

Registered number: 00634981

Charity number: 528959

West House School

Governors' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024



West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details of the charity, its Governors and advisers	1
Governors' report	2 - 11
Independent auditor's report on the financial statements	12 - 16
Statement of financial activities	17
Balance sheet	18
Statement of cash flows	19
Notes to the financial statements	20 - 40

West House School

(A company limited by guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details of the Charity, its Governors and Advisers
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Governors

Mrs C R Ashley, Chair
J A Cloughton Esq. (resigned 8 November 2023)
I P P Crawford Esq.
J R Gittins Esq.
S A Blackledge Esq.
Mrs A K Hayer
Dr J Evans (resigned 21 May 2024)
Mrs E Bagg (appointed 21 May 2024)
Dr A Rajp (appointed 21 May 2024)
Mrs S L Keane (appointed 19 November 2024)
Mr M Monks (appointed 19 November 2024)

Company registered number 00634981

Charity registered number 528959

Registered office 24 St James Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 2NX

Company secretary Ms J Robinson

Chief executive officer A M J Lyttle Esq.

Independent auditor Dains Audit Limited
2 Chamberlain Square
Paradise Circus
Birmingham
B3 3AX

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc
1 Calthorpe Road
Birmingham
B15 1QL

Governors' Report
For the year ended 31 August 2024

The Governors present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the charity for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Governors' report and a directors' report under company law. The Governors 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.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

West House School is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 1st August 1959 (No. 00634981) and registered as a charity on 10th April 1963 (No. 528959). The company was incorporated under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association.

b. Methods of appointment or election of Governors

The Governors are responsible for the management of the charity and are elected at Annual General Meetings to serve as life members or annual subscribing members, under the terms of the Articles of Association. There are 9 members who are currently elected Governors, whose liability is limited to a contribution of a maximum of £1 each. This guarantee will only apply when there is a deficiency of net assets upon liquidation.

The charity's elected Governors are appointed at the Annual General Meeting on the basis of selection of nominees meeting the criteria set by the Board which stipulate eligibility, personal competence and specialist skills. The Board seeks to engage a diverse range of professional experiences to ensure a balanced judgment. Nominees are considered upon the retirement of a Governor from office and the skills needed to replace the post. Recruitment is generally from the local business community and the board is particularly keen to appoint senior teachers from independent schools and those with a good understanding of the requirements, needs and challenges of maintaining a successful preparatory school.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

c. Organisational structure and decision-making policies

The Governors are legally responsible for the overall management and control of West House School. The charity is organised so that its Governors meet as a full Board at least three times per year to manage its affairs, and to formulate and review policy. The Governors actively review the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that they have established systems in place to mitigate significant risks. They also carry out a regular review of investments to ensure their suitability and also to ensure that proper diversification has been undertaken to mitigate risks. Members of the full Board sit on the following subcommittees which report back on a regular basis: Health and Safety; Education; Property and Finance. A nominated Governor liaises with the Designated Safeguarding Lead on matters of safeguarding three times during the year and produces a report for the full Board.

The Headmaster and the Bursar are responsible for the day to day running of the charity and report to the Governors on a regular basis. Management accounts and budgets are presented each term and the school's fee structure is reviewed and approved at least annually enabling the Governors to ascertain the financial position of the charity, adopting suitable accounting practices and ensuring that SORP accounting procedures are followed. An established organisational structure, lines of reporting and authorisation, and approval levels are in place.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Governors

The induction process for Governors involves spending time in school with the Headmaster and Bursar, along with briefings as necessary with copies of previous sub-committee and committee minutes relevant to individual specialisms. All Governors are particularly encouraged to attend the various annual school functions and to meet members of the school staff in order to gain a full knowledge and understanding of the nature of the school's business. An appropriate level of instruction is provided to both new and existing Governors to update their knowledge and place them in a position where they could reasonably identify their powers and responsibilities. Periodic formal training is also undertaken allowing a governor to successfully discharge his/her duty.

e. Pay policy for key management personnel

In the opinion of the Governors, the key management personnel of West House School responsible for the direction, control, running and operation of the school on a day-to-day basis consists of the Board of Governors and the senior management team comprising the Headmaster, the Bursar and the Deputy Head assisted by other senior staff members.

All Governors give freely of their time and no remuneration was paid during the year and no expenses reimbursed.

The pay of West House school's senior staff is reviewed annually to reflect the recruitment and retention of high quality staff. Pay is normally increased based upon the position of the school's finances and the cost of living in general.

f. Related party relationships

Details of related third party transactions are disclosed in note 25 to the financial statements.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

g. Financial risk management

The Governors have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the charity, and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

h. Governors' indemnities

The Governors and Trustees have Liability Insurance cover under a Professional Risk insurance policy. The cover is extended to include Principal, Governors, Trustees/Directors or Officers.

i. Other relationships

The Headmaster is a member of the Independent Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS), which exists to share expertise, knowledge and experience across the independent preparatory school sector. The Bursar is a member of the Independent Schools Bursars Association (ISBA), which provides professional development, technical support and invaluable reference material.

Other key parties supporting the charity include the Independent Schools' Council (ISC) and the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS).

Objectives and activities

a. Policies and objectives

The object of the school is to advance high quality education delivered through day schooling for boys aged between four and eleven, and boys and girls aged from one to four years. Care for all age groups is available for 48 weeks of the year with extended care from 7.30am until 6.00pm.

The school's objects also provide for the creation and administration of scholarships, exhibitions and awards for the encouragement of study and learning. West House is a school with a particularly happy and caring atmosphere, with 125 years' experience of fostering academic, sporting, musical and artistic success. Our aim is to provide boys in Birmingham with an outstanding academic education, whilst giving them the freedom to have fun and the confidence to be themselves. The key features of the school are:

- A small school for boys with a happy family atmosphere;
- A school that believes that breadth of education enhances achievement in all areas;
- A school where boys achieve academic excellence, guided by a skilled, dedicated staff; and
- A school that contributes to the wider community.

It is the wish of the charity that on leaving West House every individual will have happy memories of his or her time at the school and possess the skills, attributes and qualities necessary to thrive in the middle part of the 21st century.

Objectives and activities (continued)

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Governors have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and fee charging.

b. Activities undertaken to achieve objectives

• Access to education

West House School is a charitable trust which seeks to benefit the public through the pursuit of its stated aims. Fees are set at a level that ensures financial viability and allows the provision of an excellent education, consistent with membership of IAPS.

Bursary awards are available to all who meet the general entry requirements and are made on the basis of parental means or to relieve short-term hardship where a pupil's education and future prospects would otherwise be at risk, such as in the case of redundancy. In assessing means, a number of factors are taken into consideration, including family income, investments and savings and family circumstances, such as dependent relatives and number of siblings. All means tested awards are reviewed annually. The policy of awarding scholarships and means tested bursaries contributes to the widening of access to the education offered and the facilities available.

The school also offers Michael Pratt Scholarships and Michael Pratt Awards to pupils who display considerable gifts or talents. Such awards are designed to allow individual pupils to pursue such gifts or talents with the financial support of the school. The performance of pupils receiving Michael Pratt Scholarships and Awards is reviewed annually to ensure that their progress is in line with their abilities and that they are making an active contribution to the aims, ethos and expectations of the school. The Board of Governors reserves the right to remove such scholarships and awards.

Information about fee assistance is available from the Bursar and the availability of these awards is highlighted in local press and other publications. Discounts are also offered to families with more than one child at the school and to staff who choose to educate their children at the school.

Objectives and activities (continued)

• Community engagement

West House School again demonstrated its commitment to benefiting the wider community through a variety of means:

- The outdoor facilities were made available to local clubs and businesses, including other local charities such as the English Cricket Association for the Deaf (ECAD).
- A donation was made to Harborne Cricket Club for the benefit of youth players.
- The school also continued to support Woodgate Valley Urban Farm via sponsorship and pupils raised money for Young Minds, Children in Need, NSPCC, Comic Relief, the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust supporting health and wellbeing for young people, Birmingham Children's Hospital and St. Mary's Hospice, along with other smaller local charities chosen by the senior boys as part of their Enterprise project. The annual 'Humanitarian Day' raised money for Save the Children in recognition of children caught up in conflicts and natural disasters in various parts of the world.
- The school continued to act as the regional hub for the 'Children's Book Project' working in partnership with the charity and Edgbaston High School. During the financial year, 11,900 books were collected and 6,600 of these were delivered to local schools operating in deprived areas with the remainder donated to Oxfam Books.

• Objectives for the year

In planning the objectives for the year, the Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education and fee charging.

It is an ongoing objective of the school that pupil numbers are maintained and that the successes of its pupils, both academic and non-academic, are continued and enhanced through the appointment of highly qualified staff. However, these objectives are set within the context of specific goals for the school and its pupils including those listed below. During the year the school sought to:

1. Maintain academic and non-academic standards through the appointment of highly qualified practitioners, rigorous performance management and appropriate training of existing staff.
2. Maintain existing levels of engagement with the local community.
3. Carry out a full review of the school's strategic plan in light of the changing political & economic landscape.
4. Provide a greater focus on pupil and staff wellbeing.
5. Make Michael Pratt Scholarships and Awards available, alongside means-tested bursaries.
6. To carry out a review of the commitment to the Teachers' Pension Scheme.
7. Carry out a review of pay scales to ensure that the school demonstrates its commitment to recruiting and retaining high quality staff.
8. To fully reopen the school's nature reserve.
9. To enhance digital communication across the school community.
10. Carry out a full review of suppliers, consultants and agencies used by the school to ensure the maintenance of quality services at competitive prices.
11. Carry out a full strategic review of the EYFS Department including an upgrade to existing accommodation.

Governors' Report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Review of achievements and performance for the year

The year 2023 - 2024 saw the school maintain high standards of education and care in a safe and stimulating environment and the school continued to meet the physical, social and emotional needs of each pupil with outstanding success.

We saw a slight decline in pupil numbers due to changing demographics and the reduced birthrate nationally. It is anticipated that this trend will continue in the coming years, accentuated by the changing political landscape. By the end of the year there were 337 pupils on the roll (2023: 362), with 104 children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (2023: 110).

Means tested and hardship bursaries were awarded in line with school policy and 11 pupils benefitted from such awards (2023: 10). Fifteen existing pupils benefitted from Michael Pratt Awards (2023: 24). The school started to offer the enhanced early years funding for children from the age of nine months, resulting in parents being able to access funding across the entirety of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

External examination results reflected the commitment by the school to maintaining the highest standards of academia. All of our leavers were offered at least one of their chosen selective secondary school places (2023: 95%). 76% of candidates were offered places at King Edward's School, Birmingham (2023: 47%). In all, West House boys were awarded 14 academic scholarships and 1 music scholarship to leading independent schools.

The school remained committed to the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum and pupils were afforded the opportunity to excel in a variety of areas, including art, drama, MFL and sport. The contribution of these curricular areas was significant with pupils, once again, performing at venues throughout the city, including St Faith and St Laurence Church and Birmingham Cathedral. The continued use of the Enrichment Learning Grid allowed all pupils the opportunity to extend their learning beyond the school day and the standard curriculum while affording those with particular gifts and talents to explore their individual interests. The teaching of RSE and Wellbeing lessons became embedded within the curriculum alongside PSHE for all year groups. An appropriate consultation exercise was undertaken with parents in respect of RSE. The Education Committee explored curriculum options for Year 6 pupils in the post examination period which saw the introduction of the Enterprise Project during the Summer Term. Four members of staff successfully completed their Forest School Training with a view to introducing Forest School during the academic year 2024 -2025.

A full review of the Teachers' Pension Scheme was completed with assistance from Barnett Waddingham. The Board of Governors elected to remain with the scheme to ensure that the school continued to recruit and retain a highly skilled teaching team.

The wellbeing committee continued to meet to address wellbeing issues among the staff. As a result, long service awards were introduced and flu vaccinations were offered onsite, alongside access to an employee assistance programme offering a number of staff benefits.

The Engage Management Information System was fully implemented and provided a more efficient means of managing the pupil journey from registration to secondary transfer.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The Board continued to develop the school's strategic plan to take West House forward into the middle part of the century in light of the anticipated impact of the implementation of full business rates and VAT on school fees. The proposed project to extend the existing Centenary Building to incorporate a performing arts studio and additional facilities for music was placed on hold. The focus shifted towards creating additional storage space and to enhance the Duce Hall by adding additional changing rooms, replacing the existing roof and adding solar panels to increase the overall efficiency of the building. Planning permission was being processed by the end of the year. A decision was also taken to upgrade the ICT provision across the site.

The EYFS department was led by the newly appointed Nursery Manager, allowing the Assistant Head (Pastoral) to focus on the wellbeing and pastoral care of staff and pupils. The school upgraded its firewall and web content filtering system with the introduction of SmoothWall.

Financial review

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governors 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.

b. Reserves policy

The Governors have established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds held by the charity should be enough to cover one school term of expenditure. At this level the Governors feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity. Unrestricted free reserves at 31 August 2024 were £1,478,325 (2023 - £1,103,992). The charity has both designated and restricted funds which are represented by investments and fixed assets. The purposes of these funds is detailed in note 18 to the financial statements.

Governors' Report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

c. Review of the year

The Statement of Financial Activities shows incoming resources for the year of £4,251,469 (2023 - £3,847,879) and resources expended of £4,014,668 (2023 - £3,748,459). The net incoming resources for the year after investment gains is £237,371 (2023 - £99,284) and have been attributed to funds. Total funds carried forward are £4,700,770 (2023 - £4,463,399). Maintaining pupil numbers and good controls over operating costs have enabled the school to achieve a surplus.

Unrestricted funds held by the charity as stated in the financial statements as 31 August 2024 are £4,689,990 (2023 - £4,453,203) and restricted funds total £10,780 (2023 - £10,196). The reserves are primarily to cover the expected future running costs and capital expenditure for all aspects of the organisation. The present level of incoming resources is adequate to support the continuation of the school's existing activities.

The Governors consider the results of the year and position as at 31 August 2024 to be satisfactory. The Governors have reviewed the financial forecasts and consider the future financial prospects of the school to be satisfactory.

d. Material investments policy

There are no restrictions on the charity's power to invest. The investment strategy is set by the Governors and takes account of demands for funds and income requirements and capital is invested in low risk investments.

e. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Governors have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Governors undertake a full review of risk management procedures each year. The risks faced by the School include political, buildings, economic changes together with the recruitment and retention of quality staff. The Governors have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks that the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

The Governors also look to mitigate risks were possible by:

- Having formal agendas for Governing Board Meetings and Sub-committee meetings
- Accounts, annual budgeting with ongoing monitoring, and long-term planning
- Written policies and terms of references, delegation of approval limits
- Legislative compliance for finance and education
- External compliance audits for Health and Safety
- Membership of professional bodies for support and advice: AGBIS, IAPS, ISBA
- Full insurance cover

The governors are aware of the pressure on the economy following the Covid pandemic. There is a high degree of economic uncertainty and future challenges to the independent Sector, of which the Governors are aware that the situation may deteriorate further but are confident that the school is in a strong position for the immediate future.

Plans for future periods

The Governors intend to continue their current strategies of maintaining the school's position in a highly competitive market by investing to provide high quality education for all pupils. This included a strategy to increase the size of the Board to ensure a breadth of skills and experience. Achieving a high standard of academic results is a constant objective, while at the same time providing a broad and balanced education. The Board has also made a commitment to ensure that in the event of future requirements for remote learning, the school is well equipped in terms of staff skills, mobile devices and infrastructure.

The school's future plans will be financed primarily from fee income and reserves. The Governors will maintain an equitable balance ensuring that current pupils benefit whilst, at the same time, ensuring that a sound infrastructure and financial base are preserved for the next generation of pupils.

The Governors view bursary awards as important in widening access to the education provided by the school. Bursary awards will continue to be reviewed annually by the Bursar in a bid to ensure that parents can accept offers of places for their children at the school through the availability of means-tested fee assistance.

The Governors recognise that the sector is facing significant challenges in the short and medium term. However, the school will continue to invest in the premises to ensure that pupils continue to receive the highest quality of educational experience.

The following represents the key objectives articulated within the School Development Plan to be achieved over the next five years:

1. The development of the site to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of existing pupils and future generations of pupils
2. Maintain existing levels of engagement with the local community in the wake of increased financial pressures.
3. To broaden the wider curriculum through the introduction of Forest School, Mandarin classes and by carrying out a full review of after-school clubs and activities.
4. To undertake focused contingency planning/modelling pending changes to charitable status and the introduction of VAT & business rates.
5. To consider the environmental sustainability of the school's activities and plans for development.
6. To review and extend 11 Plus preparation.
7. Carry out an appropriate consultation in respect of membership of the Teachers' Pension Scheme.
8. To evaluate the performance of the registered nursery setting and to plan for the extension/impact of childcare support from April 2024.
10. Review the Standard Terms and Conditions of the school.

Governors' Report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Statement of Governors' responsibilities

The Governors (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of company law) 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).

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Governors 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 Governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements 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 Governors 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.

Disclosure of information to auditor

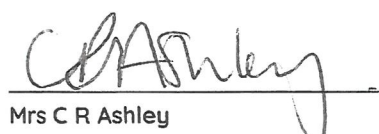
Each of the persons who are Governors at the time when this Governors' report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that Governor is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware, and
- that Governor has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Governor in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charity's auditor is aware of that information.

Auditor

The auditor, Dains Audit Limited, has indicated his willingness to continue in office. The designated Governors will propose a motion reappointing the auditor at a meeting of the Governors.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Governors on 25 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


Mrs C R Ashley
Chair

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of West House School

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of West House School (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the 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 Governors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of West House School (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. The Governors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Governors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Governors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Governors' Report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Governors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the Governors' Report and from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of West House School (continued)

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement, the Governors (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 Governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Governors are responsible for assessing the 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 Governors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the charity sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the financial reporting legislation, Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of West House School (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 3 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of West House School (continued)

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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Dains Audit Limited

Andrew Morris FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

25 March 2025

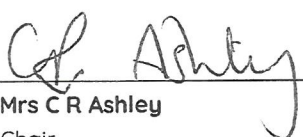
West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered number: 00634981

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	945,827	973,348
Investments	13	7,546	6,976
		<u>953,373</u>	<u>980,324</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	14	24,697	23,342
Debtors	15	196,162	97,402
Investments	16	2,931,872	1,988,831
Cash at bank and in hand		1,401,697	1,854,614
		<u>4,554,428</u>	<u>3,964,189</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(807,031)	(481,114)
Net current assets		<u>3,747,397</u>	<u>3,483,075</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>4,700,770</u></u>	<u><u>4,463,399</u></u>
Charity funds			
Restricted funds	18	10,780	10,196
Unrestricted funds	18	4,689,990	4,453,203
Total funds		<u><u>4,700,770</u></u>	<u><u>4,463,399</u></u>

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

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


Mrs C R Ashley
Chair

The notes on pages 20 to 40 form part of these financial statements.

West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 August 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Note				
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	4	13,068	-	13,068	9,971
Charitable activities	5	4,042,960	-	4,042,960	3,758,744
Other trading activities	6	19,734	14	19,748	29,644
Investments	7	175,693	-	175,693	49,520
Total income		4,251,455	14	4,251,469	3,847,879
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	8	4,014,668	-	4,014,668	3,748,459
Total expenditure		4,014,668	-	4,014,668	3,748,459
Net income before investments		236,787	14	236,801	99,420
Net gains/(losses) on investments		-	570	570	(136)
Net movement in funds	18	236,787	584	237,371	99,284
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	18	4,453,203	10,196	4,463,399	4,364,115
Net movement in funds	18	236,787	584	237,371	99,284
Total funds carried forward	18	4,689,990	10,780	4,700,770	4,463,399

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 20 to 40 form part of these financial statements.

West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 August 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	465,156	(59,331)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Interest from investments	119,837	49,520
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(94,869)	(164,816)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	24,968	(115,296)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	490,124	(174,627)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	3,843,445	4,018,072
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	4,333,569	3,843,445

The notes on pages 20 to 40 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

1. General information

West House School is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and incorporated and registered in England and Wales under the Companies Act. The registered company and charity numbers and registered office address are given on page 1 of these financial statements. The principal objectives and activities of the charity are set out in the Governors' Report.

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are presented in the charitable company's functional currency of GBP (Sterling). They are prepared to the nearest £1.

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

2.2 Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are elected at Annual General Meetings to serve as life members or annual subscribing members, under the terms of the Articles of Association. A total of £176 has been collected from life and subscribing members to date.

There are currently 9 members serving as elected Governors, as listed on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the charity.

2.3 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the governors believe that no material uncertainties exist. The governors have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for the 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The expected level of income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 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.

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the charity has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the charity, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

School and nursery fees are recognised in the accounting period in which the related educational services are provided. Fees are stated after deducting allowances, scholarships, bursaries and other remissions granted by the school.

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

Other income is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the charity's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.6 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.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

At each reporting date the charity assesses whether there is any indication of impairment. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined to be the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount.

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Leasehold premises - Design Technology Block and other leasehold improvements	- 30 years with effect from 1 September 2017
Furniture, fittings, tools and equipment	- 7% to 20% straight-line

2.8 Investments

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

2.9 Stocks

Stocks of uniforms are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Stocks of food and fuel are not valued.

2.10 Debtors

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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

2.12 Liabilities and provisions

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

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in the Statement of financial activities as a finance cost.

2.13 Financial instruments

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

2.14 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.15 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.

The charity's academic staff belong to the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS). The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in state-funded schools. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. Contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the charity 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.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

2.16 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Governors in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Governors for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. 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 discussed below.

Critical areas of judgement:

Depreciation

The Governors have reviewed the useful lives of fixed assets and associated residual values and concluded that they are appropriate to the activities of the charity. Residual values consider such things as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values, and plans to dispose of an asset before the previously expected date.

Bad and doubtful debts

The Governors are required to exercise significant judgement in estimating the bad and doubtful debt provision, based on their assessment of the likelihood of recovery. An informed assessment is performed based on the knowledge of parents including their communication pattern and previous payment history.

4. Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	13,068	13,068	9,971

The total of the 2023 income above was wholly attributable to unrestricted funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

5. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Gross fees	4,251,830	4,251,830	3,986,732
Bursaries and sibling discounts	(306,604)	(306,604)	(258,781)
Recovery of costs for extras and disbursements	97,734	97,734	30,793
	<u>4,042,960</u>	<u>4,042,960</u>	<u>3,758,744</u>

The total of the 2023 income above was wholly attributable to unrestricted funds.

6. Income from other trading activities

Income from fundraising events

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Hire of premises	12,356	-	12,356
Other fundraising activities	4,240	-	4,240
Sundry income	3,138	14	3,152
	<u>19,734</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19,748</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

6. Income from other trading activities (continued)

Income from fundraising events (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Hire of premises	10,610	10,610
Other fundraising activities	5,660	5,660
Sundry income	13,374	13,374
	<u>29,644</u>	<u>29,644</u>

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Interest receivable on short-term deposits	175,693	175,693	49,520
	<u>175,693</u>	<u>175,693</u>	<u>49,520</u>

The total of the 2023 income above was wholly attributable to unrestricted funds.

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
School and Nursery	3,150,600	864,068	4,014,668
	<u>3,150,600</u>	<u>864,068</u>	<u>4,014,668</u>

West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
School and Nursery	2,938,859	809,600	3,748,459

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	2,379,014	2,165,907
Staff agency fees	8,116	72,110
Rent, rates and insurance	129,089	110,074
Heat, light and water	146,020	160,290
Books, printing, stationery and materials	322,207	217,943
Leased equipment	8,448	6,102
Subscriptions	62,983	90,945
Bad debts	(22,781)	-
Depreciation of leasehold improvements	31,960	29,092
Depreciation of other assets	85,544	86,396
	3,150,600	2,938,859

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	262,034	248,150
Advertising and staff recruitment	24,219	37,799
Services and advice	29,087	89,582
Food, household expenses and laundry	167,865	144,908
Upkeep of gardens and grounds	34,088	43,964
Postage and telephone	29,115	24,010
Legal and professional	2,340	33,423
Repairs and renewals	165,414	78,149
ICT maintenance and support	39,768	38,577
Sundry expenses	91,369	52,027
Governance costs	13,884	13,080
Depreciation of other assets	4,885	5,931
	864,068	809,600

9. Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to the charity's auditor for the audit of the charity's annual accounts	8,810	8,195
Other costs:		
Operating lease rentals - land and buildings	62,000	62,000
Operating lease rentals - office equipment	15,886	15,886
Depreciation	122,390	121,419

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

10. Staff costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	2,157,795	1,992,467
Social security costs	191,143	175,650
Contributions to pension schemes	292,110	245,940
Agency staff	8,116	72,110
	<u>2,649,164</u>	<u>2,486,167</u>

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teaching and Nursery	52	52
Support	18	17
Administration	8	9
	<u>78</u>	<u>78</u>

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	2	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	1

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the senior leadership team and the assistant heads. The senior leadership team consists of the headmaster, deputy head and bursar. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the charity was £599,052 (2023 - £550,536).

11. Governors' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Governors received any remuneration or other benefits (2023 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2024, no Governor expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Design Technology Block £	Other leasehold improvements £	Furniture, fittings, tools and equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	529,714	877,877	1,941,435	3,349,026
Additions	-	85,041	9,828	94,869
Disposals	-	-	(634,373)	(634,373)
At 31 August 2024	529,714	962,918	1,316,890	2,809,522
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	417,086	452,888	1,505,704	2,375,678
Charge for the year	4,609	27,352	90,429	122,390
On disposals	-	-	(634,373)	(634,373)
At 31 August 2024	421,695	480,240	961,760	1,863,695
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	108,019	482,678	355,130	945,827
At 31 August 2023	112,628	424,989	435,731	973,348

West House School
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

13. Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Market valuation	
At 1 September 2023	6,976
Revaluations	570
At 31 August 2024	<u>7,546</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2024	<u>7,546</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>6,976</u>

14. Stocks

	2024 £	2023 £
Stock of uniform etc.	<u>24,697</u>	<u>23,342</u>

15. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year		
Fees receivable	73,850	28,250
Other debtors	8,954	6,391
Prepayments and accrued income	113,358	62,761
	<u>196,162</u>	<u>97,402</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

16. Current asset investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Short-term deposits	2,931,872	1,988,831

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payments received in advance	427,466	235,548
Trade creditors	100,429	38,219
Deposits held	89,092	71,300
Other taxation and social security	50,974	49,195
Other creditors	76,247	74,391
Accruals and deferred income	62,823	12,461
	807,031	481,114

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	-	48,877
Resources deferred during the year	-	-
Amounts released from previous periods	-	(48,877)
	-	-

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Michael Pratt Memorial	7,742	-	-	(7,742)	-	-
Building and Site Development	2,300,000	-	-	(81,735)	-	2,218,265
Excursion Support Fund	5,786	-	-	-	-	5,786
Short-term Financial Hardship Fund	62,335	-	(20,548)	-	-	41,787
Fixed assets	973,348	-	-	(27,521)	-	945,827
	<u>3,349,211</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(20,548)</u>	<u>(116,998)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,211,665</u>
General funds						
General Funds	<u>1,103,992</u>	<u>4,251,455</u>	<u>(3,994,120)</u>	<u>116,998</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,478,325</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>4,453,203</u>	<u>4,251,455</u>	<u>(4,014,668)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,689,990</u>
Restricted funds						
S Lloyd Music	9,284	-	-	-	570	9,854
S Lloyd Awards	750	-	-	-	-	750
Member subscriptions	162	14	-	-	-	176
	<u>10,196</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>570</u>	<u>10,780</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>4,463,399</u></u>	<u><u>4,251,469</u></u>	<u><u>(4,014,668)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>570</u></u>	<u><u>4,700,770</u></u>

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Purpose of funds

Designated funds

Michael Pratt Memorial - represents funding to be used at the discretion of the governors on scholarships, bursaries and any other similar causes.

Building and Site Development - represents funds earmarked by the charity in anticipation of the potential development of buildings on the site occupied by the school.

Excursion Support Fund - represents accumulated surpluses on school excursions to be utilised to subsidise future trips.

Short-term Financial Hardship Fund - represents funds set aside by the governors for future hardship awards.

Fixed assets - represents unrestricted funds tied up in the fixed assets of the charity.

Unrestricted general funds

Unrestricted general funds represent the free funds of the charity that are not designated for particular purposes.

Restricted funds

S Lloyd Music & Awards - represents investment funds held for the promotion of music education.

Member subscriptions - amounts collected from members as described in note 2.2.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Michael Pratt Memorial	83,742	-	-	(76,000)	-	7,742
Building and Site Development	2,300,000	-	-	-	-	2,300,000
Excursion Support Fund	8,410	-	(2,624)	-	-	5,786
Short-term Financial Hardship Fund	85,987	-	(23,652)	-	-	62,335
Fixed assets	929,951	-	-	43,397	-	973,348
	<u>3,408,090</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(26,276)</u>	<u>(32,603)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,349,211</u>
General funds						
General Funds	945,693	3,847,879	(3,722,183)	32,603	-	1,103,992
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>4,353,783</u>	<u>3,847,879</u>	<u>(3,748,459)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,453,203</u>
Restricted funds						
S Lloyd Music	9,420	-	-	-	(136)	9,284
S Lloyd Awards	750	-	-	-	-	750
Member subscriptions	162	-	-	-	-	162
	<u>10,332</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(136)</u>	<u>10,196</u>
Total of funds	<u><u>4,364,115</u></u>	<u><u>3,847,879</u></u>	<u><u>(3,748,459)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(136)</u></u>	<u><u>4,463,399</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	945,827	-	945,827
Fixed asset investments	-	7,546	7,546
Current assets	4,551,194	3,234	4,554,428
Creditors due within one year	(807,031)	-	(807,031)
Total	4,689,990	10,780	4,700,770

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	973,348	-	973,348
Fixed asset investments	-	6,976	6,976
Current assets	3,960,969	3,220	3,964,189
Creditors due within one year	(481,114)	-	(481,114)
Total	4,453,203	10,196	4,463,399

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	237,371	99,284
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	122,390	121,419
(Gain)/loss on investments	(570)	136
Interest from investments	(175,693)	(49,520)
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	(1,355)	1,064
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(42,904)	41,322
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	325,917	(273,036)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	465,156	(59,331)

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank	1,401,697	1,854,614
Short-term deposits	2,931,872	1,988,831
Total cash and cash equivalents	4,333,569	3,843,445

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023	Cash flows	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,854,614	(452,917)	1,401,697
Short-term deposits	1,988,831	943,041	2,931,872
	<u>3,843,445</u>	<u>490,124</u>	<u>4,333,569</u>

23. Pension commitments

The charity contributes to the Government's Teachers' Pension Scheme and to the individual pension plans of certain employees. The assets of these schemes are held separately from those of the charity in independently administered funds.

The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to these funds and amounted to £246,973 (2023 - £245,940). Outstanding contributions of £33,169 (2023 - £35,478) were payable to these funds at the balance sheet date and are included in other creditors.

The pension charge relates to the sole charitable activity and the liability at the balance sheet date is wholly representative of unrestricted funds.

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the charity had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	100,214	77,886
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	327,050	261,662
Later than 5 years	9,740,440	9,802,440
	<u>10,167,704</u>	<u>10,141,988</u>

25. Related party transactions

West House Old Boys' Association

Two of the school's governors and the school's Headmaster served on the committee of West House Old Boys' Association during the year ended 31 August 2024.

At the balance sheet date, West House School owed £32,000 (2023 - £32,000) to West House Old Boys' Association by way of an interest-free loan.

At the balance sheet date, West House School owed £3,965 (2023 - £4,815) to West House Old Boys' Association in respect of subscriptions collected on their behalf.

West House School Parents' Association

The Headmaster of the school served on the committee of West House School Parents' Association during the year ended 31 August 2024.

Key management remuneration

During the year, remuneration paid to key management personnel totalled £599,052 (2023 - £550,536).

26. Agency arrangements

The charity passes on childcare grant funding to nursery pupils' parents as an agent. During the year, the charity received £171,251 (2023 - £142,138) of grant funding from Birmingham City Council and paid this over to parents. No amounts were owing to parents at the balance sheet date.

27. Controlling party

The charity is controlled by the Board of Governors.