

Friends of St Louis, Ballymena NIC100223 (FOSL)
Trustees Annual Report for Financial Year 1st April 2023-31st March 2024

Report Approved at AGM of FOSL Wednesday 5th June 2024 held in St Louis Grammar School

NB For the purpose of this report the charity will hereafter be referred to as FOSL

(FOSL became a charity on 28th July 2014 and was allocated, by the Charity Commission for NI, the charity number NIC100223)


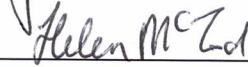

- The charity's main activities to further its purposes for the public benefit are as follows:
 - The main charitable purpose of Friends of St Louis, Ballymena (FOSL) fall-into 'The Advancement of Education' category. The group will undertake the advancement of education for the public benefit by promoting, sustaining and increasing individual and collective knowledge and understanding of specific areas of study, skills and expertise. The charity aims, as outlined in our constitution, to support the educational establishment St. Louis Grammar School, Ballymena. The direct benefits which flow from our purpose shall be the advancement of the education of the pupils of St Louis Grammar School, Ballymena and the enhanced knowledge and understanding in our young people through receiving an education which will be supported through such things as bursary awards for our students and availability of funding for facilities not otherwise available through the school budget. Pupils will also benefit from the increased networking opportunities facilitated by the improvement in relationships among the interested parties. The benefits of Friends of St Louis, Ballymena will be demonstrated through an annual report of our activities submitted to the Board of Governors of the school for inclusion in their annual report to parents. Continuous monitoring of the applications for awards from Friends of St Louis, Ballymena will take place and be evidenced through both the application for and feedback from the students and teachers following an award. Regular independent evaluation of our services shall be measured via the applications and feedback from the student population which will be kept on record. The beneficiaries of Friends of St Louis are the students who are currently attending the school at present and those enrolled in the future. The purposes of Friends of St Louis are all of direct benefit to the students attending the school presently and in the future. There will be a wider benefit to society due to the young people having availed of opportunities provided to them while attending St Louis Grammar, Ballymena as a result of it being supported by FOSL. None of the purposes of FOSL are harmful. There is no private benefit flowing from our purposes.

2023-2024 Main achievements this financial year

With the above in mind, alongside the activities that FOSL may be involved in which are listed on the CCNI website, FOSL carried out the following activities in the 2023/24 financial year.

- In line with their aim of promoting the well-being of the student population of SLG, FOSL continued to encourage the students to become more involved in contributing to wider society and carried out some fundraising activities for a variety of organisations throughout the school year. To this end various members of staff and students took part in a variety of fundraising events.
 - Since 2024 marks the Centenary Anniversary of the school, St Louis and FOSL held several additional events throughout the 2023/24 financial year raising in excess of £11,000 towards a new school minibus to enable the students to attend a wide variety of extra-curricular activities.
These events included:
Sponsored Walk- June 2023-SLG school grounds
'A Night with St Louis' (Discussion Panel with Sporting guests-Tullyglass House Hotel Autumn 2023)
Celebration Mass with Afternoon Tea Event- SLG Grammar School January 2024,
Spring Concert- The Braid Arts Centre, March 2024
 - FOSL continued to promote the charity through the school app and through member's participation in various school events.
 - FOSL social media accounts are now restored and operational again promoting both the Centenary Events and updating Alumni connections
 - FOSL continued to support the student population of the school with financial assistance for some year group events. They also awarded bursaries to assist with third level education applications.
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- In preparing this report the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission of NI's Public Benefit Requirement Statutory guidance outlined on their website in Document CCNI PBR1, and also to Document ARR08 regarding accounting and reporting regulations around the Trustees' Annual Report.
 - At the end of the financial year stated above FOSL is in a financial position of surplus to the amount of £16,905.16. A breakdown of this is outlined in the Receipts and Payments Accounts Document. There are no funds held by FOSL that are materially in deficit' at the end of the year.
 - Principal Address of the Charity:
 - Friends of St Louis, Ballymena NIC100223
 - St Louis' Grammar School
 - Cullybackey Rd
 - Ballymena
 - BT43 5DW

- The trustees of Friends of St Louis have been updated and are: Mrs J O'Neill, Mr M Cooper, Mrs P Doherty, Mrs F McGuigan, Mrs M Henry, Mrs S McCarry, Mrs H McToal. No further individuals have served as trustees in this financial year.
- Friends of St Louis, Ballymena NIC100223 is governed by a constitution adopted at an EGM on 18th November 2014. This document has been approved and accepted by the Charity Commission for NI as part of the process of becoming a registered charity. The said document is held on record by the Commission and outlines our charity's purposes and how our charity is administered.
- The purpose of 'Friends of St Louis, Ballymena' is to advance the education of the pupils of St Louis Grammar School, Ballymena. This will be carried out through:
 - Promoting the well-being of the student population of St Louis Grammar School Ballymena.
 - Developing effective relationships between the families and friends of past and present students and teachers and others associated with St Louis Grammar School, Ballymena.
 - Engaging in activities that will help establish and provide a stream of funding to help with the school community development in both curricular resources and extra- curricular activities in order to support the school and advance the education of the pupils.
- The process for appointing new trustees to the charity is outlined in the constitution and is as follows:
 - The Association may appoint and may terminate the appointment of not less than three people to act as Trustees. The Trustees shall act under the instructions of the Committee who shall, subject to the approval and consent of the Association as determined by a General Meeting, have power to fill vacancies among the Trustees.

▪ Signed <u></u> (Trustee)	Date <u>28/1/25</u>
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