of the Church,
- To promote co-operation between itself and other persons concerned with children and youth work in the Diocese, and
- To carry out the functions assigned to the Charity by the Measure.

As far as schools are concerned NDEB is mainly concerned with matters to do with Church of England schools, but as part of the established Church, and its duty to promote education and co-operation between bodies involved in education it also seeks to contribute where it can to the development of all schools especially, but not only, in matters of religious education and collective worship.

The company was formed to provide support for the 49 Church of England schools across the Diocese. The strategic priorities of the company are established by NDEB in communication with Diocesan Synod, Deanery Synod, and the Bishop of Newcastle. To this end, significant time and effort is committed to communication between and with these bodies, as well as the National Church of England Education Office.

NDEB's strategy for achieving its objectives is to develop financial structures to enable it to provide enough staff and resources to support the Church of England schools in the Diocese. To assist with this NDEB offers a Partnering Agreement (PA) to Church of England schools in the Diocese.

The directors are aware of the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in The Advancement of Religion for the Public Benefit and have had regard to it in their administration of NDEB. The directors believe that, by promoting the work of the Church of England in the Diocese of Newcastle, NDEB helps to promote the whole

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

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## Directors' report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Legal objects (continued)

mission of the Church (pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical) more effectively, both in the Diocese as a whole and in its individual parishes and schools, and that in doing so it provides a benefit to the public by:

- Providing facilities for public worship, pastoral care and spiritual, moral and intellectual development, both for its members and for anyone who wishes to benefit from what the Church offers; and
- Promoting Christian values, and service by members of the Church in and to their communities, to the benefit of individuals and society as a whole; and
- Providing a service to the whole community, not just the Christian constituency. All children are welcome in the Church of England schools in the diocese, including children of all faiths and none; and
- Providing schools that are places of education, not proselytism, offering opportunities for young people to make the most of their inherent potential, and so make a contribution to the society of which they are a part. Comparisons with national Ofsted ratings show that in aggregate the C of E schools in Newcastle Diocese are performing well above national averages.

### Activities and achievements in the year

#### National education landscape and implications

The UK education system saw significant changes in 2024, including a 5.5% pay award for teachers and support staff, updated attendance guidance, a new focus on school attendance, and the launch of a curriculum and assessment review. A new bill, the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, aimed to improve safeguarding and raise educational standards.

#### Teacher Pay and Funding:

- A 5.5% above-inflation pay award was announced for September 2024, applying to all maintained schools and academies, funded by a new core schools budget grant (CSBG).
- The CSBG provided almost £1.1 billion to support schools with overall costs, particularly following the teacher pay award.

#### School Attendance and Safeguarding:

- Updated attendance guidance applied from August 2024, with increased fines for unauthorized absences.
- The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill aims to improve safeguarding in schools and care institutions.
- The bill also includes changes to the right to home educate, with local authorities able to intervene if they deem the home environment unsuitable.

#### Curriculum and Assessment:

- The government launched a wide-ranging Curriculum and Assessment Review, chaired by Professor Becky Francis, to look at challenges to attainment for young people.
- The review will focus on improving the curriculum and assessment standards across all key stages.
- A new Advanced British Standard qualification is being developed, bringing together the best aspects of A Levels and T Levels.

#### Other Notable Changes:

- The national professional qualification (NPQ) for SENCOs will be a requirement from September 2024, replacing the current NASENCo award.
- Mainstream schools are expected to deliver a 32.5-hour week from September 2024.
- The Education and Skills Funding Agency is being closed in March 2025, with its functions being brought into the Department for Education.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

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## Directors' report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Activities and achievements in the year (continued)

#### Operations and staffing

With effect from 1 September 2023, the work of the Joint Education Team (JET) was moved into a new joint venture with Durham Diocesan Board of Finance (DDBF). NDEB continues to guide and fund the work of the JET in relation to Newcastle schools, in line with its charitable objectives. There has been a lot of change within the JET over the course of the last year. We successfully appointed a new Diocesan Director of Education (DDE) following a 2nd advertising and application process and they took up post on 1st January 2025. The current interim director will be retained as a special consultant on one day a week. A new assistant director was also appointed and started on 1st September 2024. Following the retirement of Eileen Bell, a full-time administration assistant was brought into to support the team. DBE services were also brought in to support the building work across our VA schools and, although in its infancy, has proved to be a very effective partnership that we hope to build on in future years. The financial team is working well within the JET but a new finance manager will be required as we move into the new year due to current workload.

We have still been able to retain a full-time RE Adviser and this post continues to be supported by the St Hild and St Bede Trust in order to further enhance RE provision in all of our 106 schools across both dioceses, as well as support the teaching of RE through the RE Network. We also continue to support RE across all schools in the region by supporting Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) across the 10 LAs.

100% of schools across both Newcastle and Durham Dioceses have bought into the Partnering Agreement and attendance to the diocesan CPD programme is strong.

#### Achievements and work with communities

Professional development courses are made available both online and in person, and cover a wide range of subjects and topics, including termly support for chairs of governors and ex-officio governors, and termly training for new foundation governors. In addition, the spring conference (Early Years Foundation Stage), the annual summer conference (Spirituality and Well-Being) and the autumn conference (Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice - EDIJ) were extremely well attended with delegates from both church and community schools, as well as both internal and external speakers. This year, the team has further supported schools and governors with the SIAMS framework, including exploration of what spirituality means in each context and the role of governance within this. Thrive training, Poverty Proofing, Courageous Advocacy, Christian Distinctiveness and subject leadership courses have also been offered. Uptake is strong for all aspects of continuous professional development (CPD) with many courses being repeated due to demand. The team has also accessed CPD, including training on Mental Health and Well-Being, Safeguarding, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and SIAMS and Ofsted updates. Surveys are completed at the end of each course with overwhelmingly positive comments regarding the support from the Joint Education Team, for example:

- "I find it useful because it helps me to fulfil my role within school. Both new information and revision of things I already know are helpful and they give me further motivation to make more changes in school." (HT colleague)
- "Excellent examples to support subject knowledge and approach to teaching religions as diverse, living faiths." (Teacher of RE)
- "It gave me a greater understanding of the role of courageous advocacy in schools and enlightened me in how this could be effectively implemented in school." (Governor)

The work of the Joint Education Team has also been acknowledged in many external reports, for example:

- "Positive partnerships with the local church, diocese and local community, enhance the flourishing of all within the school." (SIAMS Feb 24)
- "School leaders and academy councillors have a clear ambition for all pupils to be ready for the next stage of their learning. They have made effective use of the support offered by the trust and the diocese." (Ofsted Feb 24)

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## Directors' report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

### Activities and achievements in the year (continued)

- “RE has an exceptionally high status in school. As a result, pupils are well equipped to understand others and thrive in our richly diverse world. Leadership of RE is highly effective. It is rooted in an understanding of pupils needs and of the profile of the community.. "Strong partnership work and impactful training with the diocese ensures staff expertise is developed.” (Ofsted Jan 24)
- “The school’s partnership with the diocese and local authority has improved staff’s subject expertise and curriculum development” (Ofsted June 24)
- “Active partnerships with the local diocese and clergy strengthen staff confidence in RE. Professional development opportunities and investment in new resources extend adults' knowledge and positively impact on the effectiveness of the curriculum.” (SIAMS Feb 24)

The DDE has also attended Bishop’s Staff, Diocesan Synod and Bishop’s Council, sharing the views of school leaders and pupils, as well as national DDE conferences focusing on SEND and Inclusion. Current challenges for schools revolve around closing the achievement gap, particularly in Early Years where the gap between disadvantaged pupils and non-disadvantaged has widened, poverty, EDIJ, recruitment and retention of staff, and improving attendance, particularly for disadvantaged pupils. In addition, the Interim Director of Education has represented education on the Diocese of Durham’s Net Zero Working Group (NZWG) who have produced a strategic action plan to enable all voluntary aided schools to move towards being carbon neutral by 2030. Linked to this, there is ongoing work to support governors with Church School buildings issues and on the legal processes and land issues involved in academisation of schools. Finally, the Director of Education has represented the team at the NE Anti-Racist Coalition which was formed after the national riots in the summer of 2024.

The team work closely with the National Society to support leadership and management across all phases of church school education.

- The board have considered the workload and well-being of the team.
- The Interim Director has represented the diocese with ESFA to look for funding for rural schools in the summer term.
- The board have engaged external building surveyors to audit all of the voluntary aided schools across the diocese and have brought in DBE Services to assist in this work
- We continue to work with schools and trustees of endowment funds linked to schools in relation to land and charity law issues
- We continue to work with schools who are now within our MATs, or wish to join MATs – including community schools.
- We work with school cluster groups to support networking and discussion between Church Head Teachers.
- Our team have worked in several community schools to support standards and achievements.
- We are regularly asked by schools to broker services for them which are fit for purpose and cost effective.
- We are working in several locations with regards to ‘shared leadership’ which involves bring communities closer together.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

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## Directors' report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Activities and achievements in the year (continued)

#### Other related parties

Transactions within the main categories of related parties are identified in appropriate places throughout the financial statements. Where materiality of the transactions merits more detailed disclosure this is given in note 18 to the financial statements. Other related parties include:-

- The Joint Education Team LLP. The NDEB is a partner alongside the Durham Diocesan Board of Finance and jointly employs the JET staff team.
- The Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance (NDBF) works closely with NDEB and the two charities are companies within the Newcastle Diocesan framework. They share the same registered office and some directors serve on both boards.
- The Durham Diocesan Board of Finance (DDBF) is a neighbour to the south of Newcastle. NDEB and the DDBF have continued to work closely together and they now jointly employ 9 members of staff with JET LLP. A common pool of SIAMS inspectors has been established and joint training for them continues as does in-service training (Inset) on religious education and school worship for staff and training for clergy on ways to work with schools.
- The Church of England Pensions Board, to which NDEB pays retirement benefit contributions for employees.

#### Future plans

The new DDE will begin work around a renewed vision and focus for the JET, gathering stakeholder views and establishing areas of priority for the team.

Work of the Jet LLP will continue to focus on the move to a two-tier system in the Berwick partnership area in Northumberland. The consultation is now over and the focus will be on the architectural challenges to ensure that all of the First Schools are ready to welcome in an additional class in September 2025 and another the following year as they become primary schools. There will also be a need to support the schools with the development of the Y5 and Y6 curriculum.

Work will continue to be done to support schools and in particular Head Teachers' wellbeing in the current challenging period for the sector as they face increased parental complaints, significant financial challenges as a result of falling pupil numbers and increased costs for staff pay rises, a rise in SEN and behavioural issues and limited alternative and special provision.

Further work will continue to support schools on the 2024-25 and the 2025-26 SIAMS "likely to be inspected" list. One significant challenge is falling rolls, particularly across Northumberland and the impact this could have on our Tiny and Rural schools in particular.

Finally, the challenges in recruitment, including governance, remains. The board will need to consider how best to support schools where there are vacancies in parishes and where schools have Foundation Governor vacancies. Within this, there will also be a need to support trusts through CPD, both CE and Mixed MATs, as they grow in order to protect the distinctiveness of our church schools within the wider landscape and to ensure that they keep their church identity.



# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

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## Directors' report (continued) Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Financial review

#### Financial performance

Overall income has decreased by £244,265 to £78,956 compared to 2023.

Unrestricted income decreased by £215,039 mainly due to the transfer of operations to JET LLP.

The current level of unrestricted funds, amounts to £382,474 (2023: £82,352) and represent investments of £200,000 (2023: £200,000) plus cash and current assets of £182,474 (2023: -£117,648) as detailed in note 17 to the financial statements. Trustees are aware a further transfer of funds from reserves will be necessary in order to meet all of its financial obligations during the coming year which includes supporting the work of the Joint Education Team LLP.

There was a unrestricted deficit for the year of £239,977 against a budgeted deficit of £xxx. The budget covers only the Unrestricted Fund, the Section Fund and the comparison to budget is made without the inclusion of yearend gains on investments. Overall NDEB has met all of its financial obligations to continue resourcing educational needs across the Diocesan schools.

#### Investment performance

Investments are held in general, section and special purposes funds. The total value of investments, excluding short-term cash deposits, at 31st December 2024 was £1,895,849 (2023: £2,243,381). Investments decreased by £347,532 overall which includes net disposals of £385,679 and revaluations of £38,147

#### Balance sheet position

Funds per the balance sheet show an overall reduction of £276,679. This is the combined impact of a gain on investments less overall net expenditure in the year.

#### Reserves policy

##### *Free reserves*

The Board needs to keep a certain level of reserves as protection against unexpected fluctuations in income, to assist at certain times of the year with cash flow, and to allow the Board to operate to fulfil its charitable objects. NDEB also aims to hold sufficient funds to cover six months operating costs. It is therefore the Board's policy to hold a total of at least £100,000 in reserves to satisfy this requirement. At December 2024 the unrestricted reserves were higher than the minimum level required by this policy (£382k).

##### *Restricted reserves*

As set out in note 16 NDEB holds and administers a large number of restricted funds. As at 31st December 2024 restricted funds totalled £1,848,316 (2023: £2,425,117). These funds are not available for the general purposes of the NDEB although income can be expended on provision of advice and guidance, SIAMS inspections and staff costs. A transfer of £540,099 was made in 2024 to cover these costs within JET LLP.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

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## Directors' report (continued) Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Investment policy

The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the charity permit wide powers of investment. The investment policy of NDEB is based on the overall investment objective of achieving a balanced return with moderate risk, preserving the capital and income of NDEB in real terms over the medium term. A review of NDEB's investments was completed in 2018 and a decision was taken to move investment funds to CCLA in line with Church of England ethical investment principles in 2019.

### Principal risks and uncertainties

The directors confirm that the major risks to which NDEB is exposed, as identified have been reviewed and systems and procedures have been established to manage those risks. In summary major risks include:-

- the need to respond to changing government policy on education and ensure there is appropriate staff capacity and resource within the team to do this effectively.
- the risk of reputational damage arising from working across a geographical area including many small rural schools, partnership wide structural changes and possible school closures.
- ensuring appropriate communications and PR support when urgent issues arise.
- financial risks arising from financial constraints to fund the team's work and school funding.

The directors' delegate to the Finance and Property Committee the task of ensuring that risks are reviewed and managed as part of the risk management strategy, and that procedures and controls are designed to minimise any potential impact on NDEB should any of the risks materialise. A risk register has been compiled and contains further detail on possible levels of risk and systems in place for managing the risk.

The Finance and Property Committee reviews the risk register periodically and reports to directors whether it is satisfied with its findings and makes recommendations for further work in subsequent years. The directors review the risk register at least annually as part of the corporate risk management strategy. This may move to a more regular event due to the impact of COVID 19, although the reserves position provides a buffer from immediate concern.

### Going concern

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

### Structure, governance and management

#### Summary information about the structure of the Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

NDEB has to comply with Measures passed by the General Synod of the Church of England and is required to give heed to recommendations and/or advice from the Archbishops' Council Board of Education and the National Society. NDEB must also help Church of England schools in the Diocese to comply with education law and guidance from the DfE. NDEB seeks to influence and support, but has no direct control, over the 49 Church of England schools in the Diocese. Schools are led and managed by their governing bodies, head teachers and senior staff. The accounts of Church of England schools do not form part of these financial statements. Within the Board, several directors are Head Teachers or former Head Teachers and several are governors (or academy trust directors) in Church of England schools in the Diocese. Head teachers and governors are encouraged to make their views known to NDEB and its staff in a variety of ways including evaluation of conferences and courses, during staff and directors' school visits, telephone and email contact.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Directors' report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Structure, governance and management (continued)

#### Organisational structure

The company was incorporated on 30 March 1950 and re-constituted in its present structure on 20th October 2003 as a charitable company limited by membership guarantees (No. 00480293), registered in England and its governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association. NDEB is registered with the Charity Commission (No. 528076). Whilst this falls outside of the reporting year, the NDEB Articles were updated by special resolution of the Members in December 2021 (effective from 4th March 2022 following Charity Commission consent) to reflect the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 2021 and the board was re-constituted under the new Measure on 1st January 2022.

The Board is a statutory body under the Diocesan Boards of Education Measure 2021 and is the sole trustee of the Uniform Statutory Trusts (also known as Section Funds), which are now governed by section 554 of the Education Act 1996. The funds held in trust are derived from ancient educational endowments and the proceeds of property sales authorised by the Department for Education (DfE) under section 86 of the Education Act 1944 and section 2 of the Education Act 1973.

#### Decision making structure

The Diocesan Director of Education is the Company Secretary of the NDEB. NDEB, under the new Articles, has a quorum of a third of directors (subject to a minimum of four) and meets at least three times each year, with an additional meeting held if required. The previous quorum which applied during the reporting year was eight.

The Board may establish committees to assist in the discharging of its functions, with membership of any such committee extended to include persons who are not members of the Board. There is currently a Finance and Property Committee in place which has written terms of reference:

Finance and Property Committee, deals with matters of finance and legal compliance, policies and property related matters.

#### Director recruitment, selection and induction

Each director is inducted into the structure and work of NDEB, the Boards of Education Measure, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the committees and their terms of reference, and members' legal obligations under charity and company law. Directors are encouraged to undertake personal development that will facilitate the execution of their role.

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

Emoluments of higher paid employees within the JET team are determined by the JET LLP (made up of members of both the NDEB and Durham Diocesan Board of Education) with reference to appraisals, remuneration and salary benchmarking.

#### Delegation of day to day delivery

Since the advent of Joint Working between the Education Boards of the Dioceses of Newcastle (NDEB) and Durham (DDBF) in September 2010, the Diocesan Director of Education is appointed jointly by the two Dioceses to manage the day to day operations of their Education Boards. The Director and staff are employed jointly by JET LLP, NDEB and DDBF.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Directors' report (continued)

Year ended 31 December 2024

### Funds held as custodian

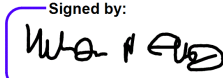
The Board acts as custodian trustee responsible for trust funds held for specific purposes and monies held on behalf of others. The funds held by NDEB as custodian trustees comprise investments amounting to £236,632 as at 31st December 2024 (2023: £231,099) and these are held on behalf of a number of small organisations whose objects are to promote religious educational activity among Sunday schools and other similar establishments, all of which falls within the objects of the Board. The funds are held in separate bank deposit accounts and identifiable investment funds. In accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice these funds are not shown in the charity's balance sheet.

### Funds held on behalf of schools

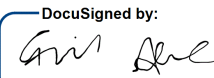
NDEB receives contributions from governors of church schools within the Diocese in connection with major repairs and capital projects to church schools and also government grants in connection with the same. School funds held by NDEB total £869,753 as at 31st December 2024 (2023: £674,265)

NDEB administers these monies as managing agents and makes appropriate payments to contractors for work carried out. Monies do not belong to the Board of Education and as such the receipts and payments are not treated as income and expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Approved by order of the members of the board of directors on 25 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:  
  
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**The Bishop of Newcastle - Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley**

DocuSigned by:  
  
 F4194E9FFC2540C...

**Reverend Dr Gill Alexander**

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

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## Statement of directors' responsibilities Year ended 31 December 2024

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The directors (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the directors' 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 directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

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

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



## Independent examiner's report Year ended 31 December 2024

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### Independent examiner's report to the directors of Newcastle Diocesan Education Board ('the charity')

I report to the charity directors on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the directors of the charity (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

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


### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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

This report is made solely to the charity's directors, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's directors those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's directors as a body, for my work or for this report.

Signed:   
59C7DD6C467F49E...

Anne Hallowell

Dated: 25 June 2025

**UNW LLP, Newcastle upon Tyne**

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) Year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	3	8,527	-	8,527	78,410
Other trading activities	4	-	16,200	16,200	177,057
Investments	5	35,704	18,525	54,229	67,754
<b>Total income</b>		<b>44,231</b>	<b>34,725</b>	<b>78,956</b>	<b>323,221</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	6	284,208	123,895	408,103	523,288
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>284,208</b>	<b>123,895</b>	<b>408,103</b>	<b>523,288</b>
<b>Net expenditure before net gains on investments</b>		<b>(239,977)</b>	<b>(89,170)</b>	<b>(329,147)</b>	<b>(200,067)</b>
Net gains on investments		-	52,468	52,468	174,723
<b>Net expenditure</b>		<b>(239,977)</b>	<b>(36,702)</b>	<b>(276,679)</b>	<b>(25,344)</b>
Transfers between funds	17	540,099	(540,099)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>300,122</b>	<b>(576,801)</b>	<b>(276,679)</b>	<b>(25,344)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		82,352	2,425,117	2,507,469	2,532,813
Net movement in funds		300,122	(576,801)	(276,679)	(25,344)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>382,474</b>	<b>1,848,316</b>	<b>2,230,790</b>	<b>2,507,469</b>

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

The notes on pages 16 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Balance sheet

At 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Investments	13	1,695,849	2,043,381
Investment property	12	200,000	200,000
		<u>1,895,849</u>	<u>2,243,381</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	180,021	75,000
Investments	15	77,467	67,870
Cash at bank and in hand		104,066	246,774
		<u>361,554</u>	<u>389,644</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(26,613)	(125,556)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>334,941</u>	<u>264,088</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>2,230,790</u>	<u>2,507,469</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>2,230,790</u></u>	<u><u>2,507,469</u></u>
<b>Charity funds</b>			
Restricted funds	17	1,848,316	2,425,117
Unrestricted funds	17	382,474	82,352
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>2,230,790</u></u>	<u><u>2,507,469</u></u>

The charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of Companies Act 2006.

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

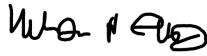
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.




**Newcastle Diocesan Education Board**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Balance sheet (continued)**  
**At 31 December 2024**

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the directors on 25 June 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:  
  
A425582FE4D54F2...

**Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley**  
The Bishop of Newcastle

DocuSigned by:  
  
F4194E9FFC2540C...  
**Reverend Dr Gill Alexander**  
Chair

The notes on pages 16 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

Company registered number: 00480293

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

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### 1. Accounting policies

#### 1.1 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) and the Companies Act 2006.

Newcastle Diocesan Education Board ("NDEB / the charity") 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.

#### 1.2 Going concern

Taking into account the levels of unrestricted reserves as at 31st December the directors are satisfied that NDEB has adequate resources to continue to meet all liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future and consequently these accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The charity also has access to section fund monies totalling £1,476,447 in 2024 which can be used to cover any deficit it makes.

#### 1.3 Income

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

Income received in advance of services being provided is deferred and held within creditors.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

#### 1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Charitable expenditure relates to expenditure on education and Church of England schools in the Diocese.

Support costs consist of central management, administration and governance costs. The amount spent on raising funds and other activities is considered to be immaterial and all support costs are allocated to the purpose of charitable activities. Costs are allocated wherever possible directly to the activity to which they relate, but where such direct allocation is not possible, the remainder is allocated on an approximate staff time basis.

Pension contributions. NDEB contributes to the Pension Builder Scheme of its employees and this scheme is part of the Church Workers Pension Fund. It is treated as a defined contribution scheme and the annual contributions payable are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### Employee benefits

Short-term benefits, including holiday pay and other similar non-monetary benefits are recognised as an expense in the period in which the employee's entitlement to the benefit accrues.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

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### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.4 Expenditure (continued)

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### 1.5 Interest receivable

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

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Fixtures and fittings	-	15 - 30% straight line
-----------------------	---	------------------------

Asset residual values and useful lives are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, and adjusted if appropriate. The effect of any change is accounted for prospectively.

#### 1.7 Investments

##### Investment properties

Board properties which are held for investment purposes and rented out have been included at their fair value, as determined by an annual review carried out by the directors.

##### Fixed asset investments

Listed 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 'Net gains / (losses) on investments' in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.8 Current asset investments

Short-term investments comprise cash deposits with maturities of more than 3 months but less than 12 months at the balance sheet date.

These are classified as current assets and are stated at the amount of principal deposited, plus any accrued interest at the reporting date.

#### 1.9 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.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

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### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

The charity only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other accounts receivable and payable, cash and bank balances and loans to or from related parties.

Debt instruments are measured initially at the transaction price, and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

At the end of each reporting period, financial assets are assessed for impairment, and their carrying value reduced if necessary. Any impairment charge is recognised in the profit and loss account.

#### 1.11 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

#### 1.12 Fund accounting

Fund Balances are split between unrestricted (general and designated), restricted funds.

##### Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are NDEB's corporate funds and are freely available for any purpose within the charitable objects, at the discretion of NDEB. There are two types of unrestricted funds:

General funds which NDEB intends to use for the general purposes of the NDEB and

Designated funds set aside out of unrestricted funds by NDEB for a purpose specified by the Trustees. No designated funds are held at this time.

##### Restricted funds

Restricted funds are income funds subject to conditions imposed by the donor as specific terms of trust, or else by legal measure.

##### Section funds

Section Order Funds that have arisen from past Section Order Schemes are subject to Uniform Trusts governed by Section 86 (1944 Education Act). Section 2 (1973 Education Act) and more recently Section 554 (1996 Education Act). These funds have been extracted from the General Reserve and are accounted for under Restricted Funds.

The Uniform Trusts provide that the Board may after payment of any expenses in connection with the administration of the particular trust to apply the capital and income:

- (a) In or towards the purchase of a site for or the erection, improvement or enlargement of the premises of any relevant school in the area;
- (b) For the maintenance of any relevant school in the area;
- (c) In or towards the purchase of a site for or the erection or improvement or enlargement of the premises of a teacher's house for use in connection with any relevant school in the area; and
- (d) For the maintenance of a teacher's house for use in connection with any relevant school in the area

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

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### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.12 Fund accounting (continued)

The Board may apply the income as follows:

- (a) In or towards the provision of advice guidance and resources including materials in connection with any matter related to the management of or education provided at any relevant school in the area;
- (b) The provision of services for carrying out any inspection of any relevant school in the area by Part 1 of the Schools Inspection Act 1996; and
- (c) To defray the cost of employing or engaging staff in connection with:-
  - (i) The application of income by the relevant trust assets for either of the purposes referred in sub paragraph (a) and (b) above or
  - (ii) The application of capital or income of the relevant trust assets for any of the purposes referred to in paragraph 1 above."

The accounts include future section order funds under permanent endowment funds. Once an order has been approved the funds are then transferred in accordance with the Order. The accounts also include a Special Purposes Fund which includes various funds derived from educational endowments which can be used to fund special projects under the terms of the relevant Trusts as applicable.

### 2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the directors are required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events, that are considered to be relevant and believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below:

#### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

##### Valuation of investment property

As stated in note 1.7, investment properties are carried at fair value. The directors have estimated the fair value of the investment property based on their knowledge of the local property market, advice from informal sources where available, and by reference to comparable market data.

These valuations are inherently subjective due to the nature of the property market and the lack of formal third-party professional valuations. The directors review the valuation annually and adjust it where there is evidence of a material change in fair value.

As no external valuation was undertaken, this represents a significant area of estimation and judgment in the preparation of the financial statements.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

### 2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment (continued)

Other estimates included within these financial statements include asset impairments (for example provisions against debtors). None of the other estimates made in the preparation of these financial statements are considered to carry significant estimation uncertainty, nor to bear significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

### 3. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	5,850	-	5,850
Service agreement receipts	2,677	-	2,677
	<u>8,527</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,527</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	8,161	-	8,161
Service agreement receipts	41,097	-	41,097
Other grants received	-	29,152	29,152
	<u>49,258</u>	<u>29,152</u>	<u>78,410</u>

### 4. Other trading activities

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Rental income from investment properties	16,200	16,200
Conference fees income	-	-
DMAT income	-	-
School improvement income	-	-
	<u>16,200</u>	<u>16,200</u>

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

### 4. Other trading activities (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Rental income from investment properties	-	6,590	6,590
Conference fees income	17,249	-	17,249
DMAT income	142,918	-	142,918
School improvement income	10,300	-	10,300
	<u>170,467</u>	<u>6,590</u>	<u>177,057</u>

### 5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from UK listed investments	35,704	-	35,704
Bank interest receivable	-	18,525	18,525
	<u>35,704</u>	<u>18,525</u>	<u>54,229</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from UK listed investments	58,070	-	58,070
Bank interest receivable	-	9,684	9,684
	<u>58,070</u>	<u>9,684</u>	<u>67,754</u>

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 December 2024

### 6. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

#### Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Support for church schools & academies	270,122	123,895	394,017
Governance:			
Accountancy fees	7,200	-	7,200
Legal and professional fees	6,886	-	6,886
	<u>284,208</u>	<u>123,895</u>	<u>408,103</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Support for church schools & academies	469,497	32,844	502,341
Governance:			
Accountancy fees	8,496	-	8,496
Legal and professional fees	12,451	-	12,451
	<u>490,444</u>	<u>32,844</u>	<u>523,288</u>

### 7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Support for church schools	376,929	17,088	394,017
Governance:			
Accountancy fees	-	7,200	7,200
Legal and professional fees	6,886	-	6,886
	<u>383,815</u>	<u>24,288</u>	<u>408,103</u>



# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

### 7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Support for church schools	444,148	58,193	502,341
Governance:			
Accountancy fees	-	8,496	8,496
Legal and professional fees	12,451	-	12,451
	<u>456,599</u>	<u>66,689</u>	<u>523,288</u>

### Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Rent	-	5,651
Office costs	17,088	52,542
Accountancy fees	7,200	8,496
	<u>24,288</u>	<u>66,689</u>

### 8. Independent examiner's remuneration

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examiner fee of £4,200. In addition, £3,000 relating to the prior year audit fee has been invoiced and included in the current year charge. (2023: audit fee of £8,496).

Newcastle Diocesan Education Board  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2024

9. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	-	229,502
Social security costs	-	27,518
Contribution to defined contribution pension schemes	-	31,460
	-	288,480

The total number of staff employed during 2024 was nil (2023: 13).

Staff costs were transferred to the Joint Education Team LLP from 1st September 2023.

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Average FTE staff members	-	5

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	-	1

Key management personnel in 2024 comprised of the Director of Education and three assistants, all paid via the Joint Education Team LLP. (Their total remuneration to 31 August 2023 amounted to £250,918).

10. Directors remuneration and expenses

No remuneration has been paid to any director in their capacity as a director during 2024 or 2023.

Newcastle Diocesan Education Board  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements  
Year ended 31 December 2024

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	2,868
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	2,868
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 December 2024	-
At 31 December 2023	-

12. Investment property

	Freehold investment property £
<b>Valuation</b>	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	200,000

The investment property was revalued internally during the year, with no change to the estimated fair value.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

### 13. Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £
<b>Valuation</b>	
At 1 January 2024	2,043,381
Disposals	(385,679)
Revaluations	38,147
	<u>1,695,849</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>1,695,849</u>
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 31 December 2024	1,695,849
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,043,381</u>

NDEB is a member in a Joint Venture Limited Liability partnership (JET LLP) which delivers education services on behalf of both Newcastle and Durham Diocese.

### 14. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Due after more than one year</b>		
Spittal nursery	37,500	75,000
	<u>37,500</u>	<u>75,000</u>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	4,952	-
Amounts owed by participating interests	93,024	-
Other debtors	37,500	-
Prepayments and accrued income	7,045	-
	<u>180,021</u>	<u>75,000</u>

### 15. Current asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Short term deposits	77,467	67,870
	<u>77,467</u>	<u>67,870</u>

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

### 16. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	14,446	-
Amounts owed to other participating interests	-	62,316
Other creditors	2,647	34,936
Accruals and deferred income	9,520	28,304
	<u>26,613</u>	<u>125,556</u>

### 17. Statement of funds

#### Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 January 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Funds	<u>82,352</u>	<u>44,231</u>	<u>(284,208)</u>	<u>540,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>382,474</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Section Monies Fund	<u>2,053,248</u>	<u>34,725</u>	<u>(123,895)</u>	<u>(540,099)</u>	<u>52,468</u>	<u>1,476,447</u>
Special Purposes Fund	<u>332,997</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>332,997</u>
Educational Grants	<u>38,872</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,872</u>
	<u>2,425,117</u>	<u>34,725</u>	<u>(123,895)</u>	<u>(540,099)</u>	<u>52,468</u>	<u>1,848,316</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>2,507,469</u></u>	<u><u>78,956</u></u>	<u><u>(408,103)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>52,468</u></u>	<u><u>2,230,790</u></u>

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

### 17. Statement of funds (continued)

#### Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Funds	295,001	277,795	(490,444)	-	82,352
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Section Monies Fund	1,898,063	9,684	(29,222)	174,723	2,053,248
Special Purposes Fund	326,407	6,590	-	-	332,997
Educational Grants	13,342	29,152	(3,622)	-	38,872
	<u>2,237,812</u>	<u>45,426</u>	<u>(32,844)</u>	<u>174,723</u>	<u>2,425,117</u>
<b>Total of funds</b>	<u><u>2,532,813</u></u>	<u><u>323,221</u></u>	<u><u>(523,288)</u></u>	<u><u>174,723</u></u>	<u><u>2,507,469</u></u>

#### General Fund

The General fund represents those assets held by NDEB for carrying out its general activities.

#### Special Purposes Fund

This fund can be used to fund special projects.

#### Section Monies Fund

This fund holds monies under the Education Acts mainly in the form of shares and property. Investment income is transferred as needed to support any deficit on the General fund.

#### Educational Grants Fund

Grants paid to NDEB to be used to support Religious Education in schools.

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

### 18. Analysis of net assets between funds

#### Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Fixed asset investments	-	1,695,849	<b>1,695,849</b>
Investment property	200,000	-	<b>200,000</b>
Debtors due after more than one year	-	37,500	<b>37,500</b>
Current assets	209,087	114,967	<b>324,054</b>
Creditors due within one year	(26,613)	-	<b>(26,613)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>382,474</b>	<b>1,848,316</b>	<b>2,230,790</b>

#### Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fixed asset investments	-	2,043,381	2,043,381
Investment property	200,000	-	200,000
Debtors due after more than one year	-	75,000	75,000
Current assets	7,908	306,736	314,644
Creditors due within one year	(125,556)	-	(125,556)
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,352</b>	<b>2,425,117</b>	<b>2,507,469</b>

### 19. Custodian funds

	Durham Schools 2024 £	Newcastle Schools 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>School balances</b>			
Opening balance for year	204,941	469,324	<b>674,265</b>
Receipts	513,847	1,015,823	<b>1,529,670</b>
Payments	(469,561)	(864,621)	<b>(1,334,182)</b>
<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>249,227</b>	<b>620,526</b>	<b>869,753</b>

# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

	Durham Schools 2023 £	Newcastle Schools 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>School balances</b>			
Opening balance for year	389,117	806,701	1,195,818
Receipts	270,578	846,110	1,116,688
Payments	(454,754)	(1,183,487)	(1,638,241)
Closing balance for year	204,941	469,324	674,265

DfE grants and contributions from schools received in this year totalled £1,529,670 (2023: £1,116,688). Expenditure during the same period totalled £1,334,182 (2023: £1,638,240) leaving an overall balance of £869,753 (2023: £674,265) held on behalf of Voluntary Aided schools.

	Healey 2024 £	Whittingham 2024 £	Schroders 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
<b>Balances held for others</b>				
Opening balance for the year	22,083	191,605	17,411	231,099
Investment revaluation	1,127	4,386	20	5,533
Closing balance for year	23,210	195,991	17,431	236,632

	Healey 2023 £	Whittingham 2023 £	Schroders 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Balances held for others</b>				
Opening balance for the year	19,618	174,939	14,937	209,494
Investment revaluation	2,465	16,666	2,474	21,605
Closing balance for year	22,083	191,605	17,411	231,099

## 20. Pension commitments

For eligible salaried employees NDEB now participates in the Church of England Pension Builder Scheme (PBS), within the Church Workers Pension Fund. This is treated as a defined contributions scheme. The scheme is administered by the Church of England Pensions Board. Pension Builder Classic provides a pension for members for payment from retirement, accumulated from contributions paid and converted into a deferred annuity during employment based on terms set and reviewed by the Church of England Pensions Board from time to time. Bonuses may also be declared, depending upon the investment returns and other factors.



# Newcastle Diocesan Education Board

(A company limited by guarantee)

## Notes to the financial statements Year ended 31 December 2024

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### 20. Pension commitments (continued)

The assets of the PBS are held separately from those of the employer. A valuation of the scheme is carried out once every three years. The most recent scheme valuation was carried out as at 31st December 2022. This revealed a surplus of £34.8m on the ongoing assumptions used. At the most recent annual review effective 1 January 2025, the Board chose to grant a discretionary bonus of 6.7% to both pensions not yet in payment and pensions in payment in respect of service prior to April 1997; and a bonus on pensions in payment in respect of post April 2006 service so that the pension increase was 2.7% (where usually it would be calculated based on inflation up to 2.5%). This followed improvements in the funding position over 2024. There is no requirement for deficit payments at the current time.

The next valuation is due as at 31 December 2025.

NDEB is only liable for contributions relating to its own staff, and not for any other members of the scheme. All members of staff were jointly employed by NDEB and DDBF until September 2023, when they transferred to JET LLP.

During the year to 31st December 2024, NDEB made no contributions. (2023: £62,920 of which £31,460 was recoverable from DDBF). The net total of these two figures has been taken as the pension cost shown in these accounts for the prior year. No contributions were outstanding at the year end.

### 21. Related party transactions

The charity is a member of Joint Education Team LLP ("JET"), a joint venture established to undertake the business of the Joint Education Team, providing education services to schools and other educational providers in the North East of England and elsewhere.

During the year the charity made contributions totalling £240,000 (2023: £82,563) to JET as donations to support its activities. At the year end a balance of £93,024 was owing from JET which is included within debtors (2023: £45,223 owing to, included within creditors).

No trustees or key management personnel had a personal interest in the joint venture. The transactions were undertaken at arm's length and in line with the charity's objectives.