

**UKRAINIAN ST. MARGARET'S SATURDAY SCHOOL SCIO**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025**





### **Contents:**

Page 1: Title Page: Trustees' report and Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Page 2: Photographs of Ukrainian St Margaret's Prize Giving and Art Class at St John's Church

Page 3: Contents Page.

Page 4: Reference and Administrative Information. List of Trustees. Independent Examiner.

Page 5: Structure, Governance and Management Constitution  
Appointment and Responsibilities of the Trustees  
Objectives of the School

Page 6: Achievement and Performance: Highlights of 2025

Page 7: Safeguarding  
Appreciation  
Future Plans

Page 8: Financial Review and Reserves

Page 9: Receipts and Payments Account for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Pages 10 & 11: Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

Page 12: Independent Examiner's Report

Page 13: Photographs of Ukrainian School and Braeburn Care Home visit

Page 14: Photograph of Summer trip to North Berwick.



## **Reference and Administrative Information**

**Charity name:** Ukrainian St. Margaret's Saturday School SCIO

**Charity number:** SC053287

**Address:** as registered under charity number SC053287

**Website:** [www.ukrainianstmargarets.school](http://www.ukrainianstmargarets.school)

### **Current Trustees:**

Graham Frost	Chair of Trustees
Malvina Kustro	Trustee and teacher
Marjan Pokhylyy	Trustee
Nataliia Shulpina	Trustee and teacher (Deputy Director of Education)
Karina Kutuzova	Trustee and parent (Safeguarding Administrator from 1 January 2026)
Kateryna Holovko	Trustee and parent
Sandra Frost	Trustee and teacher (Deputy Director of Education)
Kirsten Kooy	Trustee (Safeguarding Administrator) (retired 31 December 2025)
John Kirk	Trustee (from 1 January 2026)

### **Secretary and Treasurer to the Trustees:**

Martin Pearce

### **Director of Education:**

Hanna Tekliuk (also Safeguarding Officer)

### **Independent Examiner:**

Eric A. Wishart

69 Promenade, Portobello, Edinburgh EH15 2DX

## **Structure, Governance and Management Constitution**

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a SCIO) registered in its legal form on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024 as SC053287.

### **Appointment and Responsibilities of the Trustees**

The charity is governed by a Board of Trustees. The minimum number of trustees is three and the maximum is eight. The Board may appoint any person to be a trustee by resolution passed by a majority vote at a Board meeting. The Board has eight trustees following the appointment of Karina Kutuzova and Kateryna Holovko as parent trustees during the year, and two co-opted advisers: the Director of Education and the Secretary.

Kirsten Kooy stood down as Trustee at the end of December 2025 and was replaced by John Kirk. Marjan Pokhylyy has confirmed he will stand down as Trustee at this AGM and the Board has approved the appointment of Lady Coulsfield to replace him. The Board is very grateful to Kirsten and Marjan for all their efforts as Trustees and supporters of the charity and the School, from its creation to the present day.

The charity ran continuously throughout 2025 and was administered through a monthly meeting every month of the year during term times. Full records of the monthly meetings are taken by the Secretary and circulated to the trustees and approved at the next monthly meeting. Likewise, the budget was set and approved monthly by the trustees.

The main responsibilities of the Board are to ensure good governance of the School, safeguarding, fund-raising, and the administration of the finances.

### **Objectives of the School**

1. To teach Ukrainian children and students, from ages 5 years to 18 years, Ukrainian language, customs, art, history, and heritage.
2. To teach core academic subjects such as mathematics, the English language, and business studies.
3. To promote social skills, which will help our students to integrate successfully within their local community and to foster confidence when working within groups, notably the primary school children.
4. To provide extra-curricular activities to gain a wider perspective of Ukrainian and Scottish culture, as well as having fun together, which helps to forge lasting relationships.
5. To help the children and students cope with the emotion of being refugees from war-torn Ukraine.

## **Achievement & Performance: Highlights of 2025**

**January 25 to June 25:** We completed the School's Second Year in June 2025 with a prize giving ceremony at St John's Episcopal Church when prizes were awarded to 30 children for achievement and attendance. The 100 supporters and parents were entertained by the children and teenagers performing singing, poetry, and dancing.

**Appreciation:** We are very grateful to George Heriot's School who allowed us to use classrooms free of charge for a second year until June 2025. We were also grateful that St Cuthbert's Parish Church and St John's allowed us to use their room facilities on the occasions when George Heriot's classrooms were unavailable.

**Major Change:** The major change of 2025 came in August, when the teachers decided to run the School for four hours every Saturday during term time, instead of two and a half hours, and start at the later time of 10.30am instead of 9am because several children and teachers travel from Glasgow, Fife, Eyemouth, and the Borders. In consequence we used five churches for our weekly meetings in the autumn of 2025; in addition, to the two churches mentioned earlier, we are grateful to Greyfriars Kirk, St Stephen's Comely Bank, and Barclay Viewforth Church for rooms and facilities.

**August to December 2025:** The "new school day" resulted in twelve new children joining the School and we have had over 30 attending regularly every week, whatever the weather and wherever the location! We have a large 15/16-year-old group who have grown in confidence in their studies and have matured in character. The younger children too have enjoyed the company of one another, and all the children have progressed in the Ukrainian language, history, art, dance, mathematics, English language, and social skills.

**Accreditation:** Our School has been verified by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine on 29 September 2025. This means that learning results are recognised by Ukrainian schools without additional assessment or loss of the academic year. Teachers in verified schools can also have their teaching experience officially recognised.

**Extra-Curricular Activities:** Throughout 2025 we increased the frequency of the extra-curricular activities thanks to National Lottery funding, together with donations from John Watson's Trust and Mission of Innocents. The activities included four museum visits, a castle visit, games, art, dancing, story-telling, first aid, and the beach trip to North Berwick via the train. The latter was a very special and fun day for the Ukrainian families.

**Charitable Activities:** The children and parents have supported other charitable activities in the local community including a visit to the Braeburn Care Home where they sang songs and recited poems, and participated in the "Shoebox Appeal 2025" Christmas initiative.

**Fund Raising:** We raise funds to pay the Ukrainian teachers for their contributions and meet expenses – mainly snacks for the children, room hire and travel costs for two teachers. In 2025 we raised £23,517 thanks to the generosity of the National Lottery, the Edinburgh

Trades Fund, six super donors, private donations, donations from two private schools and two other charities, and parental contributions.

The outstanding commitment of the eight Ukrainian teachers, and the conscientious support from six English language teachers has ensured that the children not only receive high standards of teaching in a fun atmosphere but also hope for the future.

**Future Plans:** The School has sufficient funds to continue to the end of the third school year in June 2026. A decision will have to be made shortly to decide if the School should continue for a fourth year starting in August 2026. This will be dependent upon the number of teachers remaining in Scotland, the likely size of the student intake, and whether the trustees think they can raise sufficient funds.

Sadly, the war in Ukraine is not over, and some of our families have no homes to go back to. We pray for better days ahead for the Ukrainian nation and everyone that our School supports.

### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding has been organised by one of the trustees, a former Human Resources Director, and a trained safeguarding supervisor and administrator for St Cuthbert's Church. Her expertise ensured that a safeguarding policy was put in place and all safeguarding requirements were met by all the teachers. Karina Kutuzova, one of our parent Trustees, has taken over as Safeguarding Administrator. Hanna Tekliuk remains in her role as Safeguarding Supervisor.

Likewise, the trustees, who are in regular contact with the children have all undertaken the essential safeguarding training and are Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme registered.

### **Appreciation**

The Ukrainian teachers led by the Director of Education, assisted by the Scottish teachers, have worked tirelessly to provide the teaching support to the Ukrainian children.

The people and organisations, churches and schools of Edinburgh and West Lothian have supported this charity generously because of their concern for Ukraine and its children resident in Scotland through making financial donations and giving their time.

We thank in particular the Ukrainian Teachers throughout the year: Hanna Tekliuk, Nataliia Shulpina, Malvina Kustro, Valentyna Yanchevska, Taisiia Taranovska, Liudmyla Bubniv, Inna Maksymenko (retired June 2025), Anna Povazhna, and Oksana Sayapina. Likewise, we thank the English Language volunteer teachers for giving their time to the Ukrainian children; namely Sandy Frost, Matt Hosgood, Dr Alison Niven, Elaine Ford, Faith Sutherland, and Irene Richardson.

We are thankful to the five churches who provide accommodation for the Saturday School without whose support we could not function in the way that we do. The five churches are St Cuthbert's Parish Church, St John's Episcopal Church, Greyfriars Kirk, St Stephen's Comely Bank, and Barclay Viewforth Church.

We also give thanks to the parents for their donations, their energy in helping their children get to and from school, and for those who have been able to help at activities and in preparing snacks.

#### **Financial review**

These accounts cover the activities of the charity for the year from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. These are the second set of accounts prepared; the first set which were presented at the AGM on 29 March 2025 covered the 17-month period from the start of the school in August 2023 to 31 December 2024.

#### **Reserves**

The trustees' practice is to generate and retain enough funds to ensure that the charity can meet its commitments. Funds need to be available to meet operating expenses, which mainly consist of payments to Ukrainian teachers for classes, snacks for the children, room hire, and for extracurricular activities.

Cash held in the bank on 31 December 2025 of £12,642 is considered sufficient together with known additional donations and gift aid receipts in January 2026, and likely future parental contributions, to operate the school until at least the end of the current school year (30 June 2026).

This report is adopted on behalf of all the trustees and signed by Graham Frost, Chair of Trustees.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Graham Frost', written over a dotted line.

On 21st March 2026



# RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2025

	Year to 31 Dec 2025	Period to 31 Dec 2024
<u>Note</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
	<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>	
1	Donations and grants	20,697
2	Parental contributions	5,767
	<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>26,464</b>
	<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>	
	Payments relating directly to	
3	charitable activities	16,276
	Other costs: governance and	
4	administration	543
	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>16,819</b>
	<b>Surplus for the period</b>	<b>£9,645</b>

STATEMENT OF YEAR END BALANCES	£	£
Opening balance	9,645	0
Surplus for the period	2,997	9,645
Balance carried forward	12,642	9,645
<b>Net Assets (cash in bank)</b>	<b>£12,642</b>	<b>£9,645</b>

## Other assets:

Amounts due to the Charity after 31/12/25:  
Gift Aid claims received January 2026

£2,257

## Liabilities:

Amounts due by the Charity after 31/12/25:  
Honorarium for the Independent Examiner

£100

These accounts and statement of balances were approved by the committee of trustees on 21st March 2026, and signed on that day on their behalf by:


  
 Martin Pearce, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer to the Trustees

## Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis.

### 1. DONATIONS AND GRANTS: £19,112

Organisations	Amount
Edinburgh Trades Fund	£2,280
The National Lottery	£7,820
John Watson's Trust	£300
Mission of Innocents	£550
Broxburn and Uphall Churches	£812
Loretto School	£712
Other group donations	£586
<b>Private donations</b>	
Private donations	<u>£6,052</u>
<b>Total Donations and Grants</b>	<b><u>£19,112</u></b>

A donation of £2,000 was received on 10 January 2026 from a charity fund raising event held in November 2025 which will be included in the next set of accounts.

Gift Aid claims have been made on eligible donations received up to the end of December 2025, resulting in additional receipts in January 2026 totalling £2,257 which will also be included in the next set of accounts.

### 2. PARENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS: £4,405

Parental contributions	£4,405
------------------------	--------

Parents are asked to contribute towards monthly teaching costs, where they are able. These contributions are greatly appreciated.

### **3. PAYMENTS RELATING DIRECTLY TO CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES: £20,310**

Ukrainian teachers	£15,772
School day snacks	£1,590
School day room hire	£1,186
School day travel	£846
Extracurricular activities	<u>£916</u>
	<b><u>£20,310</u></b>

Payments are made to Ukrainian teachers for delivering classes and extracurricular activities (where appropriate). Other (UK national) teachers provide their time without payment.

We provide breaktime snacks for the children to maintain their energy and enthusiasm. We are very thankful to the parents who help with preparation.

Following the move to a longer school day after summer 2025 the School uses rooms and sanctuary spaces in various city centre churches for classes. We are very grateful to the churches involved for the access provided and make a small payment each week for the use of their facilities.

An allowance for travel costs is made to Ukrainian teachers who travel significant distances to assist in the Saturday school.

Extracurricular activities are often provided where we visit museums and places of interest, or where the activities take place in the Saturday school premises. We incur costs for teacher supervisors, travel, refreshments, and materials for off-site activities, as well as prizes.

### **4. OTHER COSTS: GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: £210**

Independent Examiner	£100
Printing	<u>£110</u>
	<b><u>£210</u></b>

The annual report and accounts are reviewed by an Independent Examiner who receives a small honorarium for his services.

### **Independent Examiner's Report**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the **Ukrainian St Margaret's Saturday School (SCIO)**.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025 which are set out on pages 9 to 11.

### ***Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner***

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### ***Basis of independent examiner's statement***

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

### ***Independent examiner's statement***

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: Eric A. Wishart



PwC alumnus - retired

Address: 69 Promenade, Edinburgh EH15 2DX

Date: 21st March 2026







