



# HALLFIELD SCHOOL

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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**(A company limited by Guarantee)**

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**THE GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**31 AUGUST 2024**

**Company Number: 00631045**

**Charity Number: 528956**

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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**GOVERNORS' ANNUAL REPORT**  
**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The Directors and Trustees are pleased to present their report for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Charity Name	Hallfield School Trust
Charity Registration Number	528956
Company Registration Number	00631045
Registered Office	48 Church Road Edgbaston Birmingham B15 3SJ

### Governors

The Governors who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out below:

G RH Ralphs (Chairman)	A Earnshaw <sup>4</sup>	M Georgevic <sup>3,7</sup>
K McEwen (Vice Chair) <sup>3,6,7</sup>	G M Faber <sup>3,6,9,10</sup>	
S Aulak <sup>1,4,9</sup>	P Gough <sup>1,9</sup>	
S Balfour <sup>4,8</sup>	A Oliver <sup>2</sup>	
H Coverdale <sup>2,6,10</sup>	M R Plummer <sup>4</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> Finance and Facilities Committee

<sup>2</sup> Education Committee

<sup>3</sup> Human Resources and Legal Committee

<sup>4</sup> Marketing Committee

<sup>5</sup> Nominations Committee

<sup>6</sup> Compliance Committee

<sup>7</sup> Parent of former pupil

<sup>8</sup> Parent of current pupil

<sup>9</sup> Old Hallfieldian

<sup>10</sup> Resigned 3 July 2024

The Chairman and Vice Chair are ex-officio members of each of the Committees.

### Executive Team from 1 September 2023

K B Morrow BA (Hons) QTS, PGCPS(Ed), NPQH, FRSA	- Head Master
C Florida-James B Ed (Hons)	- Deputy Head (Academic)
E Sanderson B Ed (Hons) QTS	- Deputy Head (Head of Pre-Prep)
B Patel ACA	- Director of Finance and Operations
A Edwards	- Director of Estates and Facilities (appointed 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2024)
E Cook MCIM	- Marketing and Communications Manager

### Auditors

Crowe U.K. LLP  
Black Country House  
Rounds Green Road  
Oldbury  
B69 2DG

### Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc  
79 – 84 High Street  
Birmingham  
B4 7TE

### Solicitors

Veale Wasbrough Vizards LLP  
Narrow Quay House  
Narrow Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 4QA

## **Achievements and Performance**

### **Academic**

The year ended 31 August 2024 was outstanding for the 11+ examination results. This year 56 pupils in Year 6 sat the 11+ grammar school exam with 92% achieving the qualifying score and 89% of those who sat being offered a place at a grammar school. This year we have seen a shift in preference for the independent sector with 54 and 10 places to independent Senior Schools being accepted by our Year 6 and Year 8 pupils respectively.

There were 61 10-11 year olds (2023: 57) entering the selective Local Authority Grammar schools and selective independent schools. Our Year 6 pupils left us to go to 10 different schools in the Birmingham area, and further afield with some choosing to stay with us and continue their education in Hallfield Seniors.

This year sees outstanding results for the two highly selective independent schools – King Edward's and King Edward VI High School for Girls – 22 boys (2023: 21 boys) have been offered places (including 3 scholarships (2023: 3 scholarship)) at King Edward's School and 11 girls (2023: 9 girls) have been offered places (including 1 scholarships (2023: 3 scholarship)) at King Edward VI High School for Girls. 10 places were offered at Solihull School (including 3 scholarships (2023: 10 places)) and 12 places (2023: 13 places) at Edgbaston High School for Girls (including 8 scholarships (2023: 8 scholarships)) and a total of 35 scholarships (2023: 36 scholarships) were awarded.

In total 26 scholarships were awarded to the outgoing Year 6 pupils.

Hallfield Seniors started in September 2020, with the purpose of educating boys and girls in Year 7 and Year 8, to allow the pupils the opportunity of transferring to schools at 13+ rather than at the end of Year 6, 11+.

This year we have had a record number of 23 pupils in the Seniors who achieved excellent results and entry to the following schools: St George's, Bromsgrove, Priory Edgbaston and Old Swinford Hospital.

The school is delighted with the results and is keen to continue the growth and expansion of Hallfield Seniors to enable pupils who desire to stay through to the end of Year 8. There are currently 15 pupils enrolled in Hallfield Seniors.

In the National Primary Schools Maths Challenge, 35 (2023: 19) children earned Gold, Silver or Bronze medals; and 64 (2023: 59) children achieved gold, silver or bronze in the Junior Maths Challenge.

### **Music**

Our commitment to Music continued during the year with a number of performances by the school. The academic year started fantastically with a concert in collaboration with the Midland Chamber Orchestra in the second week of term. The concert featured the Hallfield Orchestra (newly reformed to include woodwind, brass and percussion), and was to promote an exciting, first-of-its-kind opportunity.

Pupils in Year 1 enjoyed a trip to see the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform at the Symphony Hall. This was a wonderful opportunity for children to see instruments being played and story-telling through music by world-class musicians.

The school's Director of Music has continued to develop and enhance the work of the Music Department. Pupils have had numerous opportunities to play and sing and take part in a huge number of ensembles, concerts, Pre-Prep end of year concert and a Prep Prom concert, including a rendition of Land of Hope and Glory.

As part of our strategy for community engagement next year, the Midlands Chamber Orchestra will be the Orchestra in Residence at Hallfield and this will give the pupils even more opportunities to play alongside and be involved with professional musicians.

### **Sport**

Sport remains a very important part of life at Hallfield.

The sports clubs had started off successfully, with a wide range of sporting clubs on offer throughout the week with after-school clubs, before school and lunchtime drop-in clubs.

In PE, the Pre-Prep have taken part in multi-skills; an introduction to a wide range of fun activities which focus on key movement, balance and co-ordination skills which will help them develop across all sports. In Years 3 & 4, they covered a range of ball and movement skills with a focus on a different sport each week. Year 5 enjoyed learning a new sport: handball, and our Year 6's always looks forward to their basketball lessons. The Seniors walk to Edgbaston Golf Club in their PE lessons each week, where they are coached by specialists using the extensive facilities on offer.

In boys' football we have played matches against local schools with many exciting games with just one goal separating the teams. The highlight being the ISFA U11 football tournament which saw most of the best Midland's football playing schools competing.

The U11 also had a great day out at Warwick school for the Rugby Festival. In the morning they were treated to some coaching by the Warwick School staff on their 4G pitch. After lunch they won all their games in the group, scoring some fine tries on the way and really developing the children's knowledge of the game.

The school hosted our annual U10 girls' football tournament in September, despite the mixed weather, it was another success for the school and 60 girls (from both the State and Private Sector Schools) enjoying playing football. We have already had interest from some schools asking if we can play more girls' football throughout the next year.

The school had six boys put forward for Warwickshire County Cricket trials at various age groups; with one pupil being selected to represent Warwickshire U10s, even though they are in the U9 Year Group, a fantastic achievement.

## **Drama**

Drama continues to develop in the school and certainly last year's productions reflected this. In an effort to maximise drama opportunities and with the right balance, the annual performance schedule had undergone a review. There were smaller-scale 'performing showcases' with Year 2 and Year 4 and, excitingly, a large-scale performance with Year 6 in the year.

Internally held LAMDA lessons have started this year. We were able to offer this to any Prep pupil who would like to engage with lessons as either duos, trios or quartets. There was an incredible uptake for these sessions, with 99 pupils from Y3-8 taking lessons. Both Speaking and Verse & Acting are being offered with roughly a 50/50 split. We are also looking to extend our Seniors programme by offering LAMDA lessons inclusive in their fees.

## **Extra-curricular activities**

Activities we have been able to offer a full range of clubs, sporting fixtures, day visits and residential visits, including a visit overseas to France, which have enhanced the opportunities and enjoyment for our pupils.

Hallfield Enrichment continued to be a unique offering for pupils at the school. This year has seen the introduction of Art in motion for children in Years 3 and 4. This option provides children with the opportunity to create short films using stop motion animation. Children in Years 1 and 2 were able to sample Design and Technology whilst designing and constructing cardboard houses.

Following on from the success of the cooking workshops previously run by Simpsons, we are delighted that Thomas Franks, our school caterers had been able to run two full day workshops for Year 4 and 6.

This year's Children's Mental Health Week had a theme of 'My Voice Matters', encouraging children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing. To support our focus on this year's theme, Bigfoot Arts Education, came to visit the school. They worked with all age groups in class workshops 'I've Got Magic Inside Me!' and 'From Worries to Wellbeing' throughout two days.

The Year 6 & Seniors French trip took place again this year with a return to Chateau Warsy. The pupils' visited Amiens and the Caves la Cité Souterraine de Naours. A full day in Paris was the highlight with a trip up the Montparnasse Tower and a cruise down the Seine. Visiting the Somme and the Albert Museum was memorable and the laying of the Hallfield Wreath was moving.

Children were involved in many fund-raising activities during the year. These activities included: Beat the Goalie, egg and spoon races, tombola's, guess the name of the Teddy and of course- gunge a teacher! The children were joined by guide dogs Mojo and Murphy, who stayed for a 'Pat and Chat'. Pupils have been raising money over the year in support of the charity 'Guide Dogs for the Blind', in order to name and sponsor a guide dog puppy.

As well as the annual Harvest Festival Service this year we have been supporting Brushstrokes (Community Project) and food donations had been gathered from the pupils and staff ready to be sent on.

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## **Financial Review**

### **Review of Transactions and Financial Position**

The Governors are pleased to report a strong financial performance, achieving a surplus for the year of £919,865. The 2024 surplus excluding the fair value adjustment of the Investment Properties was £453,238 (2023: £569,195). The Governors felt the need to build reserves as we are anticipating an uncertain year ahead given the introduction of VAT on school fees.

Costs continued to be tightly controlled and discretionary expenditure was targeted at priority areas during the year to ensure the children enjoyed the best experience possible.

Opportunities to continually improve the facilities were focused on this year and significant capital investment of £1,909,757 was incurred. During the year the school completed the first stage of our ambitious Project 150 project; being the building of two new classrooms on the school site to support our growing Senior year groups.

The school also made improvements to the front of school with new gates to improve security and access. The lower carpark was also expanded to free up the front car park for parents to alleviate congestion during school pick up and drop off.

During the year we also completed a refurbishment of the Foundation Kitchen to improve the food service across the school site and also a refurbishment of the Pre-Prep hall.

Other smaller projects included upgrades to school electrical system to create energy efficiencies and cost savings.

### **Pupil Numbers**

The number of children attending the School increased during the academic year, rising from 550 in Autumn 2023 to 578 in Summer of 2024. We attract pupils through the quality of the education the school delivers including sporting, cultural, social and personal development as well as academic excellence. We focus on developing the talents of each child to reach their full potential.

### **Fundraising**

The charity had no fundraising activities requiring disclosure under s.162A of the Charities Act 2011.

All fundraising conducted by the school is done internally. We do not engage the services of a professional fund-raiser or commercial participator to carry on any of these activities.

### **Objectives and Aims**

The primary object of the Trust is to manage, maintain and improve Hallfield School. Its aim is to operate the most educationally successful independent co-educational junior and infant school in the Birmingham area, providing the highest standard of day care and education for children aged 3 months to 13 years old. The school aims to prepare children for competitive entry to local secondary schools in the state and independent sectors. It offers a rounded foundation for children under the age of 5 and a particularly academic, subject-based education for 7 to 13 year olds, also encouraging development of personal, sports, social, spiritual, musical and artistic skills.

The Achievements and Performance as shown above, demonstrate the School's continued meeting of its objectives and aims.

### **Specific Plans for 2024/2025**

The next academic year is a key one for the sector as a whole with VAT regulations coming into force on the 1 January 2025. This is expected to have an impact on pupil numbers, not just for our school but the sector as a whole. Various financial models and projections have been prepared and used as basis for discussions at a Board level. The school has forecast a modest budget for the next financial year to ensure education is delivered to a high standard during this transitional period.

As such the school's plans for the next year are modest compared to our previous years of operation.

The School plans to continue to progress essential capital and maintenance spending.

### **Charities Act 2011 and Public Benefit**

The Trustees have considered the Charities Act 2011 on public benefit and have had due regard for Charity Commission Guidance on the subject.

The school is committed to funding the education at Hallfield of members of the local community who would not normally be in a position to afford the school fees but who demonstrate at assessment that they would benefit from the educational environment that Hallfield offers. The School has limited reserves and the assisted places scheme is funded through revenues generated by the School and not through investment income.

The Hallfield Insights programme, which includes inspirational speakers including dancers, musicians, and scientists is available free of charge to local residents in care homes and to pupils attending local state schools.

The Assisted Places Scheme, awarding bursaries for fees to families with household incomes of less than £16,385 p.a. During the 2023/24 year, it funded the education at Hallfield of 17 pupils. The value of this funding was £163,176 (2023: 17 pupils costing £182,134).

The school continues to create a public benefit by working with a network of local state schools.



### **Charity Governance Code**

The Governors are aware of the new guidance and during the year have continued their review to produce recommendations and an action plan in order to ensure that the school takes positive steps towards working in line with the Code in all ways where it is practicable to do so.

### **Investment Policy**

Due to the nature of the Trust's activities, surplus funds are not held for long periods of time and are not therefore available for long-term investment. Accordingly, its policy is to invest such funds in deposit accounts offering a market rate of interest. The investment policy also requires deposits to be spread across a range of institutions in order to reduce the risk of capital loss.

### **Reserves Policy**

The School's reserves policy relates to unrestricted readily realisable reserves freely available to be spent on the charity's purposes which are held to ensure that the core activities of the school could continue in the event of a period of unforeseen difficulty. Accordingly, the Governors consider that free reserves should be held in cash or assets which can be easily convertible into cash should the need arise.

A sum of £500,000 remains designated for future major development of the school site, in excess of routine capital expenditure.

The assessment of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the School's planning and forecasting cycle and takes account of expected changes in the economic environment, demographic changes in the school's catchment area, expected operating results and associated risk factors.

Historically, the major risk considered in this respect is a shortfall of annual income, but consideration has also been given to unexpected expenditure of both a routine and an unusual nature, and situations out of our control.

Having taken into account of these risks, the Governors continue to believe that reserves held should steadily be increased over a period of one to two years to equate to one term's expenditure which ranges between £1,500,000 and £1,800,000. At 31 August 2024, the charity's free reserves amounted to £1,059,733 (2023: £1,939,462). The shortfall of free reserves will be addressed through the sale of investment properties and a series of budgetary amendments in the years ahead.

### **Going concern**

The school is facing a number of uncertainties following the change in Government; which has threatened the Charitable status of independent schools and has plans to impose VAT on school fees as one of their central policies. The Governors have looked especially carefully at the financial implications for Hallfield School. The School is in the fortunate position of having cash reserves and no borrowings. Fee income for the 2023-24 remained incredibly strong which enabled the Governors to offer selective support to parents suffering short-term financial problems.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governors consider that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, continuing to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements is considered appropriate. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

### **Remuneration policy**

The remuneration of key management personnel is set by the governors, with the objective of providing appropriate incentives to encourage existing staff to stay, and to attract new staff when required.

The appropriateness of the policy is reviewed regularly by the governors, and also compared with other independent schools, to ensure that the school remains sensitive to the broader issues of pay and employment conditions elsewhere.

### **Strategic Risk Management**

There are a number of Strategic Risks that the Governors are actively monitoring due to the significant level of impact they may have:

#### **Economic Risk**

The impact on the economic climate, while inflation rates have fallen towards the year end the impact on pay and costs are yet to follow suit, may affect the ability of parents to afford school fees, and the affordability of fees is considered an important factor in the long-term financial planning of the School.

In terms of unexpected costs, the Governors ensure that insurance is in place for known and insurable risks. With a large estate, the School also monitors and plans for foreseeable future building repairs. The management team also carefully monitor the level of scholarships and bursaries to ensure that grant commitments are maintained at a sustainable level.

#### **Teacher Pensions**

April 2024 saw an increase in the Employer Contribution rate to the Teacher Pension Scheme from 23.68% to 28.68%. This increase is a substantial additional burden to our cost base. During the year the Board approved the introduction of the APTIS pension scheme for new employees, this was done to ensure the school remained a competitive employer while making remaining in the Teacher's Pension Scheme for existing employees affordable.

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## **Risk Management**

Consideration has been given to the major risks to which the school is exposed and systems or procedures are established in order to manage those risks which include:

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Mitigating Factors</b>
<p><u>Reduction in pupil headcount</u></p> <p>An unforeseen significant fall in pupil numbers could place the school under operational and financial pressure within an academic year.</p>	<p>Regular parent drop-ins are held by the Senior Leadership Team to enable parents to provide feedback. Parent surveys ensure that concerns are identified and appropriate action is taken. The School maintains reserves to provide emergency funding.</p>
<p><u>Inspection Regime Failure</u></p> <p>The Independent School's Inspectorate's ("ISI") Inspection regime changes regularly as legislation and statutory guidance are updated.</p>	<p>We monitor changes to guidance and compliance. Senior members of our team are ISI inspectors and underwent an ISI inspection in February 2019, where the school was judged to be outstanding in all areas.</p>
<p><u>IT System Failure</u></p> <p>As with most modern businesses, the School is heavily reliant on Information Technology for its day to day operations.</p>	<p>The School's core infrastructure is well monitored and appropriate fail over systems are in place. During the year significant upgrades were made to the infrastructure for a more resilient network and to support our Digital Learning Platform.</p>
<p><u>Child Protection &amp; Safeguarding</u></p> <p>Keeping children safe while they are at school or on an activity organised by the School is our highest priority.</p>	<p>The School adheres to legislation and guidance on recruitment, child protection and Health &amp; Safety. A "ring of steel" prevents entry to the site except at secure points. The School operates a CCTV system to help maintain site security. A Paxton key card security system was introduced in 2016 on all external doors and gates, and provides a lockdown environment.</p>
<p><u>Natural and other disasters</u></p> <p>With over 500 pupils, the school is at risk from health epidemics, fire and flooding.</p>	<p>A crisis management plan is in place which is tested periodically; the school has regular fire protection and safety audits.</p>

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**Risk Management (Continued)**

Risk	Mitigating Factors
<p><u>Change in Government (VAT &amp; removal of domestic rate relief)</u></p> <p>At the year end there was a change in Government. It is expected that independent schools will be required to pay VAT on school fees from January 2025. The key impact on this will be a loss of the current reduction in domestic rates. This will increase the costs to the school by £90,000 per annum as the current relief is at 80%.</p>	<p>The Governors have required the Executive Team to plan for the risks as a part of the School's financial planning process.</p> <p>As a school we have started to look at what impact this might have on parents.</p> <p>We are looking very carefully at how Hallfield can achieve efficiency savings and how much VAT could be absorbed by the School (through re-claiming VAT that we are currently unable to claim back) and hence reduce the burden to parents.</p> <p>All schools will be facing the same challenges, but we feel the size and sound financial footing that Hallfield enjoys mean that we are in an excellent position to face these challenges.</p>

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### **Governing Document**

The Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It was incorporated on 24 June 1959 and registered as a charity on 12 November 1963. Its Memorandum of Association, which established its objects and powers provide that in the event of it being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. Membership of the Trust is reviewed at the Annual General Meeting as appropriate. It is exempt from using "Limited" under s.60 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **The Board of Governors**

New Governors are given appropriate induction about the school on appointment; Disclosure and Barring Service disclosures are sought in each case. Appointments are made to the Board primarily with a view to enhancing its skill base. None of the governors has any beneficial interest in the school and all serve without remuneration. Governors do not participate in decisions which involve a personal conflict of interest; in particular, governors who are also parents do not participate in pricing decisions in respect of future fee levels.

Governors are involved in on-going general and specific training according to their areas of responsibility. A tailored training programme was organised during the year where Governors received training on Safeguarding, Health & Safety and risk management. Governors are also encouraged to visit the school regularly, during the working day and for special events.

In accordance with normal commercial practice the school has purchased Governance insurance. The insurance provides cover up to £5m (2023: £5m) on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £1,195 (2023: £1,130).

### **Committee Structure**

Matters of policy and governance are determined by the Board normally at least once per term. In addition, the following committees consider policy issues in more detail and report to the Board accordingly:

- The Finance and Facilities Committee monitors capital expenditure, estates, catering and risk management together with management accounting and public reporting;
- The Education Committee is responsible for academic curriculum matters;
- The Marketing Committee is responsible for the admissions policy and marketing the school;
- The Human Resources and Legal Committee is responsible for human resource policy and various legal matters;
- The Compliance Committee is responsible for ensuring compliance with educational, health and safety, child protection and financial statutes, regulations and recommended practice;
- The Nominations Committee meets on an ad hoc basis to review the composition of the Board of Governors and to recommend changes according to the requirements for appropriate skills and experience.

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During the year the Governance of the school was reviewed and changes to the committee structure have taken place on 1 September 2024. These new committees will create a more efficient and strategic focus for Governors to better steward the school:

- The Finance and General Purposes Committee monitors finance, admissions policy, marketing the school capital expenditure, estates, health and safety, catering and risk management together with management accounting and public reporting;
- The Education & Safeguarding Committee is responsible for academic curriculum matters;
- The Legal, Compliance & Governance Committee is responsible for governance, various legal matters compliance with regulations and recommended practice;
- The Nominations Committee meets on an ad hoc basis to review the composition of the Board of Governors and to recommend changes according to the requirements for appropriate skills and experience.

#### **Executive Team**

The Governors are responsible for the overall management of the school but delegate its day-to-day running to the Head Master, the Director of Finance and Operations (both of whom normally attend the above meetings) and other members of the Executive Team.

#### **Compliance with laws and regulations**

The school is subject to inspection by the Independent Schools Inspectorate and is regulated by Ofsted for children under the age of three. The School pro-actively manages its legal compliance in respect of education, nursery provision, child protection, health and safety, and various financial, administrative and regulatory matters. As a charitable company, the School is regulated by the Charity Commission and by the Registrar of Companies. The School maintains a Register of Interests in respect of members of the Board of Governors.

#### **Related Parties**

Hallfield School is affiliated to the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools. Professional support is also specifically available from the Independent Schools' Bursars Association, the Independent Schools Council and the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools. The members of the Friends of Hallfield provide greatly valued voluntary effort and funding.

#### **Statement of Governors' Responsibilities**

The Governors (who are also the directors and the Trustees of Hallfield School Trust for the purposes of company law and charity law respectively) are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report, including the strategic report, and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law, and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Charities SORP.

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**Statement of Governors' Responsibilities (continued)**

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the Governors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards) and applicable law. 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 and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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

The Governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**Provision of information to auditors**

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are 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 auditors are aware of that information.

**Auditors**

Crowe U.K. LLP continue to act as auditors.

Approved by the Governors on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



GRH Ralphs  
Chairman of Governors

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Hallfield School Trust

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hallfield School Trust ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

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

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

**Responsibilities of Governors**

As explained more fully in the governors' responsibilities statement set out on page 14, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Companies Act 2006, 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 ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were The Education (Independent School Standards) Regulations 2014, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Health and Safety legislation and Employment legislation.

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 the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management, and the Finance & Facilities Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the Charity Commission, Independent Schools Inspectorate, Ofsted, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Helen Blundell*

Helen Blundell LLB FCA FCIE DChA

Senior Statutory Auditor

For and on behalf of

Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Black Country House

Rounds Green Road

Oldbury

B69 2DG

Date: *11 December 2024*

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
Year ended 31 August 2024

		2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
	Note				
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies		4,337	16,631	20,968	13,018
Investment income	3	70,761	-	70,761	61,492
Charitable activities	4	8,524,677	-	8,524,677	8,076,987
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>8,599,775</b>	<b>16,631</b>	<b>8,616,406</b>	<b>8,151,497</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	8,161,294	1,874	8,163,168	7,582,302
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>8,161,294</b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>8,163,168</b>	<b>7,582,302</b>
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		438,481	14,757	453,238	569,195
Transfers between funds		9,460	(9,460)	-	-
Fair value adjustment	9	466,627	-	466,627	-
<b>Net movement of funds</b>		<b>914,568</b>	<b>5,297</b>	<b>919,865</b>	<b>569,195</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2023		9,194,280	44,888	9,239,168	8,669,973
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2024</b>		<b>10,108,848</b>	<b>50,185</b>	<b>10,159,033</b>	<b>9,239,168</b>

There were no recognised gains or losses for 2024 or 2023 other than those included in the statement of financial activities. All income and expenditure relates to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 24 to 41 form part of these financial statements.

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
Year ended 31 August 2023

		2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
	Note				
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies		12,868	150	13,018	6,240
Investment income	3	61,492	-	61,492	3,503
Charitable activities	4	8,076,987	-	8,076,987	7,606,567
		<u>8,151,347</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>8,151,497</u>	<u>7,616,310</u>
<b>Total income and endowments</b>					
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	5	7,580,995	1,307	7,582,302	6,678,284
		<u>7,580,995</u>	<u>1,307</u>	<u>7,582,302</u>	<u>6,678,284</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>					
		<u>7,580,995</u>	<u>1,307</u>	<u>7,582,302</u>	<u>6,678,284</u>
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		570,352	(1,157)	569,195	938,026
		<u>570,352</u>	<u>(1,157)</u>	<u>569,195</u>	<u>938,026</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2022		8,623,928	46,045	8,669,973	7,731,947
		<u>8,623,928</u>	<u>46,045</u>	<u>8,669,973</u>	<u>7,731,947</u>
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		9,194,280	44,888	9,239,168	8,669,973
		<u>9,194,280</u>	<u>44,888</u>	<u>9,239,168</u>	<u>8,669,973</u>

There were no recognised gains or losses for 2023 or 2022 other than those included in the statement of financial activities. All income and expenditure relates to continuing operations.

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**

**BALANCE SHEET**

**Company Number: 00631045**

**as at 31 August 2024**

	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Intangible Assets	7	31,459	651
Tangible assets	8	7,090,767	6,224,606
Assets Held for Sale	8	420,496	-
Investment Property	9	480,000	-
		<u>8,022,722</u>	<u>6,225,257</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors due after more than one year	10	721,589	730,035
Debtors due within one year	10	149,850	202,547
Stock		16,679	8,931
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>3,206,381</u>	<u>3,949,938</u>
		4,094,499	4,891,451
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	<u>(1,571,292)</u>	<u>(1,680,242)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>2,523,207</u>	<u>3,211,209</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		10,545,928	9,436,466
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	11	(386,895)	(197,298)
		<u>10,159,033</u>	<u>9,239,168</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>	13	50,185	44,888
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	14	<u>10,108,848</u>	<u>9,194,280</u>
		<u>10,159,033</u>	<u>9,239,168</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Governors on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 and signed on their behalf by



**GRH Ralphs**  
Chairman of Governors

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

Year ended 31 August 2024

Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for the year	919,865	569,195
Interest receivable	(70,761)	(61,492)
Depreciation and amortisation of fixed assets	578,920	541,617
(Gains)/losses on investments	(466,627)	-
Loss/(Profit) on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in stock	(7,748)	2,634
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	61,143	99,618
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	80,647	236,147
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	<b>1,095,439</b>	<b>1,387,719</b>
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>		
Proceed from the sale of fixed assets	-	-
Payments to acquire fixed assets	(1,909,757)	(769,536)
Interest received	70,761	61,492
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>	<b>(1,838,996)</b>	<b>(708,044)</b>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(743,557)</b>	<b>679,675</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September</b>	<b>3,949,938</b>	<b>3,270,263</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August</b>	<b>3,206,381</b>	<b>3,949,938</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents consists of:</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand	3,206,381	3,949,938

**Analysis of changes in net debt**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Cash flow £	Balances at 31 August 2024 £
Cash	3,949,938	(743,557)	3,206,381
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,949,938</b>	<b>(743,557)</b>	<b>3,206,381</b>

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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

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**1. Accounting policies**

**1.1 General information and basis of preparation**

Hallfield School Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee (registered number 00631045) which is incorporated and registered in England and Wales. Its charity registration number is 528956. In the event of the charitable company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 3 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operation and principal activity is the provision of a co-educational day school for pupils between the ages of 3 months and 13 years.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and Companies Act 2006.

Hallfield School Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

**1.2 Going concern**

The Governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the school to continue as a going concern. The Governors make this assessment in respect of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

With uncertainty over the implication of VAT on pupil numbers, forecasts and budgets have been stress-tested to assess how the School could cope under different scenarios. The Governors have concluded that the Company is well placed to cope with the continuing uncertainties and has adequate resources to continue providing first class education to its pupils for the foreseeable future.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governors consider that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and it is therefore appropriate to continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.



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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.3 Fund accounting**

*Restricted funds*

Restricted funds represent grants and donations which are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal.

*Unrestricted funds and designated funds*

Unrestricted funds represent funds that are expendable at the discretion of the Governors in the furtherance of the objects of the charitable company. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment. Designated funds are those funds which are unrestricted in nature but which have been designated by the Governors to be used in a particular manner.

**1.4 Income recognition**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Fees and charges for services are accounted for in the period in which tuition and services are provided at the expected level of income. Fees which have been physically received in advance are treated as deferred income.
- Other income is recognised as it is receivable.
- Government grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

**1.5 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis as a liability is incurred. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of expenditure:

- Rentals applicable to operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period in which the cost is incurred.
- Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charitable company in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries.
- All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the Statement of Financial Activities on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity comprise both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.
- Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charitable company and include audit fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charitable company.

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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.6 Leases**

All leases are operating leases and the annual rentals are expensed on a straight line basis over the lease term with any deferred charges included within creditors. Lease premiums, including associated professional fees, are treated as prepayments and amortised on a straight line basis over the life of the lease with the unamortised balance disclosed within debtors due after more than one year.

**1.7 Pensions**

Retirement benefits to employees of the Hallfield School Trust who are qualified Teachers are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS'). The 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 quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in Note 12, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The charity also contributes to APTIS, a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of teaching staff. All newly recruited teaching staff from 1 January 2024 have been enrolled into the scheme. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The charity also contributes towards a defined contribution Group Personal Pension Plan for its non-teaching staff. Contributions payable for the year are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**1.8 Intangible fixed assets and amortisation**

Intangible fixed assets comprise the licence cost of the School's trademark and the costs of the school's website. These assets are amortised over ten years on a straight line basis, this being the period covered by the licence and the useful economic life of the website.

**1.9 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Additions over £500 are capitalised.

Assets under construction are accounted for at cost incurred to 31 August. They are not depreciated until the accounting period in which they are brought into use.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Computer equipment	- over four years
Fixtures and equipment	- over seven years
Leasehold property	- over the life of the lease or 50 years, whichever is the shorter
Leasehold improvements	- over 10 years
Freehold buildings	- over 50 years
Assets under construction	- Nil
Freehold land is not depreciated.	

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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.10 Assets Held for Sale**

Freehold land and assets held for sale are not depreciated.

**1.11 Investment Properties**

Investment Properties are stated at Fair Value. Any gains or losses arising from a change in the fair value of investment property shall be recognised in statement of financial position for the period in which it arises.

The gains or losses shall be held as indistributable funds within the unrestricted reserve.

**1.12 VAT**

Value added tax is not recoverable by the charitable company, and as such is included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities and tangible fixed assets.

**1.11 Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year**

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

**1.13 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

**1.14 Financial instruments**

The Company enters into only basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

**2. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

The charitable company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. Management are also required to exercise judgement in the process of applying the charitable company's accounting policies. 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.

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:

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

**2. Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)**

**Leases**

All leases are deemed to be either operating or finance leases, depending on whether the risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred from the lessor to the lessee on a lease by lease basis based on an evaluation of the terms and conditions of the arrangements.

In particular, in relation to the school buildings leased from Calthorpe Estates a number of judgements have been made that result in the conclusion that the agreement constitutes an operating lease: the lease does not transfer ownership of the building to Hallfield School at the end of the lease, nor offers the option to purchase the buildings; the lease term (to 2110) has been assessed not to constitute the majority of the useful life of the buildings; the buildings are deemed not to be of such a specialist nature that they could not be used by an alternative lessor in the future.

**Fair Value**

Investment properties are measured initially at their fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arise in the Statement of Financial Position.

"Market Value" is the estimated amount for which an asset or liability should exchange, on the date of the valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller, in an arm's length transaction. Factors taken into consideration are the condition of the property, comparable sales within close proximity to the property and the market conditions for sale at the date of valuation.

**3. Investment Income**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank Interest – Unrestricted Funds	70,761	61,492
Bank Interest – Restricted Funds	-	-
	<u>70,761</u>	<u>61,492</u>

**4. Income**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Net incoming resources are stated after charging:		
Depreciation – (note 8)	566,967	541,456
Amortisation – Intangible Asset (note 7)	12,054	84
Amortisation – Lease Premium (note 9)	8,446	8,446
Auditors' remuneration – audit services	23,199	14,438
Auditors' remuneration – non-audit services	900	688
Operating lease rental – plant, machinery & vehicles	<u>10,425</u>	<u>32,751</u>

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

**4. Income (continued)**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income from Charitable Activities - Unrestricted</b>		
School fees	8,246,051	7,736,441
Less: Assisted Places	<u>(197,236)</u>	<u>(182,134)</u>
Net Fee Income	8,048,815	7,554,307
Other educational income	433,146	477,553
Other ancillary income	<u>42,716</u>	<u>45,127</u>
	<u><b>8,524,677</b></u>	<u><b>8,076,987</b></u>

Included in school fees is a grant awarded by Birmingham City Council to parents of 3 and 4 year old children which is collected by The School. This amounted to £297,556 (2023: £335,708) to provide up to 15 hours per week of free education to each pupil aged 3 or 4.

**5. Analysis of resources expended**

**5.1 Total expenditure**

<b>Year ended 31 August 2024</b>	<b>Staff costs</b>	<b>Other costs</b>	<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b> (note 6)				
Teaching	3,768,681	677,965	182,531	4,629,177
Welfare	-	576,044	26,611	602,655
Premises repair and maintenance	335,645	840,802	378,215	1,554,662
Support costs and governance	940,894	419,376	109	1,360,379
Grants and prizes	<u>-</u>	<u>16,295</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,295</u>
Total charitable expenditure	<u><b>5,045,220</b></u>	<u><b>2,530,482</b></u>	<u><b>587,466</b></u>	<u><b>8,163,168</b></u>

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**Year ended 31 August 2024**

**5. Analysis of resources expended (continued)**

**5.1 Total expenditure**

<b>Year ended 31 August 2023</b>	<b>Staff costs £</b>	<b>Other costs £</b>	<b>Depreciation £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b> (note 6)				
Teaching	3,446,620	636,324	170,885	4,253,829
Welfare	-	544,742	24,913	569,655
Premises repair and maintenance	352,137	759,288	354,085	1,465,510
Support costs and governance	893,970	376,073	103	1,270,146
Grants and prizes	-	23,162	-	23,162
<b>Total charitable expenditure</b>	<b>4,692,727</b>	<b>2,339,589</b>	<b>549,986</b>	<b>7,582,302</b>

**5.2 Grants, awards and prizes**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
<b>From restricted funds</b>		
Maths prize	25	25
<b>From unrestricted funds</b>		
Flowers, prizes and leaving presents	16,268	23,137
	<b>16,293</b>	<b>23,162</b>

**5.3 Governance included in support costs**

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Remuneration paid to auditor for audit services	23,199	13,750
Reimbursement of personal expenses to governors – travel costs	637	631
Other governance costs	9,371	7,462
	<b>33,207</b>	<b>21,843</b>

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**6. Staff costs and numbers**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	4,033,931	3,724,540
Social security	320,166	338,519
Pension costs	602,373	527,071
	<u>4,956,470</u>	<u>4,590,130</u>
Agency staff costs	88,750	102,597
	<u>5,045,220</u>	<u>4,692,727</u>

Included within salaries and wages are Staff termination costs of £20,130 (2023: £30,654) with £Nil (2023: £Nil) remain outstanding at the year-end. Also included within salaries and wages is £16,206 (2023: £5,335) of premiums for staff death in service benefit cover and £5,333 (2023: £5,659) of premiums for private healthcare cover for senior managers.

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel, including employer pension contributions, is £638,446 (2023: £687,733). The Governors consider that the key management personnel comprise the Executive team.

The average number of employees during the year was:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Teaching staff	42	40
Teaching assistants and nursery nurses	45	42
Domestic staff	16	14
Office and management staff	23	20
	<u>126</u>	<u>116</u>

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**6. Staff costs and numbers (continued)**

The table below shows details of employees who on an annualised basis received remuneration, including benefits but excluding employer pension contributions, in excess of £60,000:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	2	1
£70,001 - £80,000	3	3
£80,001 - £90,000	-	-
£90,001 - £100,000	-	-
£140,001 - £150,000	-	-
£150,001 - £160,000	1	1

One employee in the £60,001 - £70,000 (2023: One), two employees in the £70,001 - £80,000 bracket (2023: One) and the employee in the £150,001 - £160,000 (2023: One) are members of the Governments' Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits Scheme and the School pays standard contributions as detailed in note 11. The remaining employees are members of the defined contribution scheme set out in note 11.

No governor received any remuneration. During the year 4 (2023: 0) governors received reimbursement of £637 for travel expenses (2023: £631). No governor received reimbursement for subsistence costs for Governors' meetings in 2024 (2023: £Nil). No governors (2023: 0) received reimbursement for travel costs associated with training courses of £Nil (2023: £Nil). No governors received reimbursement for entertaining expenses in either 2024 or 2023.

**7. Intangible fixed assets**

	Trademark Licence	Website	Total
<b>Cost</b>	£	£	£
As at 1 September 2023	840	-	840
Additions	-	-	-
Transfers	-	47,880	47,880
At 31 August 2024	840	47,880	48,720
<b>Depreciation</b>	£	£	£
As at 1 September 2023	189	-	189
Charge	84	11,970	12,054
Transfers	-	5,018	5,018
At 31 August 2024	273	16,988	17,261
			£
<b>Net Book Value</b>	£	£	
At 31 August 2024	567	30,892	31,459
At 1 September 2023	651	-	651

The licence to use the trademark of Hallfield School will expire in six years.



**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
Year ended 31 August 2024

**8. Tangible fixed assets**

	Freehold Land & Buildings £	Long Term Leasehold Property £	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment £	Assets Under Construction £	Assets Held for Sale £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 Sep 2023	546,581	8,356,011	1,399,614	480,296	-	10,782,502
Additions	-	93,164	1,611	1,814,981	-	1,909,756
Transfers	(546,581)	390,119	(47,880)	(390,119)	519,179	(75,282)
Disposals	-	-	(859)	-	-	(859)
At 31 August 2024	-	8,839,294	1,352,486	1,905,158	519,179	12,616,117
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 Sep 2023	103,129	3,547,776	906,991	-	-	4,557,896
Charge	9,585	410,753	146,629	-	-	566,967
Transfers	(112,714)	-	(5,018)	-	98,683	(19,049)
Disposals	-	-	(960)	-	-	(960)
At 31 August 2024	-	3,958,529	1,047,643	-	98,683	5,104,855
<b>Net Book Value</b>						
At 31 August 2024	-	4,880,765	304,844	1,905,158	420,496	7,511,263
At 31 August 2023	443,452	4,808,235	492,623	480,296	-	6,224,606

Included in Assets Held for Sale is an amount of £39,947 (2023: £39,947) relating to freehold land which is not depreciated.

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**8. Tangible fixed assets (continued)**

Assets Held for Sale consist of freehold property and land owned by the Trust which was vacant and on open sale as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024. It is anticipated that this will be sold within 12 months of the year end.

The property is held at NBV as this is less than the Fair Value less costs to sell. There have been no impairments or revaluation within the year.

**9. Investment Properties**

	<b>2024</b>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£</b>
As at 1 September 2023	-
Additions	-
Transfers in	13,373
Fair Value Adjustment	466,627
At 31 August 2024	<u>480,000</u>

Investment Property held by the Trust at the 31 August 2024 consist of 2 dwellings within a single building; no associated land is owned by the Trust.

The Fair Value of the property was conducted by an independent valuer who holds a recognised and relevant professional qualification and has recent experience in the location and category of the investment property being valued.

The value is based on a section 119 report conducted on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**10. Debtors: amounts due within one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	11,663	21,388
Other debtors (Lease Premium)	8,446	8,446
Prepayments and accrued income	129,741	172,713
	<u>149,850</u>	<u>202,547</u>

**Debtors: amounts due after more than one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Lease Premium	<u>721,589</u>	<u>730,035</u>

The lease premium represents amounts paid to the Trust's Landlord on completion of the lease arrangements together with professional costs incurred in reaching the agreement. The premium is amortised over the life of the lease which expires on 24 March 2110.

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fees in advance	730,692	477,204
Trade creditors	158,796	581,962
Other creditors	198,729	299,162
Accruals and deferred income	479,021	216,554
Deferred rental charge	4,054	4,054
Other tax and social security	-	101,306
	<u>1,571,292</u>	<u>1,680,242</u>

Included within other creditors are amounts relating to outstanding pension contributions of £922 (2023: £67,108) and an amount of £193,000 (2023: £202,346) relating to deposits received from parents for pupils attending the School; deposits are repayable when the pupil leaves the School in Year 6 or Year 8.

The Governors have reviewed the contract terms under which the Pupil fee deposits are held by the school. Although under normal circumstances these will be repaid over 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 the deposits held at 31 August 2024 has been included within current liabilities.

**Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fees in advance	206,152	-
Deferred Rental Charges	180,743	197,298
	<u>386,895</u>	<u>197,298</u>

These charges arise as the rent payable under the new lease arrangements steps up over the period to 24 March 2029. Our policy is to recognise the rent equally over this period and the amount is expected to reverse by 31 August 2029.

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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**Year ended 31 August 2024**

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## **12. Pensions**

### ***Teachers' Pension Defined Benefits 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 £509,105 (2023: £404,750) and at the year-end £863 (2023: £53,551) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

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.

Following the McCloud judgement, the remedy proposed that when benefits become payable, eligible members can select to receive them from either the reformed or legacy schemes for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022. The actuaries have assumed that members are likely to choose the option that provides them with the greater benefits, and in preparing the 2020 valuation has valued the 'greater value' benefits for groups of relevant members.

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%.

### ***Other arrangements***

The school has contributed to APTIS, a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of teaching staff. All newly recruited teaching staff from 1 January 2024 have been enrolled into the scheme.

The school also contributes to a defined contribution pension scheme in respect of its non-teaching staff. All eligible employees were enrolled in the defined contribution auto-enrolment scheme as of its staging date on 1 May 2014.

The pension status of all employees is reviewed monthly to ensure that all employees who are eligible are enrolled in the scheme and that all non-eligible or entitled workers are aware of their right to opt to join the scheme.

The pension charge in the Statement of Financial Activities and reported in note 6 to the financial statements represents contributions payable to all of the pension schemes of £602,373 (2023: £527,071).

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**13. Restricted funds**

The funds of the charitable company include restricted funds comprising unexpended balances of donations and grants, held on trust, to be applied for specific purposes, as follows:

<b>At 31 August 2024</b>	<b>Balances at 1 September 2023 £</b>	<b>Incoming Resources £</b>	<b>Outgoing Resources £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>Balances at 31 August 2024 £</b>
Pavilion Appeal Fund	7,568	-	(1,224)	-	6,344
Rigby Bursary	14,213	-	-	-	14,213
Hardship Fund	18,960	16,601	(650)	(9,460)	25,451
Gifted and Talented Fund	3,357	-	-	-	3,357
Stanley Owen Allday Memorial	50	-	-	-	50
Ranjeen Neelima Memorial Award	130	-	-	-	130
Make a Difference Fund	610	30	-	-	640
	<u>44,888</u>	<u>16,631</u>	<u>(1,874)</u>	<u>(9,460)</u>	<u>50,185</u>

<b>At 31 August 2023</b>	<b>Balances at 1 September 2022 £</b>	<b>Incoming Resources £</b>	<b>Outgoing Resources £</b>	<b>Transfers £</b>	<b>Balances at 31 August 2023 £</b>
Pavilion Appeal Fund	8,850	-	(1,282)	-	7,568
Rigby Bursary	14,213	-	-	-	14,213
Hardship Fund	18,885	75	-	-	18,960
Gifted and Talented Fund	3,357	-	-	-	3,357
Stanley Owen Allday Memorial	50	-	-	-	50
Ranjeen Neelima Memorial Award	155	-	(25)	-	130
Make a Difference Fund	535	75	-	-	610
	<u>46,045</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>(1,307)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,888</u>

**13. Restricted funds (continued)**

**Capital funds**

The Pavilion Appeal Fund was created in the 125th Anniversary year, 2003, to supplement the school's provision of funds for the new sports pavilion, benefiting from the generosity of various friends as well as the Old Hallfieldian Society. The cash raised was fully utilised on the purchase of the pavilion which is included in fixed assets; depreciation is charged on a straight line basis over the estimated remaining useful life of 10 years. The fund balance at the end of the year is represented by the attributable proportion of the net book amount of the asset to the extent that it was funded by the donation.

**Other funds**

The Rigby Bursary Fund is the result of a legacy from a former headmaster, Mr. R. Vaughan Rigby, to improve access for children from families with limited resources for independent schooling, especially the children of Old Hallfieldians.

The Hardship Fund was created to provide short term assistance to current pupils whose families run into financial difficulty. This money is to be used to support families that have had an unforeseen change of circumstances within an academic year.

The Gifted and Talented Fund began in 2009 due to an enlightened donation by the retiring deputy head, Mrs. Rosemary Mountford.

The Stanley Owen Allday Memorial Fund is a prize fund awarded in respect of excellence at sport in memory of a pupil who was killed in active service during the First World War in 1915.

The Ranjan Neelima Memorial Award is the result of a donation received in respect of a former pupil for an award for excellence in mathematics. During the year the fund donated £25 (2023: £25) for the School's prize in mathematics.

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
Year ended 31 August 2024

**14. Unrestricted funds**

At 31 August 2024	Balances at 1 September 2023	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfer £	Gains £	Balances at 31 August 2024 £
General Fund	8,694,280	8,599,775	(8,161,294)	9,460	466,627	9,608,848
Designated fund	500,000	-	-	-	-	500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,194,280</b>	<b>8,599,577</b>	<b>(8,161,294)</b>	<b>9,460</b>	<b>466,627</b>	<b>10,108,848</b>
At 31 August 2023	Balances at 1 September 2022	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfer £	Gains £	Balances at 31 August 2023 £
General Fund	8,123,928	8,151,347	(7,580,995)	-	-	8,694,280
Designated fund	500,000	-	-	-	-	500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,623,928</b>	<b>8,151,347</b>	<b>(7,580,995)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,194,280</b>

The Designated fund was established for future development of the school site.

**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**15. Analysis of net assets between funds**

<b>At 31 August 2024</b>	<b>General funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Fixed assets	8,016,378	6,344	8,022,722
Net current assets	1,757,777	43,841	1,801,618
Long term debtors	721,589	-	721,589
Long term liabilities	(386,895)	-	(386,895)
	<u>10,108,848</u>	<u>50,185</u>	<u>10,159,033</u>

  

<b>At 31 August 2023</b>	<b>General funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Fixed assets	6,217,689	7,568	6,225,257
Net current assets	2,443,854	37,320	2,481,174
Long term debtors	730,035	-	730,035
Long term liabilities	(197,298)	-	(197,298)
	<u>9,194,280</u>	<u>44,888</u>	<u>9,239,168</u>

**16. Commitments under leases**

***Operating Leases***

The charitable company has total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as set out below:

	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>	
	<b>Land and buildings £</b>	<b>Other £</b>	<b>Land and buildings £</b>	<b>Other £</b>
Leases expiring:				
Within one year	125,000	33,499	112,500	10,425
Within 2 – 5 years	500,000	99,874	500,000	11,191
Over five years	27,379,177	2,003	27,391,677	-
	<u>28,016,677</u>	<u>135,376</u>	<u>28,129,177</u>	<u>21,616</u>

The land and buildings commitment relates to a rental lease on the school premises which expires on 24 March 2110.



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**HALLFIELD SCHOOL TRUST**  
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**Year ended 31 August 2024**

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**17. Capital commitments**

At 31 August 2024, the charitable company had £Nil of capital commitments (2023: £1,093,054).

**18. Members**

The charity is incorporated as a company limited by guarantee having no share capital and, in accordance with the memorandum of association, every member is liable to contribute a sum of £1 in the event of the company being wound up. At 31 August 2024 there were 10 members (2023: 11).

**19. Related party transactions**

At the year-end there was a £1,348 (2023: £1,348) creditor representing amounts due to the Friends of Hallfield Society ("the Friends") in respect of the combination of payments due from the School to the Society for annual subscriptions collected and other associated transactions made by the School on behalf of the Society. The Head Master is the President of the society and the Director of Finance and Operations is the Treasurer.

During the year one Governor (2023: 1 Governor) had children at the school. Fees and extras were charged at a standard market rate and based on standard commercial terms.

During the year the Head Master utilised the services of the school in connection with his employment by the Trust. These services were provided on standard commercial terms and were paid in full by the Head Master with no amounts owing at the year end and with no benefits derived from the service.

