

# The Institute of The Brothers of The Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101722

## Details

|            |                                                                              |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Status     | Received                                                                     |
| Registered | 2015-07-06                                                                   |
| Register   | <a href="#">View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register</a> |

## Contact

|         |                                                         |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Address | 140 Banbury Road<br>Oxford<br>United Kingdom<br>Ox2 7bp |
| Phone   | +441865311332                                           |
| Website | <a href="http://www.lasalle.ie">www.lasalle.ie</a>      |

## Activities

**Purposes:** The main object of the Company is to advance the Roman Catholic Faith in Northern Ireland and to provide or assist in the provision of education of children and young persons attending in any school or educational establishment in which religious instruction in the doctrine, principles and precepts of the Roman Catholic Faith is given.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of education,The advancement of religion

**How the charity works:** Community development,Education/training,Religious activities

**Who the charity helps:** Adult training,Children (5-13 year olds),Youth (14-25 year olds)

## Finances

| Period end | Income   | Expenditure | Assets    | Employees |
|------------|----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| 2024-12-31 | £383,841 | £385,221    | £-235,000 | 0         |

## Trustees

| Name                     | Role | Appointed |
|--------------------------|------|-----------|
| Anne Marie O'brien       |      |           |
| Br Patrick Joseph Hanlon |      |           |
| Claire White             |      |           |
| Eamonn Manning           |      |           |
| James Mangan             |      |           |

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# Accounts

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Charity Number: 101722  
Company Number: NI054357 (Northern Ireland)

**THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN  
NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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|                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Directors</b>                               | Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier<br>Br Eamonn Manning<br>Br Patrick John Kelleher<br>Br James Mangan<br>Br Joseph Reid<br>Br Michael Loran | (RIP 7 January 2025)                               |
| <b>Secretary</b>                               | Br Michael Loran<br>Br Joseph Charles Gilson                                                                                                    | (RIP 7 January 2025)<br>(Appointed 7 January 2025) |
| <b>Charity number (Northern Ireland)</b>       | 101722                                                                                                                                          |                                                    |
| <b>Company number</b>                          | NI054357                                                                                                                                        |                                                    |
| <b>Registered office and principal address</b> | De La Salle Residence<br>Glanaulin<br>141 Glen Road<br>Belfast<br>Northern Ireland                                                              |                                                    |
| <b>Independent examiner</b>                    | Walsh O'Brien Harnett<br>Chartered Accountants<br>104 Lower Baggot Street<br>Dublin 2                                                           |                                                    |
| <b>Bankers</b>                                 | Allied Irish Bank (NI)<br>University Road<br>Belfast                                                                                            |                                                    |
| <b>Solicitors</b>                              | Napier & Sons<br>1-9 Castle Arcade<br>Belfast<br><br>P.J. McGrory & Co<br>52 Andersonstown Road<br>Belfast                                      |                                                    |

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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The Directors, who are also trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 present their annual report together with the unaudited financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools In Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The Directors confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The charity was established on 16 March 2005 as a charitable company and is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital. The company's registered number is NI054357 and its registered charity number is 101722.

##### *Governance*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were amended by special resolution on 30 August 2005.

##### *Directors*

The Directors, who are also the Trustees of the charity, at the date of this report and those who served during the financial year together with the dates of any changes are set out in the legal and administrative details on page 1.

The Directors of the charity are appointed by the Provincial and Council of the De La Salle congregation, as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The number of Directors is determined by the Council, with a minimum of two and a maximum of seven. Directors are selected based on their willingness to serve, governance skills, relevant experience, and alignment with the ethos, mission, and philosophy of the charity. Their term of office is four years, renewable as deemed appropriate by the Provincial and Council.

Members of the charity also have the power to appoint new Directors or fill casual vacancies and may, by special resolution, remove a Director before the expiry of their term. Directors do not receive remuneration but may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, and no Director may be employed by the charity.

The secretary who served during the year was Brother Michael Loran.

##### *Management*

The Directors are responsible for setting and implementing the charities policies. The board meets regularly in compliance with its statutory responsibilities and review the impact of the charity and its achievements.

Directors are not remunerated for their services and are not reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

##### *Principal Risks and Uncertainties*

The Directors are responsible for setting the charities internal systems and controls and for reviewing them for effectiveness. The internal systems and control system is designed to manage, rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the charities objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements or deficit. With the exception of the HIA enquiry noted under achievements and performance, the Directors are not aware of any specific risks or uncertainties which would have an impact on the company.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The object and principal activity of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is that of advancing the Roman Catholic Faith in Northern Ireland and to provide or assist in the provision of education of children and young person's attending in any school or educational establishment in which religious instruction in the doctrine, principles and precepts of the Roman Catholic Faith is given.

Our main charitable activities are the support of Brothers and their ministries which facilitates the core activities of the Institute carried out through:

- the management of two schools, De La Salle High School Downpatrick and St Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick. As of September 1, 2024 these two schools merged with St Mary's High School to form Lecale Trinity Grammar School, a new 11-19 co-educational voluntary grammar school under the trusteeship of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited. The Brothers were active members on both boards of management the end of the academic year 2023-2024.
- the operation of two residences at Glen Road Belfast and Downpatrick.
- funding to the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast.

The Institute also acts as bare trustee for the properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 12 to the financial statements.

#### **Public Benefit**

The Directors have reviewed the relevant guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland concerning the principles of public benefit in relation to both the advancement of education and the advancement of religion. The Directors are satisfied that all of the activities of the charity, as outlined in the achievement and performance section of this report, fall within its stated charitable objectives and provide a clear benefit to the public.

The Charity's facilities offer opportunities for young persons and adults to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually through training, instructions, counselling and supervision, alongside the provision of suitable educational and instructional resources.

The two schools - one secondary and one grammar – share a common ethos, fostering an environment that supports the growth and promotion of Lasallian Catholic faith in Northern Ireland.

In response to the Department of Education policies and Government's Area-based Planning requirements, the Institute has actively assisted the three post-primary schools in Downpatrick - De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School - in establishing a partnership. Together, they created a model of co-educational provision for 11 -19-year-olds in Downpatrick and the surrounding rural area. As of September 1, 2024 the two Lasallian schools in Downpatrick merged with St Mary's High School to form Lecale Trinity Grammar School, a new 11-19 co-educational voluntary grammar school under the trusteeship of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited.

The direct benefit following from the charitable purposes of the Institute are of a pastoral, spiritual, educational and inclusive nature. These activities help students and adults develop their personal development, social skills, faith, and spiritual lives. It enables them to improve their self-esteem, have a greater awareness of themselves and others. The spiritual dimension permeates daily activities, and the students are encouraged to believe in their own worth as children of God by whom they are loved unconditionally.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast catered for an average of 39 schools each year with over 2,000 young people attending one of the various retreat programmes available each year. Throughout 2024 the number of schools participating in the La Salle Pastoral Centre continued the steady increase back to pre-Covid numbers. The value of these activities is evidenced by positive feedback from participants. The relationships formed among teachers, students, and the pastoral care framework are as vital to shaping a school's ethos as the formal curriculum or the skills of the educators.

The primary beneficiaries of the De La Salle Pastoral Centre are students in local schools in the Belfast, as well as the wider community, who use the pastoral facilities.

Through the Institute's international connections, teachers and pastoral staff at the two schools, and the pastoral centre in Belfast benefit from a variety of formation and training programmes aimed at their ongoing personal, professional and spiritual development.

### **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

Throughout 2024 the centre offered the following programmes:

- For Primary School students, Confirmation Retreats and Transition Retreats (primary to secondary)
- A range of age-appropriate retreats for secondary students from Year 8 to Year 14
  - Year 8: New Beginnings
  - Year 9: Love One Another
  - Year 10: What Can I Do?
  - Year 11: Finding a Moral Compass
  - Year 12: Self-Esteem and Resilience
  - Year 13: Beliefs and Attitudes
  - Year 14: God Speaks to the Heart
- Retreats based on resilience
- Advent and Lenten retreats
- Programmes and sessions offered in school rather than at the centre:
  - Journey of Your Heart – a meditation programme delivered over three class period sessions for Years 13 and 14 students
  - Ignatian Daily Examen for Years 13 and 14 students
  - Meditation for Year 8 students
- Advent and/or Lent online short reflections via Zoom for school groups
- Retreats for other groups including school staffs, parish groups, folk groups, youth groups
- Art Psychotherapy programme on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and evenings
- A School Chaplaincy programme.

The chaplaincy programme is a joint initiative between the Pastoral Centre, three local priests and staff members in schools. The school chaplaincy programme was initiated in De La Salle College, Belfast and then extended to three other schools. The idea is to support a small group of teachers to act as chaplains within their own schools.

The De La Salle residence in Glen Road Belfast accommodated the Cursilio Group two nights weekly and a St Vincent de Paul group weekly throughout the year. An Art Therapy Group was also occasionally hosted there. The De La Salle residence in Downpatrick accommodated a St Vincent de Paul group throughout the year.

All facilities provided by both residences were provided free of charge.

Since September 1, 2024, the three post-primary schools in Downpatrick; De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School have ceased to exist and merged into a new school, Lecale Trinity Grammar School – all-ability co-educational 11 -19 voluntary grammar school for Downpatrick and the surrounding area.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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This one school model will maximise and ensure the accessibility of high-quality 2<sup>nd</sup> level Lasallian Catholic education in Downpatrick into the future. Trustees have successfully ensured the appointment of highly competent and widely respected members of the community as on the Board of Governors (BOG) of the new school.

### *HIA Inquiry*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited have been involved with the Historical Institution Abuse inquiry (HIA) since 2012 and supplied HIA with all its needs in relation to legal matters.

In 2014 and in 2015 members of the Company attended the HIA Inquiry, made statements and gave oral evidence to it. Following the publication of the HIA report in 2017 the members of the Company continued to support the redress board set up by the HIA.

Members of the Company together with members of other Congregations/Companies met with the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister to discuss the question of redress.

Members of the Company had a private meeting with an independent facilitator to discuss the question of a voluntary contribution to the redress scheme.

At the time of approving these financial statements, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been finalised and no estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2024. To date, contribution to the Redress Scheme have been made by the De La Salle Order in the Republic of Ireland.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

During 2024, the total income amounted to £383,841 (2023: £248,266 ) which is made up of brothers' donated pensions, congregational support from the De La Salle Ireland, and bank interest. Expenditure amounted to £385,221 (2023: £457,975). Legal costs (£142,522) & community stipends (£135,400) were the largest expenditure items in 2024. Net expenditure for the year amounted to €1,380 (2023: net expenditure of €209,709).

### *Reserves Policy*

Reserves are needed to retain surpluses which are not distributed or spent shortly after an accounting year end but rather retained to allow for any further reductions in income or unanticipated expenditure not provided for in annual budgets. The Charity Commission requires that Directors recognise the reserves issue, assess the needs of the entity, seek to reach an appropriate level within a reasonable timescale and report their reserves policy in the annual report accompanying the financial statements. The actual reserves at 31 December 2024 were £604 (2023: £1,984).

The policy relating to the reserves of the charity are reviewed annually by the Directors.

The Directors have reviewed the charity's future budgets, forecasts, and funding model, and are satisfied that sufficient resources are available to enable the charity to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

## **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

The Directors have no plans to change the activities or objectives of the charity.

## **POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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### **Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards**

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- The Charities Act 2022

### **Political Contributions**

The company did not make any disclosable political donations in the current year.

### **Special provisions relating to small companies.**

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

**Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:**

**Br Eamonn Manning**  
**Director**

**Br James Mangan**  
**Director**

**Dated: 19 September 2025**

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024***

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The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors 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 company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf:

**Br Eamonn Manning**  
**Director**

**Br James Mangan**  
**Director**

**Dated: 19 September 2025**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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I report to the Directors on my examination of the financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited (the Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees (and also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law), you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law, and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with methods and principles of Charities Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of accounts to be reached.

#### Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of , which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



**Ronan O'Brian FCA**  
**Walsh O'Brien Harnett**  
104 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2  
D02Y940  
Ireland

**Dated: 19 September 2025**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

|                                          | Notes | Unrestricted funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b><u>Income</u></b>                     |       |                                 |                                 |
| Donations and legacies                   | 4     | 381,008                         | 243,009                         |
| Bank interest                            | 5     | 2,833                           | 5,257                           |
| <b>Total income</b>                      |       | 383,841                         | 248,266                         |
| <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>                |       |                                 |                                 |
| Charitable expenditure                   | 6     | 385,221                         | 457,975                         |
| <b>Total charitable expenditure</b>      |       | 385,221                         | 457,975                         |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>             |       | (1,380)                         | (209,709)                       |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2024          |       | 1,984                           | 211,693                         |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 December 2024</b> |       | 604                             | 1,984                           |

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

|                                                       | Notes | 2024<br>£        | £          | 2023<br>£        | £            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------|------------|------------------|--------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |       |                  |            |                  |              |
| Tangible assets                                       | 9     |                  | 75         |                  | 4,723        |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |                  |            |                  |              |
| Debtors                                               | 10    | 44,292           |            | 5,257            |              |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |       | 191,237          |            | 212,060          |              |
|                                                       |       | <u>235,529</u>   |            | <u>217,317</u>   |              |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> | 11    | <u>(235,000)</u> |            | <u>(220,056)</u> |              |
| Net current assets/(liabilities)                      |       |                  | 529        |                  | (2,739)      |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>          |       |                  | <u>604</u> |                  | <u>1,984</u> |
| <b>Funds</b>                                          |       |                  |            |                  |              |
| General funds                                         | 12    |                  | 604        |                  | 1,984        |
|                                                       |       |                  | <u>604</u> |                  | <u>1,984</u> |

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

The financial statements were approved by the Directors on 19 September 2025

Br Eamonn Manning  
Director

Br James Mangan  
Director

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

|                                                               | Notes | 2024<br>£ | £        | 2023<br>£ | £         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                   |       |           |          |           |           |
| Cash absorbed by operations                                   | 17    |           | (26,080) |           | (162,945) |
| <b>Investing activities</b>                                   |       |           |          |           |           |
| Repayment of investment loans and receivables                 |       | 5,257     |          | -         |           |
| <b>Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities</b> |       |           | 5,257    |           | -         |
| <b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>                  |       |           | -        |           | -         |
| <b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>              |       |           | (20,823) |           | (162,945) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year                |       |           | 212,060  |           | 375,005   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>               |       |           | 191,237  |           | 212,060   |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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### **1 General information**

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is De La Salle Residence, Glanaulin, 141 Glen Road, Belfast, BT11 8BP, Northern Ireland. The nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report.

### **2 Accounting policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's financial statements.

#### **2.1 Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and "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 Company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in Pound sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the Company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

#### **2.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### **2.3 Charitable funds**

Unrestricted funds represent funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Company in the furtherance of the objects of the Company. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

#### **2.4 Income**

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual brothers are recognised when the District has entitlement to the income, the amount can be reliably measured and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Cash donations collected are recognised as income when the Charity gains control, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from the charitable activities is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, including any relevant value added tax.

Investment Income from financial assets and interest on funds held on deposit are included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### 2 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis and includes an attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Expenditure comprises the following:

- a) Charitable expenditure comprises expenditure on the Company's primary charitable purposes.
- b) Governance costs comprise the costs directly attributable to the organisational procedures and the necessary legal procedures for compliance with statutory requirements.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Motor vehicles | 25% Straight line |
|----------------|-------------------|

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

##### 2.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

##### 2.8 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

##### 2.9 Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

##### 2.10 Taxation

The Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited is not subject to tax as it has charitable exemption (Charity Number 101722).

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

### 2 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 2.11 Provisions

Provisions for liabilities made in the financial statements are shown within current liabilities where the consideration expected to be paid can be reliably measured.

#### 2.12 Foreign exchange

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions, during the year, which are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 3 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

#### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

##### Useful economic life of tangible assets

The annual depreciation on tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimate useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. These estimates are reviewed annually and amended when necessary.

The Directors do not consider that there are any key assumptions concerning the future, or any other key sources of estimation uncertainty, that have significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

### 4 Income from donations and legacies

|                                 | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Donations of Brothers' Pensions | 209,554                            | 197,219                            |
| Congregational Support          | 171,454                            | 45,790                             |
|                                 | <u>381,008</u>                     | <u>243,009</u>                     |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

### 5 Income from investments

|               | Unrestricted funds<br>2024<br>£ | Unrestricted funds<br>2023<br>£ |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bank interest | 2,833                           | 5,257                           |

### 6 Expenditure on charitable activities

|                                        | Support of the Brothers and their Ministries<br>2024<br>£ | Support of the Brothers and their Ministries<br>2023<br>£ |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Depreciation                           | 4,648                                                     | 7,021                                                     |
| Direct costs                           | 308,573                                                   | 372,322                                                   |
| Pastoral Centre                        | 72,000                                                    | 69,000                                                    |
|                                        | 385,221                                                   | 448,343                                                   |
| Share of governance costs (see note 7) | -                                                         | 9,632                                                     |
|                                        | 385,221                                                   | 457,975                                                   |

### 7 Support and governance costs

|                                        | Support costs<br>£ | Governance costs<br>£ | 2024<br>£ | Support costs<br>£ | Governance costs<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Audit fees                             | -                  | -                     | -         | -                  | 9,632                 | 9,632     |
|                                        | -                  | -                     | -         | -                  | 9,632                 | 9,632     |
| Analysed between Charitable activities | -                  | -                     | -         | -                  | 9,632                 | 9,632     |

Support and governance costs are allocated to charitable activities on actual basis.

There were no support & governance costs in 2024. The amount included for 2023 (£9,632) related to fees for audit and advisory services. Accounting and advisory costs in 2024 were paid for by De La Salle Brothers Ireland on behalf of The Institute of The Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 8 Directors

All Directors' are members of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited. The Directors consider that they alone comprise the key management of the Company. As members of the District, the directors' living and personal expenses are borne by the Company but they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Directors (2023: none).

#### 9 Tangible fixed assets

|                                  | Motor vehicles<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Cost</b>                      |                     |
| At 1 January 2024                | 45,085              |
| At 31 December 2024              | 45,085              |
| <b>Depreciation</b>              |                     |
| At 1 January 2024                | 40,362              |
| Depreciation charged in the year | 4,648               |
| At 31 December 2024              | 45,010              |
| <b>Carrying amount</b>           |                     |
| At 31 December 2024              | 75                  |
| At 31 December 2023              | 4,723               |

At the date of approval, the Company held the property at Glenaulin, 141 Glen Road Belfast in trust for the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland. This property is not an asset of the Company.

The Company also acts as Trustee for the properties comprising of the former St. Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick, and the former De La Salle High School, now part of Lecale Trinity Grammar School, Downpatrick.

All properties are held in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Education in Northern Ireland and are not part of the assets of the company.

#### 10 Debtors

|                                             | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b> |           |           |
| Other debtors                               | 44,292    | 5,257     |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

#### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                              | 2024<br>£      | 2023<br>£      |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Other creditors              | 235,000        | 215,000        |
| Accruals and deferred income | -              | 5,056          |
|                              | <u>235,000</u> | <u>220,056</u> |

#### 12 Unrestricted funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

|              | Balance at<br>1 January 2024 | Income         | Expenditure      | Balance at<br>31 December<br>2024 |
|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| General fund | 1,984                        | 383,841        | (385,221)        | 604                               |
|              | <u>1,984</u>                 | <u>383,841</u> | <u>(385,221)</u> | <u>604</u>                        |

#### 13 Related party transactions

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited and the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland are related due to commonality of Directors / Trustees. During the year the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland provided financial support to The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited amounting to £171,454 (2023: £45,790).

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited received income from donations of salaries and pensions from the De La Salle Brothers in Northern Ireland amounting to £209,554 during the year (2023: £197,219).

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited provided a total of £206,400 of financial support to De La Salle - Communities and Pastoral Centres in Northern Ireland (2023: £203,400)

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited acts as trustee for properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 9 to the financial statements.

#### 14 Status

The Company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The Company's registered number is NI054357.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### 15 Post Balance Sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the Company since the financial year end.

#### 16 Contingent liability

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is currently incurring legal and other costs relating to a statutory inquiry into the alleged historical abuse of children in Northern Ireland.

The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry in Northern Ireland reported in January 2017 and a redress scheme was established, in March 2020.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited expects to incur further legal and other costs in relation to the inquiry, however it is not possible at the present time to provide a reliable estimate of these future costs.

Voluntary contributions to the redress schemes, if any, have not yet been agreed and it is therefore not possible at the present to provide an estimate of any future contributions.

| 17 Cash generated from operations                                 | 2024<br>£       | 2023<br>£        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Deficit for the year                                              | (1,380)         | (209,709)        |
| Adjustments for:                                                  |                 |                  |
| Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities | (2,833)         | (5,257)          |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets                             | 4,648           | 7,021            |
| Movements in working capital:                                     |                 |                  |
| (Increase) in debtors                                             | (41,459)        | -                |
| Increase in creditors                                             | 14,944          | 45,000           |
| <b>Cash absorbed by operations</b>                                | <b>(26,080)</b> | <b>(162,945)</b> |

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# Accounts

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Charity Number: 101722  
Company Number: NI054357 (Northern Ireland)

**THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN  
NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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|                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Directors</b>                               | Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier<br>Br Eamonn Manning<br>Br Michael Loran<br>Br Patrick John Kelleher<br>Br James Mangan<br>Br Joseph Reid |
| <b>Secretary</b>                               | Br Michael Loran                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Charity number (Northern Ireland)</b>       | 101722                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Company number</b>                          | NI054357                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Registered office and principal address</b> | De La Salle Residence<br>Glanaulin<br>141 Glen Road<br>Belfast<br>Northern Ireland                                                              |
| <b>Auditor</b>                                 | Walsh O'Brien Harnett<br>Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm<br>104 Lower Baggot Street<br>Dublin 2                                  |
| <b>Bankers</b>                                 | Allied Irish Bank (NI)<br>University Road<br>Belfast                                                                                            |
| <b>Solicitors</b>                              | Napier & Sons<br>1-9 Castle Arcade<br>Belfast<br><br>P.J. McGrory & Co<br>52 Andersonstown Road<br>Belfast                                      |

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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The Directors, who are also trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Directors confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2019).

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The charity was established on 16 March 2005 as a charitable company and is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital. The company's registered number is NI054357 and its registered charity number is 101722.

#### *Governance*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were amended by special resolution on 30 August 2005.

#### *Directors*

The Directors, who are also the Trustees of the charity, at the date of this report and those who served during the financial year together with the dates of any changes are set out in the legal and administrative details on page 1.

The Directors of the charity are appointed by the Provincial and Council of the De La Salle congregation, as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The number of Directors is determined by the Council, with a minimum of two and a maximum of seven. Directors are selected based on their willingness to serve, governance skills, relevant experience, and alignment with the ethos, mission, and philosophy of the charity. Their term of office is four years, renewable as deemed appropriate by the Provincial and Council.

Members of the charity also have the power to appoint new Directors or fill casual vacancies and may, by special resolution, remove a Director before the expiry of their term. Directors do not receive remuneration but may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, and no Director may be employed by the charity.

The secretary who served during the year was Brother Michael Loran.

#### *Management*

The Directors are responsible for setting and implementing the charities policies. The board meets regularly in compliance with its statutory responsibilities and review the impact of the charity and its achievements.

Directors are not remunerated for their services and are not reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

#### *Principal Risks and Uncertainties*

The Directors are responsible for setting the charities internal systems and controls and for reviewing them for effectiveness. The internal systems and control system is designed to manage, rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the charities objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements or deficit. The Directors are not aware of any specific risks or uncertainties which would have an impact on the company.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023***

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### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The object and principal activity of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is that of advancing the Roman Catholic Faith in Northern Ireland and to provide or assist in the provision of education of children and young person's attending in any school or educational establishment in which religious instruction in the doctrine, principles and precepts of the Roman Catholic Faith is given.

Our main charitable activities are the support of Brothers and their ministries which facilitates the core activities of the Institute carried out through:

- the management of two schools, De La Salle High School Downpatrick and St Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick. As of September 1, 2024 these two schools merged with St Mary's High School to form Lecale Trinity Grammar School, a new 11-19 co-educational voluntary grammar school under the trusteeship of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited. The Brothers were active members on both boards of management the end of the academic year 2023-2024.
- the operation of two residences at Glen Road Belfast and Downpatrick.
- funding to the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast.

The Institute also acts as bare trustee for the properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 12 to the financial statements.

### **Public Benefit**

The Directors have reviewed the relevant guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland concerning the principles of public benefit in relation to both the advancement of education and the advancement of religion. The Directors are satisfied that all of the activities of the charity,, as outlined in the achievement and performance section of this report, fall within its stated charitable objectives and provide a clear benefit to the public.

The Charity's facilities offer opportunities for young persons and adults to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually through training, instructions, counselling and supervision, alongside the provision of suitable educational and instructional resources.

The two schools - one secondary and one grammar – share a common ethos, fostering an environment that supports the growth and promotion of Lasallian Catholic faith in Northern Ireland.

In response to the Department of Education policies and Government's Area-based Planning requirements, the Institute is actively assisted the three post-primary schools in Downpatrick - De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School - in establishing a partnership. Together, they worked towards creating a model of co-educational provision for 11 -19-year-olds in Downpatrick and the surrounding rural area. As of September 1, 2024 the two Lasallian schools in Downpatrick merged with St Mary's High School to form Lecale Trinity Grammar School, a new 11-19 co-educational voluntary grammar school under the trusteeship of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited.

The direct benefit following from the charitable purposes of the Institute are of a pastoral, spiritual, educational and inclusive nature. These activities help students and adults develop their personal development, social skills, faith, and spiritual lives. It enables them to improve their self-esteem, have a greater awareness of themselves and others. The spiritual dimension permeates daily activities, and the students are encouraged to believe in their own worth as children of God by whom they are loved unconditionally.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

---

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast catered for an average of 39 schools each year with over 2,000 young people attending one of the various retreat programmes available each year. Throughout 2023 the number of schools participating in the La Salle Pastoral Centre continued the steady increase back to pre-Covid numbers. The value of these activities is evidenced by positive feedback from participants. The relationships formed among teachers, students, and the pastoral care framework are as vital to shaping a school's ethos as the formal curriculum or the skills of the educators.

The primary beneficiaries of the De La Salle Pastoral Centre are students in local schools in the Belfast, as well as the wider community, who use the pastoral facilities.

Through the Institute's international connections, teachers and pastoral staff at the two schools, and the pastoral centre in Belfast benefit from a variety of formation and training programmes aimed at their ongoing personal, professional and spiritual development.

## ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Throughout 2023 the number of young people who benefited from the programmes of the Belfast La Salle Pastoral Centre has reached again the 2019 pre-pandemic levels. Throughout the year the centre offered the following programmes:

- For Primary School students, Confirmation Retreats and Transition Retreats (primary to secondary)
- A range of age-appropriate retreats for secondary students from Year 8 to Year 14
  - Year 8: New Beginnings
  - Year 9: Love One Another
  - Year 10: What Can I Do?
  - Year 11: Finding a Moral Compass
  - Year 12: Self-Esteem and Resilience
  - Year 13: Beliefs and Attitudes
  - Year 14: God Speaks to the Heart
- Retreats based on resilience
- Advent and Lenten retreats
- Programmes and sessions offered in school rather than at the centre:
  - Journey of Your Heart – a meditation programme delivered over three class period sessions for Years 13 and 14 students
  - Ignatian Daily Examen for Years 13 and 14 students
  - Meditation for Year 8 students
- Advent and/or Lent online short reflections via Zoom for school groups
- Retreats for other groups including school staffs, parish groups, folk groups, youth groups
- Art Psychotherapy programme on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and evenings
- A School Chaplaincy programme.

The chaplaincy programme is a joint initiative between the Pastoral Centre, three local priests and staff members in schools. The school chaplaincy programme was initiated in De La Salle College, Belfast and then extended to three other schools. The idea is to support a small group of teachers to act as chaplains within their own schools.

The De La Salle residence in Glen Road Belfast accommodated the Cursilio Group two nights weekly and a St Vincent de Paul group weekly throughout the year. An Art Therapy Group was also occasionally hosted there. The De La Salle residence in Downpatrick accommodated a St Vincent de Paul group throughout the year.

All facilities provided by both residences were provided free of charge.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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The three post-primary schools in Downpatrick; De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School have been supported to establish a partnership in which they worked together to create a model of co-educational 11-19 provision for the Downpatrick area. Since January 2023 this work has intensified.

The De La Salle Trustees and Diocesan response to the Department of Education policies and Government requirement for Area-based Planning is an all ability co-educational 11-19 school. This new school is designated a voluntary Grammar school offering pathways to a curriculum with academic and vocational choices. This one school model will maximise and ensure the accessibility of high quality 2<sup>nd</sup> level Lasallian Catholic education in Downpatrick into the future. Trustees have successfully ensured the appointment of highly competent and widely respected members of the community as independent members on the Interim Board of Governors (IBOG) of the proposed new school.

The process has been evolutionary; Principals, Boards of Governments and Trustees have been working on this since 2012. The inaugural meeting of the Interim Board of Governors Meeting of the New School in Downpatrick took place on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Over the course of the subsequent monthly meetings of the IBOG, an implementation plan was agreed to ensure the successful and timely fulfilment of the various steps and actions required to ensure the opening of the new school by September 2024. During this period, it was agreed, following consultation with representative groups of students, parents and staff from the three schools involved, that the name of the new school would be Lecale Trinity Grammar School. This new educational institution will build on the long established and great educational tradition of the Mercy and De La Salle congregations.

### *HIA Inquiry*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited have been involved with the Historical Institution Abuse inquiry (HIA) since 2012 and supplied HIA with all its needs in relation to legal matters.

In 2014 and in 2015 members of the Company attended the HIA Inquiry, made statements and gave oral evidence to it. Following the publication of the HIA report in 2017 the members of the Company continued to support the redress board set up by the HIA.

Members of the Company together with members of other Congregations/Companies met with the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister to discuss the question of redress.

Members of the Company had a private meeting with an independent facilitator to discuss the question of a voluntary contribution to the redress scheme

At the time of approving these financial statements, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been finalised and no estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023. The publicised contribution to the Redress Scheme was made by the De La Salle Order in the Republic of Ireland.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

During 2023, the total income amounted to £248,266 (2022: £299,803) which is made up of brothers' donated pensions, community income and bank interest. Expenditure amounted to £457,975 (2022: £230,693). Legal costs (£195,615) & community stipends (£136,400) were the largest expenditure items in 2023. Net expenditure for the year amounted to £209,709 (2022: net income of £69,110).

### *Reserves Policy*

Reserves are needed to retain surpluses which are not distributed or spent shortly after an accounting year end but rather retained to allow for any further reductions in income or unanticipated expenditure not provided for in annual budgets. The Charity Commission requires that Directors recognise the reserves issue, assess the needs of the entity, seek to reach an appropriate level within a reasonable timescale and report their reserves policy in the annual report accompanying the financial statements. The actual reserves at 31 December 2023 were £1,984 (2022: £211,693).

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023***

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The policy relating to the reserves of the charity are reviewed annually by the Directors.

The Directors have reviewed the Charities future budgets and forecasts and are confident that there is sufficient funding available to ensure the charity can continue its activities for the foreseeable future, and the financial statements can be approved as a going concern.

### **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

The Directors have no plans to change the activities or objectives of the charity.

### **POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

### **Auditors**

The auditors, Walsh O'Brien Harnett, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards**

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) guidance
- The Charities Act 2008

### **Political Contributions**

The company did not make any disclosable political donations in the current year.

### **Special provisions relating to small companies.**

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Disclosure of information to auditors**

Each of the Directors has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditors are unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

**Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:**

**Br Eamonn Manning**  
**Director**

**Br James Mangan**  
**Director**

**Dated: 22 september 20 24**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023***

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The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors 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 company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf:

**Br Eamonn Manning**  
**Director**

**Br James Mangan**  
**Director**

**Dated: 22 September 2024**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the 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 FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### 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 Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in UK, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 3 to the financial statements, 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 Directors' 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 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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### 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 Directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### Opinion on the Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

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

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report.

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

#### Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the statement of Directors' responsibilities, the Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the 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 Directors 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

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of noncompliance 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.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

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We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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 charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors 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 timing and completeness of recognition of grant and contract income and major donations and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Audit Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, testing of a sample of transactions against the terms of the funding agreements and the requirement of the Charities SORP (FRS102), sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases 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. 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Joseph O'Brien (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Walsh O'Brien Harnett**  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
104 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2

**22 September 2024**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

|                                          | Notes | Unrestricted funds<br>2023<br>£ | Unrestricted funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b><u>Income</u></b>                     |       |                                 |                                 |
| Donations and legacies                   | 5     | 197,219                         | 227,063                         |
| Charitable activities                    | 6     | 45,790                          | 71,801                          |
| Bank interest                            | 7     | 5,257                           | 939                             |
| <b>Total income</b>                      |       | <b>248,266</b>                  | <b>299,803</b>                  |
| <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>                |       |                                 |                                 |
| Charitable expenditure                   | 8     | 457,975                         | 230,693                         |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>             |       | <b>(209,709)</b>                | <b>69,110</b>                   |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2023          |       | 211,693                         | 142,583                         |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 December 2023</b> |       | <b>1,984</b>                    | <b>211,693</b>                  |

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

|                                                       | Notes | 2023<br>£        | £            | 2022<br>£        | £              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------|--------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |       |                  |              |                  |                |
| Tangible assets                                       | 12    |                  | 4,723        |                  | 11,744         |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |                  |              |                  |                |
| Debtors                                               | 13    | 5,257            |              | -                |                |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |       | 212,060          |              | 375,005          |                |
|                                                       |       | <u>217,317</u>   |              | <u>375,005</u>   |                |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> | 14    | <u>(220,056)</u> |              | <u>(175,056)</u> |                |
| Net current (liabilities)/assets                      |       |                  | (2,739)      |                  | 199,949        |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>          |       |                  | <u>1,984</u> |                  | <u>211,693</u> |
| <b>Funds</b>                                          |       |                  |              |                  |                |
| General funds                                         | 15    |                  | 1,984        |                  | 211,693        |
|                                                       |       |                  | <u>1,984</u> |                  | <u>211,693</u> |

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

The financial statements were approved by the Directors on 22 September 2024

Br Eamonn Manning  
Director

Br James Mangan  
Director

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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|                                                               | Notes | 2023<br>£ | £           | 2022<br>£ | £           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                   |       |           |             |           |             |
| Cash absorbed by operations                                   | 20    |           | (162,945)   |           | (11,815)    |
| <b>Investing activities</b>                                   |       |           |             |           |             |
| Investment income received                                    |       | -         |             | 939       |             |
|                                                               |       | <hr/>     |             | <hr/>     |             |
| <b>Net cash (used in)/generated from investing activities</b> |       |           | -           |           | 939         |
| <b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>                  |       |           | -           |           | -           |
|                                                               |       |           | <hr/>       |           | <hr/>       |
| <b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>              |       |           | (162,945)   |           | (10,876)    |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year                |       |           | 375,005     |           | 385,881     |
|                                                               |       |           | <hr/>       |           | <hr/>       |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>               |       |           | 212,060     |           | 375,005     |
|                                                               |       |           | <hr/> <hr/> |           | <hr/> <hr/> |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023*

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### **1 General information**

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is De La Salle Residence, Glanaulin, 141 Glen Road, Belfast, BT11 8BP, Northern Ireland. The nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report.

### **2 Accounting policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's financial statements.

#### **2.1 Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and "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 Company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in Pound sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the Company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

#### **2.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### **2.3 Charitable funds**

Unrestricted funds represent funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Company in the furtherance of the objects of the Company. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

#### **2.4 Income**

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual brothers are recognised when the District has entitlement to the income, the amount can be reliably measured and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Cash donations collected are recognised as income when the Charity gains control, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from the charitable activities is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, including any relevant value added tax.

Investment Income from financial assets and interest on funds held on deposit are included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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### **2 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

#### **2.5 Expenditure**

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis and includes an attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Expenditure comprises the following:

- a) Charitable expenditure comprises expenditure on the Company's primary charitable purposes.
- b) Governance costs comprise the costs directly attributable to the organisational procedures and the necessary legal procedures for compliance with statutory requirements.

#### **2.6 Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Motor vehicles | 25% Straight line |
|----------------|-------------------|

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

#### **2.7 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

#### **2.8 Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

#### **2.9 Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **2.10 Taxation**

The Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited is not subject to tax as it has charitable exemption (Charity Number 101722).

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 2 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### 2.11 Provisions

Provisions for liabilities made in the financial statements are shown within current liabilities where the consideration expected to be paid can be reliably measured.

#### 2.12 Foreign exchange

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions, during the year, which are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 3 Provisions available for audits of small entities

In common with many other charitable companies of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

### 4 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

#### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

##### Useful economic life of tangible assets

The annual depreciation on tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimate useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. These estimates are reviewed annually and amended when necessary.

The Directors do not consider that there are any key assumptions concerning the future, or any other key sources of estimation uncertainty, that have significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

### 5 Income from donations and legacies

|                                 | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Donations of Brothers' Pensions | 197,219                            | 227,063                            |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 6 Income from charitable activities

|                  | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Community income | 45,790                             | 71,801                             |

### 7 Income from investments

|               | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2023<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2022<br>£ |
|---------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Bank interest | 5,257                              | 939                                |

### 8 Expenditure on charitable activities

|                                        | Support of the<br>Brothers and<br>their Ministries<br>2023<br>£ | Support of the<br>Brothers and<br>their Ministries<br>2022<br>£ |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Depreciation                           | 7,021                                                           | 7,021                                                           |
| Direct costs                           | 441,322                                                         | 214,746                                                         |
|                                        | 448,343                                                         | 221,767                                                         |
| Share of governance costs (see note 9) | 9,632                                                           | 8,926                                                           |
|                                        | 457,975                                                         | 230,693                                                         |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 9 Support and governance costs

|                                        | Support costs<br>£ | Governance costs<br>£ | 2023<br>£ | Support costs<br>£ | Governance costs<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Audit fees                             | -                  | 9,632                 | 9,632     | -                  | 8,926                 | 8,926     |
|                                        | -                  | 9,632                 | 9,632     | -                  | 8,926                 | 8,926     |
| Analysed between Charitable activities | -                  | 9,632                 | 9,632     | -                  | 8,926                 | 8,926     |

Support and governance costs are allocated to charitable activities on actual basis.

Support and governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £9,632 (2022 - £8,926) for audit and advisory services.

| 10 Net movement in funds                                   | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting) |           |           |
| Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets                | 7,021     | 7,021     |

### 11 Directors

All Directors' are members of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited. The Directors consider that they alone comprise the key management of the Company. As members of the District, the directors' living and personal expenses are borne by the Company but they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Directors (2022: none).

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 12 Tangible fixed assets

|                                  | Motor vehicles<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Cost</b>                      |                     |
| At 1 January 2023                | 45,085              |
| At 31 December 2023              | 45,085              |
| <b>Depreciation</b>              |                     |
| At 1 January 2023                | 33,341              |
| Depreciation charged in the year | 7,021               |
| At 31 December 2023              | 40,362              |
| <b>Carrying amount</b>           |                     |
| At 31 December 2023              | 4,723               |
| At 31 December 2022              | 11,744              |

The Company holds title to the following property. These property are held in trust for the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland and are not part of the assets of the company.

- Glenaulin, 141 Glen Road, Belfast
- 4 Stream Street, Downpatrick

The Company also acts as Trustee for the properties comprising of St. Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick, and De La Salle High School, Downpatrick. All properties are held in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Education in Northern Ireland and are not part of the assets of the company.

### 13 Debtors

|                                             | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b> |           |           |
| Prepayments and accrued income              | 5,257     | -         |

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                              | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Other creditors              | 215,000   | 170,000   |
| Accruals and deferred income | 5,056     | 5,056     |
|                              | 220,056   | 175,056   |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 15 Unrestricted funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

|              | Balance at<br>1 January 2023 | Income         | Expenditure      | Balance at<br>31 December<br>2023 |
|--------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
|              | £                            | £              | £                | £                                 |
| General fund | 211,693                      | 248,266        | (457,975)        | 1,984                             |
|              | <u>211,693</u>               | <u>248,266</u> | <u>(457,975)</u> | <u>1,984</u>                      |

### 16 Related party transactions

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited and the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland are related due to commonality of Directors / Trustees.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited received income from donations of salaries and pensions from the De La Salle Brothers in Northern Ireland amounting to £197,219 during the year (2022: £227,063). They also received additional support of £43,524.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited provided a total of £203,400 of financial support to De La Salle - Communities and Pastoral Centres in Northern Ireland (2022: £202,400)

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited acts as trustee for properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 12 to the financial statements.

### 17 Status

The Company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The Company's registered number is NI054357.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

### 18 Post Balance Sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the Company since the financial year end.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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### 19 Contingent liability

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is currently incurring legal and other costs relating to a statutory inquiry into the alleged historical abuse of children in Northern Ireland.

The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry in Northern Ireland reported in January 2017 and a redress scheme was established, in March 2020.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited expects to incur further legal and other costs in relation to the inquiry, however it is not possible at the present time to provide a reliable estimate of these future costs.

Voluntary contributions to the redress schemes, if any, have not yet been agreed and it is therefore not possible at the present to provide an estimate of any future contributions.

| 20 Cash generated from operations                                 | 2023<br>£        | 2022<br>£       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| (Deficit)/surplus for the year                                    | (209,709)        | 69,110          |
| Adjustments for:                                                  |                  |                 |
| Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities | (5,257)          | (939)           |
| Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets              | 7,021            | 7,021           |
| Movements in working capital:                                     |                  |                 |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors                                    | -                | 3               |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors                                  | 45,000           | (87,010)        |
| <b>Cash absorbed by operations</b>                                | <b>(162,945)</b> | <b>(11,815)</b> |

**The Institute of The Brothers of The Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101722

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# Annual report

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# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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The Directors, who are also trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools in Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Directors confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the 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 (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

The charity was established on 16 March 2005 as a charitable company and is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital. The company's registered number is NI054357 and its registered charity number is 101722.

##### *Governance*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were amended by special resolution on 30 August 2005.

##### *Directors*

The Directors, who are also the Trustees of the charity, at the date of this report and those who served during the financial year together with the dates of any changes are set out in the legal and administrative details on page 1.

The Directors of the charity are appointed by the Provincial and Council of the De La Salle congregation, as set out in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The number of Directors is determined by the Council, with a minimum of two and a maximum of seven. Directors are selected based on their willingness to serve, governance skills, relevant experience, and alignment with the ethos, mission, and philosophy of the charity. Their term of office is four years, renewable as deemed appropriate by the Provincial and Council.

Members of the charity also have the power to appoint new Directors or fill casual vacancies and may, by special resolution, remove a Director before the expiry of their term. Directors do not receive remuneration but may be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, and no Director may be employed by the charity.

The secretary who served during the year was Brother Michael Loran.

##### *Management*

The Directors are responsible for setting and implementing the charities policies. The board meets regularly in compliance with its statutory responsibilities and review the impact of the charity and its achievements.

Directors are not remunerated for their services and are not reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

##### *Principal Risks and Uncertainties*

The Directors are responsible for setting the charities internal systems and controls and for reviewing them for effectiveness. The internal systems and control system is designed to manage, rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the charities objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements or deficit. The Directors are not aware of any specific risks or uncertainties which would have an impact on the company.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The object and principal activity of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is that of advancing the Roman Catholic Faith in Northern Ireland and to provide or assist in the provision of education of children and young person's attending in any school or educational establishment in which religious instruction in the doctrine, principles and precepts of the Roman Catholic Faith is given.

Our main charitable activities are the support of Brothers and their ministries which facilitates the core activities of the Institute carried out through:

- the management of two schools, De La Salle High School Downpatrick and St Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick. As of September 1, 2024 these two schools merged with St Mary's High School to form Lecale Trinity Grammar School, a new 11-19 co-educational voluntary grammar school under the trusteeship of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited. The Brothers were active members on both boards of management the end of the academic year 2023-2024.
- the operation of two residences at Glen Road Belfast and Downpatrick.
- funding to the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast.

The Institute also acts as bare trustee for the properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 12 to the financial statements.

### **Public Benefit**

The Directors have reviewed the relevant guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland concerning the principles of public benefit in relation to both the advancement of education and the advancement of religion. The Directors are satisfied that all of the activities of the charity,, as outlined in the achievement and performance section of this report, fall within its stated charitable objectives and provide a clear benefit to the public.

The Charity's facilities offer opportunities for young persons and adults to grow physically, mentally, and spiritually through training, instructions, counselling and supervision, alongside the provision of suitable educational and instructional resources.

The two schools - one secondary and one grammar – share a common ethos, fostering an environment that supports the growth and promotion of Lasallian Catholic faith in Northern Ireland.

In response to the Department of Education policies and Government's Area-based Planning requirements, the Institute is actively assisted the three post-primary schools in Downpatrick - De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School - in establishing a partnership. Together, they worked towards creating a model of co-educational provision for 11 -19-year-olds in Downpatrick and the surrounding rural area. As of September 1, 2024 the two Lasallian schools in Downpatrick merged with St Mary's High School to form Lecale Trinity Grammar School, a new 11-19 co-educational voluntary grammar school under the trusteeship of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited.

The direct benefit following from the charitable purposes of the Institute are of a pastoral, spiritual, educational and inclusive nature. These activities help students and adults develop their personal development, social skills, faith, and spiritual lives. It enables them to improve their self-esteem, have a greater awareness of themselves and others. The spiritual dimension permeates daily activities, and the students are encouraged to believe in their own worth as children of God by whom they are loved unconditionally.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast catered for an average of 39 schools each year with over 2,000 young people attending one of the various retreat programmes available each year. Throughout 2023 the number of schools participating in the La Salle Pastoral Centre continued the steady increase back to pre-Covid numbers. The value of these activities is evidenced by positive feedback from participants. The relationships formed among teachers, students, and the pastoral care framework are as vital to shaping a school's ethos as the formal curriculum or the skills of the educators.

The primary beneficiaries of the De La Salle Pastoral Centre are students in local schools in the Belfast, as well as the wider community, who use the pastoral facilities.

Through the Institute's international connections, teachers and pastoral staff at the two schools, and the pastoral centre in Belfast benefit from a variety of formation and training programmes aimed at their ongoing personal, professional and spiritual development.

## ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Throughout 2023 the number of young people who benefited from the programmes of the Belfast La Salle Pastoral Centre has reached again the 2019 pre-pandemic levels. Throughout the year the centre offered the following programmes:

- For Primary School students, Confirmation Retreats and Transition Retreats (primary to secondary)
- A range of age-appropriate retreats for secondary students from Year 8 to Year 14
  - Year 8: New Beginnings
  - Year 9: Love One Another
  - Year 10: What Can I Do?
  - Year 11: Finding a Moral Compass
  - Year 12: Self-Esteem and Resilience
  - Year 13: Beliefs and Attitudes
  - Year 14: God Speaks to the Heart
- Retreats based on resilience
- Advent and Lenten retreats
- Programmes and sessions offered in school rather than at the centre:
  - Journey of Your Heart – a meditation programme delivered over three class period sessions for Years 13 and 14 students
  - Ignatian Daily Examen for Years 13 and 14 students
  - Meditation for Year 8 students
- Advent and/or Lent online short reflections via Zoom for school groups
- Retreats for other groups including school staffs, parish groups, folk groups, youth groups
- Art Psychotherapy programme on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and evenings
- A School Chaplaincy programme.

The chaplaincy programme is a joint initiative between the Pastoral Centre, three local priests and staff members in schools. The school chaplaincy programme was initiated in De La Salle College, Belfast and then extended to three other schools. The idea is to support a small group of teachers to act as chaplains within their own schools.

The De La Salle residence in Glen Road Belfast accommodated the Cursilio Group two nights weekly and a St Vincent de Paul group weekly throughout the year. An Art Therapy Group was also occasionally hosted there. The De La Salle residence in Downpatrick accommodated a St Vincent de Paul group throughout the year.

All facilities provided by both residences were provided free of charge.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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The three post-primary schools in Downpatrick; De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School have been supported to establish a partnership in which they worked together to create a model of co-educational 11-19 provision for the Downpatrick area. Since January 2023 this work has intensified.

The De La Salle Trustees and Diocesan response to the Department of Education policies and Government requirement for Area-based Planning is an all ability co-educational 11-19 school. This new school is designated a voluntary Grammar school offering pathways to a curriculum with academic and vocational choices. This one school model will maximise and ensure the accessibility of high quality 2<sup>nd</sup> level Lasallian Catholic education in Downpatrick into the future. Trustees have successfully ensured the appointment of highly competent and widely respected members of the community as independent members on the Interim Board of Governors (IBOG) of the proposed new school.

The process has been evolutionary; Principals, Boards of Governments and Trustees have been working on this since 2012. The inaugural meeting of the Interim Board of Governors Meeting of the New School in Downpatrick took place on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Over the course of the subsequent monthly meetings of the IBOG, an implementation plan was agreed to ensure the successful and timely fulfilment of the various steps and actions required to ensure the opening of the new school by September 2024. During this period, it was agreed, following consultation with representative groups of students, parents and staff from the three schools involved, that the name of the new school would be Lecale Trinity Grammar School. This new educational institution will build on the long established and great educational tradition of the Mercy and De La Salle congregations.

### *HIA Inquiry*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited have been involved with the Historical Institution Abuse inquiry (HIA) since 2012 and supplied HIA with all its needs in relation to legal matters.

In 2014 and in 2015 members of the Company attended the HIA Inquiry, made statements and gave oral evidence to it. Following the publication of the HIA report in 2017 the members of the Company continued to support the redress board set up by the HIA.

Members of the Company together with members of other Congregations/Companies met with the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister to discuss the question of redress.

Members of the Company had a private meeting with an independent facilitator to discuss the question of a voluntary contribution to the redress scheme

At the time of approving these financial statements, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been finalised and no estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2023. The publicised contribution to the Redress Scheme was made by the De La Salle Order in the Republic of Ireland.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

During 2023, the total income amounted to £248,266 (2022: £299,803) which is made up of brothers' donated pensions, community income and bank interest. Expenditure amounted to £457,975 (2022: £230,693). Legal costs (£195,615) & community stipends (£136,400) were the largest expenditure items in 2023. Net expenditure for the year amounted to £209,709 (2022: net income of £69,110).

### *Reserves Policy*

Reserves are needed to retain surpluses which are not distributed or spent shortly after an accounting year end but rather retained to allow for any further reductions in income or unanticipated expenditure not provided for in annual budgets. The Charity Commission requires that Directors recognise the reserves issue, assess the needs of the entity, seek to reach an appropriate level within a reasonable timescale and report their reserves policy in the annual report accompanying the financial statements. The actual reserves at 31 December 2023 were £1,984 (2022: £211,693).

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023***

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The policy relating to the reserves of the charity are reviewed annually by the Directors.

The Directors have reviewed the Charities future budgets and forecasts and are confident that there is sufficient funding available to ensure the charity can continue its activities for the foreseeable future, and the financial statements can be approved as a going concern.

### **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

The Directors have no plans to change the activities or objectives of the charity.

### **POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS**

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

### **Auditors**

The auditors, Walsh O'Brien Harnett, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards**

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)
- Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI) guidance
- The Charities Act 2008

### **Political Contributions**

The company did not make any disclosable political donations in the current year.

### **Special provisions relating to small companies.**

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

### **Disclosure of information to auditors**

Each of the Directors has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditors are unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

**Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf by:**

**Br Eamonn Manning**  
**Director**

**Br James Mangan**  
**Director**

**Dated: 22 september 20 24**

**The Institute of The Brothers of The Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101722

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# Annual return

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# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the 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 FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### 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 Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in UK, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 3 to the financial statements, 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 Directors' 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 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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### 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 Directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### Opinion on the Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

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

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report.

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

#### Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the statement of Directors' responsibilities, the Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the 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 Directors 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

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of noncompliance 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.

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

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We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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 charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors 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 timing and completeness of recognition of grant and contract income and major donations and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Audit Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, testing of a sample of transactions against the terms of the funding agreements and the requirement of the Charities SORP (FRS102), sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases 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. 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Joseph O'Brien (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Walsh O'Brien Harnett**  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
104 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2

**22 September 2024**

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# Accounts

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Charity Number: 101722  
Company Number: NI054357 (Northern Ireland)

**THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN  
NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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|                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Directors</b>                               | Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier<br>Br Eamonn Manning<br>Br Michael Loran<br>Br Patrick John Kelleher<br>Br James Mangan<br>Br Joseph Reid |
| <b>Secretary</b>                               | Br Michael Loran                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Charity number (Northern Ireland)</b>       | 101722                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Company number</b>                          | NI054357                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Registered office and principal address</b> | De La Salle Residence<br>Glanaulin<br>141 Glen Road<br>Belfast<br>Northern Ireland<br>BT11 8BP                                                  |
| <b>Auditor</b>                                 | Walsh O'Brien Harnett<br>Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm<br>104 Lower Baggot Street<br>Dublin 2<br>Ireland<br>D02Y940            |
| <b>Bankers</b>                                 | Allied Irish Bank (NI)<br>University Road<br>Belfast<br>Antrim<br>BT7 1ND                                                                       |
| <b>Solicitors</b>                              | Napier & Sons<br>1-9 Castle Arcade<br>Belfast<br>BT1 5DF<br><br>P.J. McGrory & Co<br>52 Andersonstown Road<br>Belfast<br>BT11 9AN               |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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The Directors, who are also trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools In Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The Directors confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity'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 (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity was established on 16 March 2005 as a charitable company and is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital. The company's registered number is NI054357 and its registered charity number is 101722.

##### *Governance*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were amended by special resolution on 30 August 2005.

##### *Directors*

The directors, who are also the Trustees of the charity, at the date of this report and those who served during the financial year together with the dates of any changes are set out in the reference and administrative details on page 3.

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, may offer themselves for re-election.

The secretary who served during the year was Brother Michael Loran.

##### *Management*

The Directors are responsible for setting and implementing the charities policies. The board meets regularly in compliance with its statutory responsibilities and review the impact of the charity and its achievements.

Directors are not remunerated for their services and are not reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

##### *Principal Risks and Uncertainties*

The Directors are responsible for setting the charities internal systems and controls and for reviewing them for effectiveness. The internal systems and control system is designed to manage, rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the charities objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements or deficit.

The Directors are not aware of any specific risks or uncertainties which would have an impact on the company.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The object and principal activity of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is that of advancing the Roman Catholic Faith in Northern Ireland and to provide or assist in the provision of education of children and young person's attending in any school or educational establishment in which religious instruction in the doctrine, principles and precepts of the Roman Catholic Faith is given.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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Our main charitable activities are the support of Brothers and their ministries which facilitates the core activities of the Institute carried out through the management of two schools, De La Salle High School Downpatrick and St Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick and the operation of two residences at Glen Road Belfast and Downpatrick. The Brothers are active members on both boards of management.

The charity also provides funding to the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast and an outreach centre in Downpatrick.

The Institute also acts as a trustee for the properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 13 to the financial statements.

#### **Achievements and performance**

Throughout 2022 the number of schools participating in the Belfast La Salle Pastoral Centre is gradually rising again following the effects of the pandemic. Throughout the year the centre has developed a new programme, Journey to Your Heart, to senior students facilitated in school. This comprises four sessions each lasting between 40–60 minutes, the time given to a class period. Due to the heightened need for mental health support, the Pastoral Centre also offers Art Psychotherapy for young people and adults. This is offered by the Director of the Centre who has completed MA Art Psychotherapy.

The De La Salle residence in Downpatrick accommodated the following groups throughout the year; Legion of Mary, Knights of Columbanus, St Vincent de Paul and Women's Yoga. The De La Salle residence in Glen Road Belfast accommodated the Cursilio Group three nights weekly and St Vincent de Paul weekly throughout the year.

All facilities provided by both residences were provided free of charge.

The three post-primary schools in Downpatrick; De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School have been supported to establish a partnership in which they worked together to create a model of co-educational 11 -19 provision for the Downpatrick area.

The De La Salle Trustees and Diocesan response to the Department of Education policies and Government requirement for Area-based Planning is an all ability co-educational 11-19 school. This new school is designated a voluntary Grammar school offering pathways to a curriculum with academic and vocational choices. This one school model will maximise and ensure the accessibility of high quality 2<sup>nd</sup> level Lasallian Catholic education in Downpatrick into the future.

The process has been evolutionary; Principals, Boards of Governments and Trustees have been working on this since 2012. Thirteen years later the Inaugural Interim Board of Governors Meeting of the New School In Downpatrick took place. An implementation plan is in process, building on a long serving and great education tradition by the Mercy and De La Salle congregations.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited have been involved with the Historical Institution Abuse inquiry (HIA) since 2012 and supplied HIA with all its needs in relation to legal matters. At the time of approving these financial statements, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been agreed and not estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

#### **Public Benefit**

The Directors have reviewed the relevant guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland published in relation to the principles of public benefit with regard to the advancement of education and the advancement of religion. The Directors are satisfied that all of the charities activities, which are outlined in the achievement and performance section of this report, fall within its stated charitable objectives and result in a benefit to the public.

Their facilities enable young persons and adults to develop their physical, mental, and spiritual capacities through the provisions of training, instructions, counselling and supervision and the provision of appropriate education and instructional facilities.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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The schools, one secondary and one grammar, have a common ethos which provides a suitable environment for the development and advancement of the Roman Catholic faith in Northern Ireland. Through the Institute's links, teachers have access to a range of animation programmes for on-going formation.

The direct benefit following from the charitable purposes of the institute are of a pastoral, educational and spiritual nature which enables students and adults to enhance their personal development, social skills, faith, and spiritual lives. It enables them to improve their self-esteem, have a greater awareness of themselves and others. The spiritual dimension permeates daily activities, and the students are encouraged to believe in their own worth as children of God by whom they are loved unconditionally.

Prior to Covid19 the De La Salle Pastoral Centre catered for an average of 39 schools each year with over 2,000 young people participating in retreat programmes each year. The benefit is demonstrated by the positive feedback received from participants. This network of relationship amongst and between teachers, students and the pastoral care policy is influential in determining the ethos of a school as the impact of the formal curriculum or the teaching skills of those who administer it.

The primary beneficiaries are students at local schools in the Belfast as well as the local community who avail themselves of the pastoral facilities.

Through the Institutes International Lasallian links, teachers and pastoral staff have access to professional and development programmes provided by Lasallian Education Mission Ireland for on-going formation.

#### *HIA Inquiry*

In 2014 and in 2015 members of the Company attended the HIA Inquiry, made statements and gave oral evidence to it. Following the publication of the HIA report in 2017 the members of the Company continued to support the redress board set up by the HIA.

Members of the Company together with members of other Congregations/Companies met with the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister to discuss the question of redress.

Members of the Company had a private meeting with an independent facilitator to discuss the question of a voluntary contribution to the redress scheme. At the time of approving these financial statement, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been agreed and no estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

#### **Financial review**

Income increased by 12% from £266,830 in 2021 to £299,803 in 2022.

Expenditure decreased by 36% from £358,911 in 2021 to £230,693 in 2022.

Net income for the year amounted to £69,110 (2021: net expenditure of £92,081).

#### *Reserves Policy*

Reserves are needed to retain surpluses which are not distributed or spent shortly after an accounting year end but rather retained to allow for any further reductions in income or unanticipated expenditure not provided for in annual budgets. The Charity Commission requires that Directors recognise the reserves issue, assess the needs of the entity, seek to reach an appropriate level within a reasonable timescale and report their reserves policy in the annual report accompanying the financial statements. The actual reserves at 31 December 2022 were £211,693 (2021: £142,583).

The policy relating to the reserves of the charity are reviewed annually by the Directors.

The Directors have reviewed the Charities future budgets and forecasts and are confident that there is sufficient funding available to ensure the charity can continue its activities for the foreseeable future, and the financial statements can be approved as a going concern.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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### Plans for the Future

The Directors have no plans to change the activities or objectives of the charity.

### Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

### Auditor

The auditors, Walsh O'Brien Harnett, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

### Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

### Political Contributions

The company did not make any disclosable political donations in the current year.

### Special provisions relating to small companies

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Directors has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

**Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf:**

**Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier**  
Director

**Br Joseph Reid**  
Director

**Dated: 21 April 2023**

# **THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED**

## **STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022***

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The directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law) including FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the net income or expenditure of the company for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The directors 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 company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006 the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information (information needed by the company's auditor in connection with preparing the auditor's report) of which the company's auditor is unaware, and
- the directors have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf:

**Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier**  
**Director**

**Br Joseph Reid**  
**Director**

**Dated: 21 April 2023**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the 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 FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### 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 Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in UK, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 3 to the financial statements, 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 Directors' 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 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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### 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 Directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### **Opinion on the Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records

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

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report.

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

#### **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the statement of Directors' responsibilities, the Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the 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 Directors 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**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of noncompliance 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.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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 charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors 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 timing and completeness of recognition of grant and contract income and major donations and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Audit Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, testing of a sample of transactions against the terms of the funding agreements and the requirement of the Charities SORP (FRS102), sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases 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. 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Joseph O'Brien (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Walsh O'Brien Harnett**  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
104 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2  
Ireland

**21 April 2023**

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

|                                          | Notes | Unrestricted funds<br>2022<br>£ | Unrestricted funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b><u>Income</u></b>                     |       |                                 |                                 |
| Donations and legacies                   | 5     | 227,063                         | 235,342                         |
| Charitable activities                    | 6     | 71,801                          | 31,179                          |
| Investments                              | 7     | 939                             | 9                               |
| Other income                             | 8     | -                               | 300                             |
| <b>Total income</b>                      |       | <u>299,803</u>                  | <u>266,830</u>                  |
| <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>                |       |                                 |                                 |
| Charitable expenditure                   | 9     | <u>230,693</u>                  | <u>358,911</u>                  |
| <b>Net movement in funds</b>             |       | 69,110                          | (92,081)                        |
| Fund balances at 1 January 2022          |       | <u>142,583</u>                  | <u>234,664</u>                  |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 December 2022</b> |       | <u><u>211,693</u></u>           | <u><u>142,583</u></u>           |

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

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

|                                                       | Notes | 2022<br>£      | £              | 2021<br>£      | £              |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                   |       |                |                |                |                |
| Tangible assets                                       | 13    |                | 11,744         |                | 18,765         |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                 |       |                |                |                |                |
| Debtors                                               | 14    | -              |                | 3              |                |
| Cash at bank and in hand                              |       | 375,005        |                | 385,881        |                |
|                                                       |       | <u>375,005</u> |                | <u>385,884</u> |                |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b> | 15    | (175,056)      |                | (262,066)      |                |
| Net current assets                                    |       |                | 199,949        |                | 123,818        |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>          |       |                | <u>211,693</u> |                | <u>142,583</u> |
| <b>Funds</b>                                          |       |                |                |                |                |
| General funds                                         | 16    |                | 211,693        |                | 142,583        |
|                                                       |       |                | <u>211,693</u> |                | <u>142,583</u> |

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

The financial statements were approved by the Directors on 21 April 2023

**Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier**  
Director

**Br Joseph Reid**  
Director

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

|                                                               | Notes | 2022<br>£ | £        | 2021<br>£ | £         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                   |       |           |          |           |           |
| Cash absorbed by operations                                   | 21    |           | (11,815) |           | (207,911) |
| <b>Investing activities</b>                                   |       |           |          |           |           |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets                             |       | -         |          | (18,590)  |           |
| Proceeds on disposal of tangible fixed assets                 |       | -         |          | 300       |           |
| Investment income received                                    |       | 939       |          | 9         |           |
| <b>Net cash generated from/(used in) investing activities</b> |       |           | 939      |           | (18,281)  |
| <b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>                  |       |           | -        |           | -         |
| <b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>              |       |           | (10,876) |           | (226,192) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year                |       |           | 385,881  |           | 612,073   |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>               |       |           | 375,005  |           | 385,881   |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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### **1 General information**

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in Northern Ireland. The registered office is De La Salle Residence, Glanaulin, 141 Glen Road, Belfast, BT11 8BP, Northern Ireland. The nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report.

### **2 Accounting policies**

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the Company's financial statements.

#### **2.1 Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and "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 Company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in Pound sterling (£), which is the functional currency of the Company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

#### **2.2 Going concern**

At the time of approving the financial statements, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the Directors continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### **2.3 Charitable funds**

Unrestricted funds represent funds which are expendable at the discretion of the Company in the furtherance of the objects of the Company. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

#### **2.4 Income**

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Donations, including salaries and pensions of individual brothers are recognised when the District has entitlement to the income, the amount can be reliably measured and it is probable that the income will be received. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance before the Charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the Charity and it is probable that those conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period. Cash donations collected are recognised as income when the Charity gains control, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Income from the charitable activities is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Charity and the revenue can be reliably measured. It is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable, including any relevant value added tax.

Investment Income from financial assets and interest on funds held on deposit are included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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#### 2 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 2.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on an accruals basis and includes an attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

Expenditure comprises the following:

- a) Charitable expenditure comprises expenditure on the Company's primary charitable purposes.
- b) Governance costs comprise the costs directly attributable to the organisational procedures and the necessary legal procedures for compliance with statutory requirements.

##### 2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Motor vehicles | 25% Straight line |
|----------------|-------------------|

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year.

##### 2.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

##### 2.8 Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

##### 2.9 Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

##### 2.10 Taxation

The Institute of the Brothers of Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited is not subject to tax as it has charitable exemption (Charity Number 101722).

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

### 2 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 2.11 Provisions

Provisions for liabilities made in the financial statements are shown within current liabilities where the consideration expected to be paid can be reliably measured.

#### 2.12 Foreign exchange

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Transactions, during the year, which are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities.

### 3 Provisions available for audits of small entities

In common with many other charitable companies of our size and nature, we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

### 4 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the Company's accounting policies, the Directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

#### Key sources of estimation uncertainty

##### Useful economic life of tangible assets

The annual depreciation on tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimate useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. These estimates are reviewed annually and amended when necessary.

The Directors do not consider that there are any key assumptions concerning the future, or any other key sources of estimation uncertainty, that have significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

### 5 Income from donations and legacies

|                                 | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2022<br>£ | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2021<br>£ |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Donations of Brothers' Pensions | 227,063                            | 235,342                            |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

### 6 Income from charitable activities

|                  | <b>Unrestricted funds</b> | <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|                  | <b>2022</b>               | <b>2021</b>               |
|                  | <b>£</b>                  | <b>£</b>                  |
| Community income | 71,801                    | 31,179                    |

### 7 Income from investments

|               | <b>Unrestricted funds</b> | <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|               | <b>2022</b>               | <b>2021</b>               |
|               | <b>£</b>                  | <b>£</b>                  |
| Bank interest | 939                       | 9                         |

### 8 Other income

|                                               | <b>Total</b> | <b>Unrestricted funds</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                               | <b>2022</b>  | <b>2021</b>               |
|                                               | <b>£</b>     | <b>£</b>                  |
| Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets | -            | 300                       |

### 9 Expenditure on charitable activities

|                                         | <b>Support of the Brothers and their Ministries</b> | <b>Support of the Brothers and their Ministries</b> |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
|                                         | <b>2022</b>                                         | <b>2021</b>                                         |
|                                         | <b>£</b>                                            | <b>£</b>                                            |
| Depreciation                            | 7,021                                               | 6,946                                               |
| Direct costs                            | 214,746                                             | 344,955                                             |
|                                         | 221,767                                             | 351,901                                             |
| Share of support costs (see note 10)    | -                                                   | 2,074                                               |
| Share of governance costs (see note 10) | 8,926                                               | 4,936                                               |
|                                         | 230,693                                             | 358,911                                             |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

#### 10 Support and governance costs

|                       | Support costs<br>£ | Governance costs<br>£ | 2022<br>£ | Support costs<br>£ | Governance costs<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Professional fees     | -                  | -                     | -         | 2,074              | -                     | 2,074     |
| Audit fees            | -                  | 8,926                 | 8,926     | -                  | 4,936                 | 4,936     |
|                       | -                  | 8,926                 | 8,926     | 2,074              | 4,936                 | 7,010     |
| Analysed between      |                    |                       |           |                    |                       |           |
| Charitable activities | -                  | 8,926                 | 8,926     | 2,074              | 4,936                 | 7,010     |

Support and governance costs are allocated to charitable activities on actual basis.

Support and governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £8,926 (2021 - £7,010) for audit and advisory services.

#### 11 Net movement in funds

|                                                            | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting) |           |           |
| Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets                | 7,021     | 6,946     |
| Loss/(profit) on disposal of tangible fixed assets         | -         | (300)     |

#### 12 Directors

All Directors' are members of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited. The Directors consider that they alone comprise the key management of the Company. As members of the District, the directors' living and personal expenses are borne by the Company but they receive no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses in connection with their duties as Directors (2021: none).

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

#### 13 Tangible fixed assets

|                                  | Motor vehicles<br>£ |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Cost</b>                      |                     |
| At 1 January 2022                | 45,085              |
| At 31 December 2022              | 45,085              |
| <b>Depreciation</b>              |                     |
| At 1 January 2022                | 26,320              |
| Depreciation charged in the year | 7,021               |
| At 31 December 2022              | 33,341              |
| <b>Carrying amount</b>           |                     |
| At 31 December 2022              | 11,744              |
| At 31 December 2021              | 18,765              |

The Company holds title to the following properties. These properties are held in trust for the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland and are not part of the assets of the company.

- Glenaulin, 141 Glen Road, Belfast
- 4 Stream Street, Downpatrick

The Company also acts as Trustee for the properties comprising of St. Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick, and De La Salle High School, Downpatrick. All properties are held in accordance with the regulations of the Department of Education in Northern Ireland and are not part of the assets of the company.

#### 14 Debtors

|                                             | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b> |           |           |
| Other debtors                               | -         | 3         |

#### 15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                              | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Other creditors              | 170,000   | 250,000   |
| Accruals and deferred income | 5,056     | 12,066    |
|                              | 175,056   | 262,066   |

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

#### 16 Unrestricted funds

The income funds of the charity include the following designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes:

|              | Balance at<br>1 January<br>2022 | Income         | Expenditure      | Balance at<br>31<br>December<br>2022 |
|--------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
|              | £                               | £              | £                | £                                    |
| General fund | 142,583                         | 299,803        | (310,693)        | 131,693                              |
|              | <u>142,583</u>                  | <u>299,803</u> | <u>(310,693)</u> | <u>131,693</u>                       |

#### 17 Related party transactions

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited and the De La Salle Brothers - Ireland are related due to commonality of Directors / Trustees.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited received income from donations of salaries and pensions from the De La Salle Brothers in Northern Ireland amounting to £227,063 during the year (2021: £235,342).

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited provided a total of £190,400 of financial support to De La Salle - Ireland Communities and Pastoral Centres in Northern Ireland (2021: £128,400)

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited acts as trustee for properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 13 to the financial statements.

#### 18 Status

The Company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The Company's registered number is NI054357.

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Company contracted before they ceased to be members, and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

#### 19 Post Balance Sheet events

There have been no significant events affecting the Company since the financial year end.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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#### 20 Contingent liability

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is currently incurring legal and other costs relating to a statutory inquiry into the alleged historical abuse of children in Northern Ireland.

The Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry in Northern Ireland reported in January 2017 and a redress scheme was established, in March 2020.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited expects to incur further legal and other costs in relation to the inquiry, however it is not possible at the present time to provide a reliable estimate of these future costs.

Voluntary contributions to the redress schemes, if any, have not yet been agreed and it is therefore not possible at the present to provide an estimate of any future contributions.

| 21 Cash generated from operations                                 | 2022<br>£       | 2021<br>£        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year                                    | 69,110          | (92,081)         |
| Adjustments for:                                                  |                 |                  |
| Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities | (939)           | (9)              |
| Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets                         | -               | (300)            |
| Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets              | 7,021           | 6,946            |
| Movements in working capital:                                     |                 |                  |
| Decrease in debtors                                               | 3               | 523              |
| (Decrease) in creditors                                           | (87,010)        | (122,990)        |
| <b>Cash absorbed by operations</b>                                | <b>(11,815)</b> | <b>(207,911)</b> |

**The Institute of The Brothers of The Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101722

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# Annual report

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# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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The Directors, who are also trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools In Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The Directors confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity'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 (FRS 102) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective 1 January 2019).

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity was established on 16 March 2005 as a charitable company and is limited by guarantee, not having a share capital. The company's registered number is NI054357 and its registered charity number is 101722.

##### *Governance*

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association which were amended by special resolution on 30 August 2005.

##### *Directors*

The directors, who are also the Trustees of the charity, at the date of this report and those who served during the financial year together with the dates of any changes are set out in the reference and administrative details on page 3.

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, may offer themselves for re-election.

The secretary who served during the year was Brother Michael Loran.

##### *Management*

The Directors are responsible for setting and implementing the charities policies. The board meets regularly in compliance with its statutory responsibilities and review the impact of the charity and its achievements.

Directors are not remunerated for their services and are not reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

##### *Principal Risks and Uncertainties*

The Directors are responsible for setting the charities internal systems and controls and for reviewing them for effectiveness. The internal systems and control system is designed to manage, rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the charities objectives and can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements or deficit.

The Directors are not aware of any specific risks or uncertainties which would have an impact on the company.

#### **Objectives and activities**

The object and principal activity of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (In Northern Ireland) Limited is that of advancing the Roman Catholic Faith in Northern Ireland and to provide or assist in the provision of education of children and young person's attending in any school or educational establishment in which religious instruction in the doctrine, principles and precepts of the Roman Catholic Faith is given.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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Our main charitable activities are the support of Brothers and their ministries which facilitates the core activities of the Institute carried out through the management of two schools, De La Salle High School Downpatrick and St Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick and the operation of two residences at Glen Road Belfast and Downpatrick. The Brothers are active members on both boards of management.

The charity also provides funding to the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Belfast and an outreach centre in Downpatrick.

The Institute also acts as a trustee for the properties of the De La Salle Congregation in Northern Ireland as outlined in note 13 to the financial statements.

#### Achievements and performance

Throughout 2022 the number of schools participating in the Belfast La Salle Pastoral Centre is gradually rising again following the effects of the pandemic. Throughout the year the centre has developed a new programme, Journey to Your Heart, to senior students facilitated in school. This comprises four sessions each lasting between 40–60 minutes, the time given to a class period. Due to the heightened need for mental health support, the Pastoral Centre also offers Art Psychotherapy for young people and adults. This is offered by the Director of the Centre who has completed MA Art Psychotherapy.

The De La Salle residence in Downpatrick accommodated the following groups throughout the year; Legion of Mary, Knights of Columbanus, St Vincent de Paul and Women's Yoga. The De La Salle residence in Glen Road Belfast accommodated the Cursilio Group three nights weekly and St Vincent de Paul weekly throughout the year.

All facilities provided by both residences were provided free of charge.

The three post-primary schools in Downpatrick; De La Salle High School, St Patrick's Grammar School, and St Mary's High School have been supported to establish a partnership in which they worked together to create a model of co-educational 11 -19 provision for the Downpatrick area.

The De La Salle Trustees and Diocesan response to the Department of Education policies and Government requirement for Area-based Planning is an all ability co-educational 11-19 school. This new school is designated a voluntary Grammar school offering pathways to a curriculum with academic and vocational choices. This one school model will maximise and ensure the accessibility of high quality 2<sup>nd</sup> level Lasallian Catholic education in Downpatrick into the future.

The process has been evolutionary; Principals, Boards of Governments and Trustees have been working on this since 2012. Thirteen years later the Inaugural Interim Board of Governors Meeting of the New School In Downpatrick took place. An implementation plan is in process, building on a long serving and great education tradition by the Mercy and De La Salle congregations.

The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited have been involved with the Historical Institution Abuse inquiry (HIA) since 2012 and supplied HIA with all its needs in relation to legal matters. At the time of approving these financial statements, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been agreed and not estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

#### Public Benefit

The Directors have reviewed the relevant guidance published by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland published in relation to the principles of public benefit with regard to the advancement of education and the advancement of religion. The Directors are satisfied that all of the charities activities, which are outlined in the achievement and performance section of this report, fall within its stated charitable objectives and result in a benefit to the public.

Their facilities enable young persons and adults to develop their physical, mental, and spiritual capacities through the provisions of training, instructions, counselling and supervision and the provision of appropriate education and instructional facilities.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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The schools, one secondary and one grammar, have a common ethos which provides a suitable environment for the development and advancement of the Roman Catholic faith in Northern Ireland. Through the Institute's links, teachers have access to a range of animation programmes for on-going formation.

The direct benefit following from the charitable purposes of the institute are of a pastoral, educational and spiritual nature which enables students and adults to enhance their personal development, social skills, faith, and spiritual lives. It enables them to improve their self-esteem, have a greater awareness of themselves and others. The spiritual dimension permeates daily activities, and the students are encouraged to believe in their own worth as children of God by whom they are loved unconditionally.

Prior to Covid19 the De La Salle Pastoral Centre catered for an average of 39 schools each year with over 2,000 young people participating in retreat programmes each year. The benefit is demonstrated by the positive feedback received from participants. This network of relationship amongst and between teachers, students and the pastoral care policy is influential in determining the ethos of a school as the impact of the formal curriculum or the teaching skills of those who administer it.

The primary beneficiaries are students at local schools in the Belfast as well as the local community who avail themselves of the pastoral facilities.

Through the Institutes International Lasallian links, teachers and pastoral staff have access to professional and development programmes provided by Lasallian Education Mission Ireland for on-going formation.

#### *HIA Inquiry*

In 2014 and in 2015 members of the Company attended the HIA Inquiry, made statements and gave oral evidence to it. Following the publication of the HIA report in 2017 the members of the Company continued to support the redress board set up by the HIA.

Members of the Company together with members of other Congregations/Companies met with the First Minister and the Deputy First Minister to discuss the question of redress.

Members of the Company had a private meeting with an independent facilitator to discuss the question of a voluntary contribution to the redress scheme. At the time of approving these financial statement, voluntary contributions to the redress schemes have not yet been agreed and no estimate of future contributions, if any, have been included in the financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2022.

#### **Financial review**

Income increased by 12% from £266,830 in 2021 to £299,803 in 2022.

Expenditure decreased by 36% from £358,911 in 2021 to £230,693 in 2022.

Net income for the year amounted to £69,110 (2021: net expenditure of £92,081).

#### *Reserves Policy*

Reserves are needed to retain surpluses which are not distributed or spent shortly after an accounting year end but rather retained to allow for any further reductions in income or unanticipated expenditure not provided for in annual budgets. The Charity Commission requires that Directors recognise the reserves issue, assess the needs of the entity, seek to reach an appropriate level within a reasonable timescale and report their reserves policy in the annual report accompanying the financial statements. The actual reserves at 31 December 2022 were £211,693 (2021: £142,583).

The policy relating to the reserves of the charity are reviewed annually by the Directors.

The Directors have reviewed the Charities future budgets and forecasts and are confident that there is sufficient funding available to ensure the charity can continue its activities for the foreseeable future, and the financial statements can be approved as a going concern.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## DIRECTORS' REPORT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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### Plans for the Future

The Directors have no plans to change the activities or objectives of the charity.

### Post Balance Sheet Events

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

### Auditor

The auditors, Walsh O'Brien Harnett, (Chartered Accountants) have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006.

### Compliance with Sector-Wide Legislation and Standards

The company engages pro-actively with legislation, standards and codes which are developed for the sector. The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited subscribes to and is compliant with the following:

- The Companies Act 2006
- The Charities SORP (FRS 102)

### Political Contributions

The company did not make any disclosable political donations in the current year.

### Special provisions relating to small companies

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

### Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the Directors has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

**Approved by the Board of Directors and signed on its behalf:**

**Br Christopher Thomas Patrick Collier**  
Director

**Br Joseph Reid**  
Director

**Dated: 21 April 2023**

**The Institute of The Brothers of The Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101722

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# Annual return

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# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools (in Northern Ireland) Limited (the 'Company') for the year ended 31 December 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the 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 FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### 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 Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in UK, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 3 to the financial statements, 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 Directors' 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 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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### 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 Directors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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#### **Opinion on the Other Matters Prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records

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

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the Directors' Annual Report.

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

#### **Responsibilities of Directors**

As explained more fully in the statement of Directors' responsibilities, the Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the 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 Directors 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**

We have been appointed as auditor under section 65(2) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of noncompliance 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.

# THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE OF THE BROTHERS OF THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS (IN NORTHERN IRELAND) LIMITED

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We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charity operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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 charity's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charity for fraud.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors 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 timing and completeness of recognition of grant and contract income and major donations and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Audit Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, testing of a sample of transactions against the terms of the funding agreements and the requirement of the Charities SORP (FRS102), sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases 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. 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.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006 and Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity'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 charity and the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

**Joseph O'Brien (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Walsh O'Brien Harnett**  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
104 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin 2  
Ireland

**21 April 2023**