

Charity registration number 513534

Company registration number 01675232 (England and Wales)

**LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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<b>Governors</b>	Mr. A. E. R. Bell	(Resigned 31 August 2023)
	Dr. E. C. Miller	
	Mr. A. N. Birkett	(Resigned 21 October 2022)
	Mr T. M. Bramald (Chairman)	
	Mrs. D. L. Dakers	(Resigned 29 June 2023)
	Mrs. A. R. Marshall	
	Mrs. P. J. Derries	
	Mr. M. Mole	
	Mrs. S. Dunford	(Appointed 10 October 2022)
	Mr. E. Roney	
	Dr. J. Watson	
Mr P. Evans	(Appointed 8 February 2023)	
Mrs I. Cheer	(Appointed 8 February 2023)	
<b>Headmaster</b>	Mr J. C. E. Lee	
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs V. J. Bryson	
<b>Charity number</b>	513534	
<b>Company number</b>	01675232	
<b>Principal address</b>	Longridge Towers Berwick-upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 2XQ	
<b>Registered office</b>	Longridge Towers Berwick-upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 2XQ	
<b>Auditor</b>	Greaves West & Ayre 17 Walkergate Berwick-upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 1DJ	
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank P.L.C. 22/24 Hide Hill Berwick upon Tweed TD15 1AF	

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# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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The Governors of Longridge Towers School (the School) who are also directors for the purposes of the Companies Act present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the School's governing document, 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)".

### Objectives and Activities

The School's objects, as set out in the original Memorandum of Association of 1982 and as amended on 14 March 2011, are the advancement of education, including the provision of boarding or day schools for the education of children of either sex.

### Public Benefit: Advancement of Education

The School is conscious that, as a charity, it has to meet its Charitable purposes and provide a public benefit and in this report the Governors have sought to highlight those activities undertaken by the School to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. During recent years the School has continually monitored its policies with particular regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission under section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011.

The School's objects are the advancement of education, including the provision of boarding or day schools for the education of children of either sex, and only activities relating to these objects have been taken into account when assessing the School's degree of compliance with the requirements to deliver public benefit.

Care has been taken to ensure that the opportunity to benefit is not unreasonably restricted and, in particular, that children who might not otherwise have the means to attend the School are not excluded. The School does this in a variety of ways and the most significant of these is the provision of assistance with the payment of fees to families whose financial circumstances mean that they cannot pay a full fee. In the financial year the School offered financial support to 47 pupils (2022: 43 pupils) on a means tested basis and to a further four pupils (2022: two pupils) from Holy Island.

The School also seeks to co-operate with local schools in the maintained sector as far as possible and normally hosts many events such as the area cross country and area hockey competitions, which make use of the School's sports facilities and grounds. The School facilitated local community and educational establishments to use its premises for music, sports, orchestra, and other outdoor activities when possible, during the year, and provided its fleet of minibuses for use by volunteers from the education and charity sectors. This year we have continued our work with the Ogden Trust, which provides support to physics departments in schools in the local area. We worked with a new partner for summer sports activities provided for local pupils, which was very well attended.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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### Volunteers

The Longridge Towers School Development Association (LTSDA), a voluntary group of parents and other supporters of the School, continue to support the School by running social and fund-raising events. This year the activities included a quiz night, raffle and some new events such as silent disco and a car boot sale held on site. This year the LTSDA have supported multiple projects in School, including equipment for Outdoor Learning, further renovations to the bus and art equipment. The LTSDA team were on site to support events such as the nativity play, sports days and the ever-popular Christmas fair.

Work on Mabel (the double-decker bus funded by the LTSDA) continues. The majority of the structural work has been completed, Mabel has been repainted on the outside and the refit and internal decoration is underway, with new twinkle lights and furniture being installed.

The LTSDA makes a much appreciated contribution to some of the School's day to day operations, and it is one for which the Governors, Senior Leadership Team and Staff are very grateful and look forward to enjoying even more activities in the next school year.

We have supported new volunteer roles for the next year with an Assistant Librarian and Junior Reader to support our pupils in class. We very much appreciate community members volunteering their time to help in school.

### Strategic Report

The description under the headings "Achievements and Performance" and "Financial Review" meet the company law requirements for the Governors to present a strategic report.

## **Achievements and Performance**

### Strategy

We have been working on updates to our school targets as well as reviewing our achievements against our strategic aims. Our school targets include annual priorities of academic progression, literacy and numeracy, attendance, behaviour and destination. These are all directly linked to pupil success and achievement, and tie in well to our overall purpose and strategic themes of sustainability, extending partnerships and local community.

### Summary

The School is grateful for the advice and support from Governors, and is conscious that the guidance of those who volunteer to serve as Governors has been fundamental to the development and growth of the School.

The School Community continue to work collaboratively, and this year we welcomed a number of new staff members who have blended well into the team and who continue to help support further development in school. We have been fortunate to enrol many new pupils which, in addition to excellent retention, has increased our school roll to the highest levels in our history and creating a more diverse pupil mix. By appointing additional staffing we were still able to maintain our pupil : staff ratios.

We have continued to work with exceptional care, skill, and dedication to provide an excellent level of education and care towards our pupils, as well as ensuring our staff colleagues continue to be well-supported. The introduction of new subjects within the curriculum, for example including Outdoor Learning lessons on a weekly basis for KS3 pupils has given new opportunities to offer problem solving activities to more pupils and to provide more ways to enjoy our school site. The reintroduction of Religious Studies as a standalone subject proved positive, including a highlight trip for Form 3 pupils who were invited to a guided visit and talk around a local Mosque.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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Our boarding numbers have remained relatively small, although the pupil numbers were improved by multiple short stay groups from Spain. We have seen an increase in the number of day pupils enjoying the option of our Flexi-boarding options, in particular after weekly sporting commitments but also for some pupils as a way to have an academic focus during the week by reducing their travel time. Northumberland County Council continues to provide support so we can accommodate pupils from Holy Island, and we are seeing a steady growth in pupil numbers taking up this opportunity. Our boarding team are very proud of the boarding environment, ensuring we provide a nurturing, supportive and fun environment for our weekly and termly boarders, as well as the increasing numbers of short stay and flexible boarders who use the service during the week. Our boarders enjoy different activities and trips every weekend, with recent visits to the Foxlake Adventure Park, the ever-popular trampoline park, going paintballing as well as local trips to events such as Remembrance or Easter activities.

We were delighted to host a number of activities at School throughout the year, with Sports Days, STEM activities, Diwali celebration, Harvest Festival and Founders Day being some of the highlights. Our student councils offer suggestions for activities, getting involved in fundraising, providing feedback and organising activities such as bake sale or junior discos.

### Financial Performance

We have been fortunate this year that our increased pupil roll allowed us to offset some of the rising costs, in particular energy, food, and fuel costs. The increased pupil numbers, generating more revenue, permitted investment in additional staffing, as well as pay increases, a more material bonus and a substantial one-off Cost of Living payment to support all permanent staff. We have continued with the development of the site and the refurbishment of the buildings, to ensure our facilities are all suitable for teaching and learning. This summer we developed a new working area for our pastoral team supporting senior pupils, providing a shared workspace and meeting room.

We have worked hard to maintain a sustainable equity position. This has included our continued focus on cash-flow including credit control, as well as the support offered through our extensive bursary and scholarship programmes. The higher roll this year, resulting in a strong financial performance, has afforded the School the means to start considering an investment into an adjoining section of land, which will be developed into additional sporting facilities and may provide further opportunities to look at our ecological development in future years.

### Educational Performance

Longridge Towers is a school where pupils are encouraged to fulfil and exceed their potential in academic, sporting and extra-curricular spheres. The School's outstanding reputation is based upon its success in achieving this, whilst ensuring that its pupils are well-mannered, balanced individuals who will make major contributions to the communities in which they lead their future lives. This success is reflected in the excellent public examination results obtained by pupils.

We are pleased with our public examination results this summer, as there was clear indication from the examination boards that 2023 would be a year of resetting the profile of results after the disruption of two years of Centre / Teacher Assessed Grades, followed by a year of more generous grades. Our pupils achieved commendable results, in particular our A Level candidates who passed on average three A Levels each compared to a national average of 2.6. Our pupils sitting languages achieved particularly strong pass marks, and our results included a top grade for some of our overseas pupils, including Russian and German.

Sixth Formers achieved a high pass rate at A Level with 50% of the grades being A\* to C. All this year's leavers wishing to pursue further studies at university achieved results that enabled them to do so, with the vast majority going to their first-choice institution. In so doing they added to the School's record of success in enabling its students to proceed to the next stage of their career. At GCSE, 80% of candidates achieved grade 4 or above at GCSE, which is much higher than the national average of 70%.

Classroom curriculum lessons have been enhanced by visiting speakers leading workshops in animation and green screen technology, music workshops looking at traditional folk dances and sound exploration, and cross-curricular days such as our recent Spanish Languages Day. Pupils have participated in a host of sporting fixtures of; rugby, hockey, football, netball, cross-country and swimming galas. We introduced the Jigsaw programme as our PSHE curriculum which has benefitted pupils from Year 1 to Upper Sixth with a dynamic and purpose written curriculum to support their pastoral and health education.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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Early Years and Junior pupils have continued to relish their Forest School lessons; we have seen the positive effects of the sessions in the children's abilities to work independently, think creatively and solve problems. Forest School enables supported risk-taking, child-centred learning, exploration and play. The Outdoor Learning programme for Senior pupils has blossomed as well with pupils partaking in more activities such as whittling, gardening and growing flowers as gifts.

During the year, we hosted an art exhibition and auction. Junior pupils produced some stunning pieces of work both as individuals and collaboratively. The collaborative pieces were auctioned with all proceeds going to charities chosen by the Junior Council; Cancer Cars, Bloodwise and B.A.R.K.. Our Senior pupils were equally motivated by fundraising for their chosen house charities and ran a number of events through the year to help raise money.

### Extra-Curricular Activities

Our enrichment programme continues to be diverse and popular with pupils enjoying activities every day after the end of the timetabled lessons. The feedback from pupils was they would like more sporting activities and the opportunity to be involved in some physical activity each day after school. This has been possible and included a wide range of sports and exercises. In addition, the House Music competition includes regular rehearsals for Senior pupils and is popular within the Senior House competitions. Throughout the year our Sixth Form pupils were able to take part in some additional activities such as First Aid Training, Car Maintenance and a visit to the Fire Station to see the process of person recovery after an accident.

There has been an increasing numbers of trips, fixtures and cultural events and the highly popular Duke of Edinburgh Award groups have flourished, with expeditions throughout the region and many more opportunities for service and volunteering possible. We had some highly successful overseas excursions, including a ski trip to Austria, two expeditions to Malaysia and a cultural visit to New York. Numerous dramatic and musical events also took place including an exciting whole school production of 'Wizard of Oz', with pupils from Year 6 (J6) to Year 13 (U6) on stage in Duns. Christmas saw the first 'live' Nativity, which was very well attended, and the young stars stole the show. We were once again delighted to have a packed Chapel Theatre for two performances of the Key Stage 2 production of Mary Poppins.

Parents were invited into school to watch junior class assemblies, as well as visits throughout the year for Open Days, Founders' Day and school competitions such as Sports Day. Our pupils continue to enjoy our full programme of assemblies. Assemblies cover themes such as Diwali, Armistice, healthy mind - healthy body, anti-bullying, values and other special occasions. We are fortunate to be able to welcome external speakers to our assemblies who share their views on a wide range of topics and normally enjoy a question-and-answer session with pupils as well. This year some of the most popular visitors include Kooth, Poet for A Day, Amnesty International and the Turner Twins. Our parents' evenings and meetings have returned to face-to-face, and our parents have benefitted from meeting with the team to discuss their child's/children's progress. We hosted two Careers High Teas, inviting local professionals to speak to pupils about career options and the working world.

In November 2022 at the AGM our Junior Captains spoke about how much they had enjoyed curriculum enhancements (trips, cross-curricular days, visitors, school play, events involving parents etc.) since these were the things they missed during COVID. They mentioned the usefulness of all their transition activities in preparation for moving from Year 6 to Form 1 and their love of Forest School and the great work done in the grounds since Storm Arwen. At the same meeting our Senior Captains spoke about their education and how Longridge had impacted their lives, creating positive opportunities and how they valued the additional responsibilities of their Captain roles.

The school year was unusual as we had a second AGM meeting in May to bring our timing back to 'normal' after the delays caused by COVID. We welcomed our new Senior Captains who had just commenced their roles in the summer term to speak with Governors and Trustees. Both gave very entertaining accounts of their time at Longridge, as well as responding to a number of questions and answers from the audience.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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### Caring for our People

At Longridge our staff are vitally important to our success as a school, and they make all the difference in the way we support and educate our pupils. During the year we have seen a small, but meaningful change in a number of staffing as well as governance roles.

At the start of the year, Mrs Cheer retired from school, having been our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Senior SENDCo as well as an important part of our Senior Leadership Team (SLT). We were fortunate that she agreed to join our board of Governors, joining a number of committees. The SLT/DSL/SENDCo role was taken up by Mrs Barber, an experienced DSL and SENDCo who quickly settled into Longridge and started supporting our pupils with SEN needs as well as leading the Safeguarding team.

Towards the end of the school year, we said farewell to Mr Whitcombe as our Deputy Head, and welcomed his replacement Mrs Arnott following an intense recruitment process. Mrs Arnott has fitted into SLT quickly, and is working hard on improving some of our academic processes, particularly with Senior pupils.

We also said thank you and farewell to Adrian Bell, our Chair of Governors, who retired from the role at the end of the school year. Adrian spoke fondly at Founders Day, meeting with parents, pupils, staff and community throughout the day. We welcome Tom Bramald as our new Chair, who has been one of our Governors for eight years, and who is looking forward to supporting our school and Governors with his passion and support for Longridge.

Over the summer we were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of our School President Jim Stobo CBE. Jim was an important part of Longridge since the founding of the school, supporting many activities in his roles as Governor and then President. We are delighted to have been bequeathed bronze bust of Jim, which is proudly displayed in the front entrance.

### School Development, Compliance and Monitoring

In 2022 we adopted an updated School Development Plan, following a consultation period with all staff. We continue to review the Plan with the Governors as part of the Education, Teaching and Learning Committee. We have continued to work towards the objectives, and have observed many improvements as we focus on certain strategic objectives such as training, numeracy and literacy and data usage.

The Plan covers the period 2021 to 2025, is centred around our School Motto, Values, Objectives and Purpose as well as our School Ethos and Aims. The latter have been updated to hopefully be more memorable and relevant to our school community. Our School Aims have been designed to articulate our clear commitment to secure an outstanding future for Longridge, and we refer to them in many of our school communications. The five Aims are:

Excellence in Education - improving the outcomes for pupils to fulfil potential;

Excellence in Care - sustaining an excellent level of pastoral care for our pupils;

Care for our People - developing our team of professionals, technical, administrative and volunteer staff;

Grow and Develop our School - increasing pupil numbers; and

Invest our Time and Money wisely - improving our systems and environment.

We are seeing continuous improvements as we work on achieving our objectives and milestones within the Development Plan, such as an increase in numeracy skills, higher satisfaction rates, more personalised pupil support and reporting.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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### Compliance and Monitoring

During the school year, we invited two groups of consultants in to help with preparation for our next Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) audit. The resulting reports, focussed on compliance and then education, have been very useful and provided some excellent feedback on where we could make improvements. At the end of the school year we were inspected by the ISI and DFE as part of a Material Change request to increase our maximum school role from 335 to 399. The inspection, which took place on the penultimate day of the school year, was an excellent experience and provided the opportunity to consider some ideas with a current ISI inspector. We are pleased that the Material Change request was approved and the feedback from the report was positive.

### **Financial Review**

#### Summary

The surplus before depreciation was £301,514 (2022: surplus £127,369), there was a surplus after depreciation for the year of £220,813 (2022: surplus £46,498).

The School roll, which is the essential driver in our School's financial performance, started in a strong position and then grew steadily throughout the year both in new enrolments and a higher retention level than previous years. This generated additional income and has afforded us a number of opportunities throughout the year as well as being able to build and consolidate our reserves.

We continued to run many of our annual events, such as Open Mornings and attended the local agricultural shows which are important activities for pupil recruitment. Our overall spending has been well controlled and allowed us to continue the refurbishing of our School buildings, particularly classroom floors, painting, and blinds. We were able to add more Chromebooks to our suite of IT resources, as well as additional digital storage facilities and upgraded network connections. In addition, we were able to employ additional staffing to support more lessons, and keep our classes small. We focussed significantly on our staff team with a Cost of Living payment to help support permanent staff through the Cost of Living Crisis, an increased bonus payment as well as a substantial pay increase at the end of the year.

The increased cost of living had an impact on some of our services, particularly the cost of minibuses and fuel, and the catering costs for school meals. Fortunately, we were protected from some of the substantial energy price increases due to a utility contract we had in place, which we have successfully renegotiated. Over the summer, we invested in a number of additional significant projects: we extended the collection and drop-off area for Senior pupils which has been very popular with parents as well as providing a safer experience for our pupils; we created a new pastoral office and meeting room for the pastoral team to have space to collaborate and support pupils with their needs; and we were able to substantially update one of the science laboratories, changing the layout and modernising the furniture to make this an improved teaching and learning space.

Our focus has also been on developing some areas for more income diversification in the future, for example adding new washroom facilities to the Chapel, which will not only improve the use for our pupils and visitors but create a stand-alone area for events and activities.

We have continued to support many families through our bursary and scholarship programmes, and this year were delighted with some of the new Art scholars who produced some amazing work for display around the school. We have been developing our scholarship programme to include more recognition for our scholars, including a shared lunch and activities.

The overdraft position at the year-end was £Nil (2022: £Nil).

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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### Reserves

The Governors reviewed the structure of Reserves in 2008 and, having considered the income and expenditure streams, they split them into four funds:

Science Facilities (note 16): this fund has been credited with the donations made during previous years. This fund is being expended on refurbishment of the Science facilities, such as the laboratory renovation over the summer.

Major Repairs Fund (note 20): in 2008, the Governors identified that a number of aspects of the main building would require substantial expenditure in the next fifteen years and this work is progressing at a steady pace to ensure that the fabric of the building is maintained at a satisfactory level.

Bursary Fund (note 17): it is still apparent to Governors that the current financial issues affecting the United Kingdom may well impact on the School and they have therefore created a small reserve for those existing parents facing financial hardship.

General Fund: the main balance of reserves is held in the General Fund. The Board of Governors review this on an annual basis taking into consideration the inherent risk associated with running an independent school. The Board always considers the wider economic environment and the potential impact that this can have on the results for the year. The balance of funds is reviewed taking into consideration operational and financial plans for the year to ensure that the School has sufficient funding to meet the objectives on an on-going basis.

### Risk Management

During the School year we experienced a number of 'firsts' for the school, including a full evacuation due to a hoax call to the police, fortunately this was in the holidays meaning lessons were not impacted. We invited Marsh Insurance to complete a school wide audit for insurance and risk purposes and we are working through the recommendations from their report which was on the whole very positive and complimentary about the school and site.

We have been able to manage these unusual situations due to our ongoing work on mitigating risks, which we do in a number of ways including the identification, assessment and, where possible, control throughout the year. These controls include:

Detailed terms of reference for each Committee;

Formal agendas and minutes for all Committee and Board activity;

Comprehensive budgeting, cash flow forecasting and management accounting, with regular reporting to the Finance and Estates Committee;

Established organisational structure and lines of reporting;

Formal written policies;

Risk Register for each Committee, and other high-risk areas such as safeguarding or health and safety. These are all reviewed and summarised by the Audit and Risk Committee members;

School Development Plan;

Detailed Risk Assessments, reviewed with staff as appropriate; and

Vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of children.

Through these risk management processes, the Governors are satisfied that the major risks identified have been mitigated where possible. However, it is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### Risks and Future Uncertainty

The last few years we have seen an improvement in our overall performance, from both a financial and educational perspective. The growth in School roll has provided the opportunity to recruit more staff, and this allows us to provide a more diverse experience for our School Community. We remain highly dependent on our School roll, although our financial performance is also greatly impacted by our strategic business decisions about our spending and investments. As a sector, independent schools may be vulnerable to changes as far as Government policy, and we regularly plan for and review financial scenarios, such as for the introduction of VAT on independent school fees or a change to business rates.

We have planned for the year ahead based on a conservative School roll, and resultant budget. We anticipate that there are still uncertainties for our pupils, their parents and for our School due to the on-going and changing economic climate in the UK. Our performance over the last three years has allowed us to build some reserves to help mitigate some of these uncertainties. We continue to focus on supporting our pupils and staff, growing the School roll, and improving our academic achievement within the parameters of a prudent approach to managing the School and to ensure the continued sustainability of our School.

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

#### Summary

The charitable company is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Longridge Towers School was incorporated on 2 November 1982 and is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. The company is limited by guarantee and has no share capital. The company registered as a charity on 28 February 1983.

The School's objects, as set out in its Articles of Association are the advancement of education, including the provision of boarding or day schools for the education of children of either or both sexes.

The Governors, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year were:

Mr. A.E.R. Bell	2, 5, 11	(Resigned: 31 August 2023)
Dr. E.C. Miller	1, 5, 7, 9, 11	
Mr. A.N. Birkett	1, 7, 9	(Resigned: 21 October 2022)
Mr. T.M.Bramald (Chairman)	3, 4	
Mrs. A. R. Marshall	1, 2, 8	
Mrs. D.L. Dakers	3, 6	(Resigned: 29 June 2023)
Mrs. P.J. Derries	4, 10	
Mr. M. Mole	2, 6	
Mrs. S. Dunford	4, 6	(Appointed: 10 October 2022)
Dr. J. Watson	1, 6, 7, 9	(Appointed: 1 April 2022)
Mr. E. Roney	1	(Appointed: 8 March 2022)
Mr. P. Evans	2, 6	(Appointed: 8 February 2023)
Mrs. I. Cheer	1, 12	(Appointed: 8 February 2023)

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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Positions held as at 31 August 2023.

- 1 indicates those Governors who serve on the Audit and Risk Committee;
- 2 indicates those Governors who serve on the Finance and Estates Committee;
- 3 indicates those Governors who serve on the Marketing, Communication and Development Committee;
- 4 indicates those Governors who serve on the Education, Teaching and Learning Committee;
- 5 indicates those Governors who are parents of former pupils at the School;
- 6 indicates those Governors who are parents of pupils at the School;
- 7 indicates those Governors with joint responsibility for Safeguarding;
- 8 indicates the Governor with responsibility for Health and Safety;
- 9 indicates those Governors with joint responsibility for Boarding;
- 10 indicates the Governor with responsibility for SEND;
- 11 indicates those Governors who serve on the Nominations Committee; and
- 12 indicates the Governor with responsibility for EDI:

### Appointment of Governors

Governors are selected by reference to specialist skills, personal competence, knowledge of the School, and local availability. Their appointment is confirmed by the members in general. In December 2016, Governors established a Nominations Committee for the purpose of recruiting and appointing Governors.

New Governors are given induction training when they are appointed. Existing Governors are also given on-going training, to ensure they have the detailed knowledge to carry out their duties.

### Organisational Management

The Board of Governors, as the charity trustees of the School, are legally responsible for the overall management and control of the School, and meet at least three times a year. The structure for the sub-committees was updated and there are now four sub-committees reporting to the main Board. All Committees have updated Terms of Reference, and we have welcomed a number of new Governors to work with our existing members.

The Finance and Estates Committee is responsible for reviewing all financial matters and considering all material matters around the long-term upkeep and development of the site, taking heed of the constraints that affect the main house, which is a listed building.

The Marketing, Communication and Development Committee is responsible for assisting with helping to grow the School roll and ensuring we continue to improve communications with stakeholders.

The Audit and Risk Committee regularly reviews the Risk Registers of the School and ensures that matters such as Safeguarding, Emergency Planning and Health and Safety are monitored and updated in line with legislation and best practice.

The Education, Teaching and Learning Committee considers all matters relating to pupil and teacher achievement, including examination results and staffing.

While the Governors set out the general policies and strategy of the School, the day-to-day running is delegated to the Headmaster and Finance Director (bursar), supported by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The Headmaster and Finance Director (bursar) attend all meetings of the Committees whilst the other members of SLT attend all the meetings of the main Board. The SLT comprises: the Head, Deputy Head, Head of Junior Department, Designated Safeguarding Lead and Finance Director (bursar).

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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### Pay and Remuneration Policy for Senior Staff

The pay of all teaching and support staff is guided by the School's current pay scales. We have a Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) in place with the National Education Union (NEU) to consider pay, hours and holidays for our Teachers and Teaching Assistants, excluding SLT members.

### Investments Powers

These are governed by the Articles of Association which permit investments in any security or property as allowed by Law and also by the Charity Commission.

### Thank You

We thank each and every volunteer, pupil, parent, carer, staff colleague, Governor and others who have provided support and encouragement throughout the year, and we are thankful that the Longridge Community continues to be such a caring, supportive, and collaborative network, and an important part of the local and wider community in the region.

We look forward to celebrating our 40th anniversary in the next school year.

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

The Governors, who are also the directors of Longridge Towers School for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company Law requires the Governors to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these accounts, the Governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

## LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)(INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STRATEGIC REPORT)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023*

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Auditor

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Greaves West & Ayre be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

The Governors' report, including the strategic report, was approved by the Board of Governors.



Mr T. M. Bramald (Chairman)

Governor

Dated: *04 MARCH 2024*

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE GOVERNORS OF LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Longridge Towers School (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Basis for opinion

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Governors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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.

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the Governors' 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.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE GOVERNORS OF LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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#### **Responsibilities of Governors**

As explained more fully in the statement of Governors' responsibilities, the Governors, who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the Governors are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Governors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

### TO THE GOVERNORS OF LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

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

the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;

we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charity through discussions with governors and the management team, and from our knowledge and experience of the education sector;

we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the charity, including legislation such as the Companies Act 2006, the Education (Independent Schools Standards) Regulations 2014, employment legislation and data protection;

we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management, contacting the entity's solicitor for any details of non-compliance and inspecting current year legal expenditure; and

identified laws and regulations of particular relevance were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and

considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, including any fraud associated with revenue recognition, we:

performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;

tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;

assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 2 were indicative of potential bias;

traced a sample of fee income from source documentation to nominal ledgers;

traced a sample of fees around the year-end from source documentation to invoice to ensure cut-off is operating correctly; and

evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

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

agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;

reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;

enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims against the charity; and

reviewing correspondence with HMRC and the charity's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the governors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

The laws and regulations which are considered to be significant to the entity relate to the safeguarding of pupils and health and safety. Discussions are held with management to determine whether any breaches have occurred as well as legal expenditure being scrutinised for any evidence on non-compliance. We also review any inspections of the school which have been carried out during the year.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED) TO THE GOVERNORS OF LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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The audit was considered capable of identifying irregularities only to the extent of the substantive testing performed and from discussions with management.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

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

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' 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 its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Stuart Allister CA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
for and on behalf of Greaves West & Ayre

.....8 MARCH 2024

**Chartered Accountants**  
**Statutory Auditor**

17 Walkergate  
Berwick-upon-Tweed  
Northumberland  
TD15 1DJ

Greaves West & Ayre is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charitable company by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

## LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted general funds 2023 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted general funds 2022 £	Unrestricted designated funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>									
Donations and legacies	3	175	-	-	175	50	-	-	50
Charitable activities	6	5,133,858	(442,191)	-	4,691,667	4,556,076	(453,900)	-	4,102,176
Investments	4	5,311	-	-	5,311	298	-	-	298
Other income	5	-	-	-	-	34,523	-	-	34,523
<b>Total income</b>		<b>5,139,344</b>	<b>(442,191)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,697,153</b>	<b>4,590,947</b>	<b>(453,900)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,137,047</b>
Charitable activities	9	4,470,135	-	6,205	4,476,340	4,087,079	-	3,470	4,090,549
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>669,209</b>	<b>(442,191)</b>	<b>(6,205)</b>	<b>220,813</b>	<b>503,868</b>	<b>(453,900)</b>	<b>(3,470)</b>	<b>46,498</b>
Transfers between funds		(442,191)	442,191	-	-	(453,900)	453,900	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>227,018</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(6,205)</b>	<b>220,813</b>	<b>49,968</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(3,470)</b>	<b>46,498</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>									
Fund balances at 1 September 2022		4,322,521	61,995	16,359	4,400,875	4,272,554	61,995	19,828	4,354,377
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2023</b>		<b>4,549,539</b>	<b>61,995</b>	<b>10,154</b>	<b>4,621,688</b>	<b>4,322,522</b>	<b>61,995</b>	<b>16,358</b>	<b>4,400,875</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.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		4,824,914		4,806,162
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	13	8,154		10,377	
Debtors	14	336,226		413,297	
Cash at bank and in hand		481,780		449,523	
			826,160		873,197
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15		1,029,386		1,278,484
Net current liabilities			(203,226)		(405,287)
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			4,621,688		4,400,875
<b>The funds of the charitable company</b>					
Restricted income funds	16		10,154		16,358
Unrestricted funds - general			724,810		497,793
Revaluation reserve			3,824,729		3,824,729
Unrestricted funds - designated	17		61,995		61,995
			4,621,688		4,400,875

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 August 2023, although an audit has been carried out under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 Governors on 04 March 2024

  
Mr T. M. Bramald (Chairman)  
Trustee

  
Mrs. A. R. Marshall  
Trustee

Company registration number 01675232 (England and Wales)

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Cash generated from operations	21		126,401		260,974
<b>Investing activities</b>					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(101,005)		(85,318)	
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets		1,550		34,519	
Investment income received		5,311		298	
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>			(94,144)		(50,501)
<b>Financing activities</b>					
Payment of obligations under finance leases		-		(3,877)	
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			-		(3,877)
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>			32,257		206,596
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			449,523		242,927
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>			<u>481,780</u>		<u>449,523</u>

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Longridge Towers School is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Longridge Towers, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland, TD15 2XQ.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the charitable company's governing document, 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 charitable company is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

The Governors have reviewed the current financial position and the forecasts for both the current and the next financial year. Their view is that as the School had adequate resources and with the continued support of its bankers it can continue to operate on the existing basis for the foreseeable future. Accordingly they have continued to adopt the going concern basis in preparing their annual report and accounts.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

**Unrestricted funds** are available for use at the discretion of the Governors in furtherance of their charitable objectives unless the funds have been designated for other purposes.

**Designated funds** comprise funds which have been set aside at the discretion of the Governors for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

##### Bursary Fund

This fund has been set up so that the allocation of funding from net fee income to enable pupils to enter the School who could not otherwise afford the fees can be readily identified and monitored.

Bursaries are also available to those existing parents facing financial hardship who could not otherwise continue to keep their child at the School.

**Restricted funds** are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

##### Science Facilities

This fund has been credited with the donations made during the previous years. This fund is being expended on refurbishment of the Science facilities.

#### 1.4 Incoming resources

Income is recognised when the charitable company 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.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charitable company has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charitable company has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

All grants are used for charitable expenditure and capital items, and are recognised in full in the year in which they are receivable.

Fees received in advance are held on behalf of parents and are only taken to the income and expenditure account when utilised in payment of School fees.

Acceptance deposits are payable when a pupil accepts a place at the School and are refundable when the pupil leaves the School. These deposits are considered to be returnable to the parents less any moneys owed to the School and thus are not treated as income in the accounts of the School.

### 1.5 Resources expended

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

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure is allocated to the specific expenses heading to which it relates and is recognised on an accruals basis.

### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation.

Expenditure of less than £1,000 on the replacement or improvement of tangible fixed assets is written off as incurred, except where the item of expenditure can be identified as original capital.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	Nil
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10% - 25% Straight line
Motor vehicles	25% Straight line

Donated assets are capitalised at their estimated value at the time of receipt of the gift. These assets are then fully depreciated in the year of the gift.

Although the accounting standards and Companies Act requires depreciation of fixed assets, the freehold buildings are not depreciated. The Governors believe that a departure from the requirements of the standards is appropriate in order for the accounts to give a true and fair view. In the opinion of the Governors the freehold buildings are maintained in such a state of repair that their residual value is at least equal to their net book value.

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.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charitable company reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

#### 1.8 Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

#### 1.9 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.

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

The charitable company has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charitable company's balance sheet when the charitable company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

##### **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.

##### **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.

##### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charitable company's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 1 Accounting policies (Continued)

#### 1.11 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charitable company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

#### 1.12 Transfers

Transfers between the funds are discussed and approved by the Governors.

The £442,191 (2022: £453,900) transfer from the Unrestricted Fund to the Designated Fund has been carried out in order to match bursary allowances awarded by the School during the academic year.

#### 1.13 Retirement benefits

The School participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme up until 31 December 2019 for its teaching staff. From January 2020 payments have been made to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes and are charged as an expense within the financial statements as they fall due.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the Governors 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.

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Donations and gifts	175	50

### 4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Interest receivable	5,311	298

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 5 Other income

	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds general 2022 £
Net gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	33,270
Coronavirus job retention scheme	-	1,253
	<u>-</u>	<u>34,523</u>

### 6 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Tuition fees	4,740,425	4,254,831
School meals	149,461	126,869
Boarding	187,076	150,637
School bus	320,034	250,007
Hire of school facilities	300	1,689
Registration	6,244	9,400
Sundry income	17,627	22,607
Trip income	125,685	96,018
Less: Bursaries	(855,185)	(809,882)
	<u>4,691,667</u>	<u>4,102,176</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	5,133,858	4,556,076
Unrestricted funds - designated	(442,191)	(453,900)
	<u>4,691,667</u>	<u>4,102,176</u>

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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7	Support costs	Support costs	Governance costs	2023	Support costs	Governance costs	2022
		£	£	£	£	£	£
	Audit fees	-	24,454	24,454	-	13,863	13,863
	Legal and professional	-	12,482	12,482	-	23,324	23,324
		<u>-</u>	<u>36,936</u>	<u>36,936</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,187</u>	<u>37,187</u>
	Analysed between						
	Charitable activities	-	36,936	36,936	-	37,187	37,187
		<u>-</u>	<u>36,936</u>	<u>36,936</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,187</u>	<u>37,187</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £24,100 (2022: £13,520) for audit fees.

### 8 Governors

None of the Governors (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charitable company during the year.

## LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 9 Charitable activities

	Education Costs	Catering Costs	Boarding & Property Costs	Transport Costs	General Admin & Overhead Costs	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	2,281,289	115,622	153,735	331,849	337,937	3,220,432	3,001,402
Depreciation and impairment	-	-	48,180	32,521	-	80,701	80,871
Teaching resources	85,131	-	-	-	-	85,131	62,295
Repairs and cleaning	-	3,792	175,091	-	3,239	182,122	263,196
Heat and light	-	3,459	117,090	-	-	120,549	95,093
Food costs	-	118,319	-	-	-	118,319	91,626
Motor expenses	-	-	-	26,733	-	26,733	14,121
Rates and insurances	-	-	64,953	-	-	64,953	58,425
Cost of trips	129,665	-	-	-	-	129,665	102,786
School bus service costs	-	-	-	192,208	-	192,208	146,771
General admin	43,383	-	7,962	-	31,375	82,720	50,618
Postage, stationery, advertising and telephone	-	-	-	-	89,487	89,487	79,435
Bank charges and interest	-	-	-	-	7,608	7,608	7,274
Staff recruitment costs	-	-	-	-	12,540	12,540	8,318
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	11,764	11,764	18,943
Bad debts	-	-	-	-	14,472	14,472	(27,812)
	<u>2,539,468</u>	<u>241,192</u>	<u>567,011</u>	<u>583,311</u>	<u>508,422</u>	<u>4,439,404</u>	<u>4,053,362</u>
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	24,100	354	12,482	-	-	36,936	37,187
	<u><u>2,563,568</u></u>	<u><u>241,546</u></u>	<u><u>579,493</u></u>	<u><u>583,311</u></u>	<u><u>508,422</u></u>	<u><u>4,476,340</u></u>	<u><u>4,090,549</u></u>

**LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**9 Charitable activities**

**(Continued)**

	Education Costs	Catering Costs	Boarding & Property Costs	Transport Costs	General Admin & Overhead Costs	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Analysis by fund</b>							
Unrestricted funds - general	2,563,568	241,546	573,288	583,311	508,422	4,470,135	
Restricted funds	-	-	6,205	-	-	6,205	
	<u>2,563,568</u>	<u>241,546</u>	<u>579,493</u>	<u>583,311</u>	<u>508,422</u>	<u>4,476,340</u>	
<b>For the year ended 31 August 2022</b>							
Unrestricted funds - general	2,434,612	207,015	572,819	460,612	412,021		4,087,079
Restricted funds	-	-	3,470	-	-		3,470
	<u>2,434,612</u>	<u>207,015</u>	<u>576,289</u>	<u>460,612</u>	<u>412,021</u>		<u>4,090,549</u>

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 10 Employees

#### Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teaching	52	48
Administration	12	12
Other	38	38
	<u>102</u>	<u>98</u>

#### Employment costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	2,667,782	2,557,855
Social security costs	272,043	204,305
Other pension costs	280,608	239,242
	<u>2,667,782</u>	<u>2,557,855</u>

The number of employees whose annual remuneration was £60,000 or more were:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	3	1
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>

Of the employees whose emoluments exceed £60,000, 3 (2022: 2) have retirement benefits accruing under defined benefit pension schemes.

### 11 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 12 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 September 2022	4,596,989	594,190	152,264	5,343,443
Additions	19,560	41,487	39,958	101,005
Disposals	-	-	(3,100)	(3,100)
At 31 August 2023	4,616,549	635,677	189,122	5,441,348
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>				
At 1 September 2022	-	445,229	92,054	537,283
Depreciation charged in the year	-	48,180	32,521	80,701
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	-	(1,550)	(1,550)
At 31 August 2023	-	493,409	123,025	616,434
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 31 August 2023	4,616,549	142,268	66,097	4,824,914
At 31 August 2022	4,596,989	148,962	60,211	4,806,162

All fixed assets are used in direct furtherance of the charity's objects.

The land and property of the School was valued in August 2012 by Lambert Smith Hampton, Chartered Surveyors, at a value of £4,593,750. The specialist property of the School was valued using the Depreciated Replacement Cost method and property other than specialist property is valued on the basis of Market Value. The land element of £107,500 is included within the revaluation. On transition to FRS102 the charity has chosen to revalue its land and buildings up to its fair value, using the exception under FRS102 that this now becomes the deemed cost.

No depreciation is charged on the property as per the accounting policy. A depreciation charge of £224,474 (2022: £224,474) would have been expended to the income and expenditure account if the property were depreciated.

### 13 Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Raw materials and consumables	8,154	10,377

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14 Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Amounts falling due within one year:</b>		
Trade debtors	182,168	129,545
Other debtors	4,301	121,032
Prepayments and accrued income	149,757	162,720
	<u>336,226</u>	<u>413,297</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	-	53,754
Payments received on account	393,362	473,003
Trade creditors	141,671	201,753
Other creditors	276,400	258,743
Accruals and deferred income	217,953	291,231
	<u>1,029,386</u>	<u>1,278,484</u>

### 16 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charitable company include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	At 1 September 2022 £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2023 £
Science Facilities Fund	<u>16,359</u>	<u>(6,205)</u>	<u>10,154</u>
<b>Previous year:</b>			
	At 1 September 2021 £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2022 £
Science Facilities Fund	<u>19,828</u>	<u>(3,470)</u>	<u>16,358</u>

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 17 Unrestricted funds - designated

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

	At 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2023 £
Bursary Fund	61,995	(442,191)	442,191	61,995
	<u>61,995</u>	<u>(442,191)</u>	<u>442,191</u>	<u>61,995</u>
Previous year:	At 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Transfers £	At 31 August 2022 £
Bursary Fund	61,995	(453,900)	453,900	61,995
	<u>61,995</u>	<u>(453,900)</u>	<u>453,900</u>	<u>61,995</u>

## LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2023 £	Designated 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total Unrestricted 2023 £	Designated 2022 £	Restricted 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:							
Tangible assets	4,817,976	-	6,938	4,824,914	-	10,408	4,806,162
Current assets/(liabilities)	(268,437)	61,995	3,216	(203,226)	61,995	5,950	(405,287)
	<u>4,549,539</u>	<u>61,995</u>	<u>10,154</u>	<u>4,621,688</u>	<u>61,995</u>	<u>16,358</u>	<u>4,400,875</u>

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 19 Related party transactions

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

Key management has been determined to be the Governors and the five members of the senior management team. Governors receive no remuneration or benefits. The total remuneration of the senior management team excluding employers National Insurance was:-

	2023	2022
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	341,849	297,423

#### Transactions with related parties

During the year the charitable company entered into the following transactions with related parties:

Certain Governors' children and children of key management personnel are pupils attending Longridge Towers School. Fees are paid on normal commercial terms. At the year end the £5,126 (2022: £3,828) was owed to the school by Governors and £Nil (2022: £17,450) had been received by the school as fees paid in advance.

The discounts received in the form of academic scholarship and bursaries towards their children educated at the school amounting to £38,764 (2022: £40,708).

The scholarships have been awarded to the children based on performance in the annual scholarship examinations.

The provision of these scholarships were approved by the Charities Commission.

### 20 Financial commitments, guarantees and contingent liabilities

At 31 August 2023 a contingent liability exists in respect of windows replaced in previous years.

At this time the costs of further work required in order to ensure compliance with planning regulations is not known with certainty.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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<b>21 Cash generated from operations</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Surplus for the year	220,815	46,497
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(5,311)	(298)
Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(33,270)
Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	80,701	80,871
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	2,223	(1,192)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	77,071	(268,760)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(249,098)	437,126
<b>Cash generated from operations</b>	<u>126,401</u>	<u>260,974</u>

## **22 Analysis of changes in net funds**

The charitable company had no material debt during the year.

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations and gifts	175	50
<b>Investment income</b>		
Other interest receivable	5,311	298
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>		
Tuition fees	4,711,294	4,231,368
Specialist tuition fees	29,131	23,463
Boarding charges	187,076	150,637
Registration fees	6,244	9,400
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Gross school fees	4,933,745	4,414,868
Bursaries and allowances	(855,185)	(809,882)
Income from lunches	149,461	126,869
Income from school bus service	320,034	250,007
Trip income	125,685	96,018
Hire of school facilities	300	1,689
Sundry income	17,627	22,607
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(242,078)	(312,692)
<b>Other incoming resources</b>		
Gain on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	33,270
Other income - Coronavirus job retention scheme	-	1,253
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	34,523
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,697,153	4,137,047
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4,697,153	4,137,047

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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		2023		2022
	£	£	£	£
<b>Balance Brought Forward</b>		4,697,153		4,137,047
<b><u>Resources expended</u></b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
<b>Education Costs</b>				
Teachers salaries	2,281,289		2,188,970	
Books, stationery and consumables	85,131		62,295	
Sundry expenses	43,383		30,191	
Cost of trips	129,665		102,786	
		<u></u>	<u></u>	
		(2,539,468)		(2,384,242)
<b>Catering Costs</b>				
Salaries	115,622		108,351	
Repairs and renewals	3,792		3,637	
Heat and light	3,459		3,058	
Food costs	118,319		91,626	
		<u></u>	<u></u>	
		(241,192)		(206,672)
<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>		<u>1,916,493</u>		<u>1,546,133</u>

# LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

## DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
<b>Balance Brought Forward</b>	1,916,493	1,546,133
<b>Boarding, Property and Transport Costs</b>		
Boarding salaries	153,735	133,924
Property and transport salaries	331,849	259,169
Fixtures and fittings depreciation	44,710	36,850
Motor vehicle depreciation	32,521	40,551
Fixtures and fittings depreciation - Restricted fund	3,470	3,470
Repairs and cleaning expenses	172,356	258,249
Heat and light	117,090	92,035
Rates and insurances	64,953	58,425
Other boarding costs	7,962	6,862
Repairs and cleaning expenses - Restricted fund	2,735	-
Motor and transport costs	26,733	14,121
School bus service	192,208	146,771
	<u>(1,150,322)</u>	<u>(1,050,427)</u>
<b>Administration and General Overhead Costs</b>		
Salaries	337,937	310,988
Equipment maintenance and repairs	3,239	1,310
General administration expenses	31,375	13,565
Postage, stationery, advertising and telephone	89,487	79,435
Bank charges and interest	7,608	7,274
Staff recruitment costs	12,540	8,318
Subscriptions	11,764	18,943
Bad debts	14,472	(27,812)
	<u>(508,422)</u>	<u>(412,021)</u>
Audit fees	24,454	13,863
Legal and professional	12,482	23,324
	<u>(36,936)</u>	<u>(37,187)</u>
<b>Surplus for the Year from charitable activities</b>	<b>220,813</b>	<b>46,498</b>
<b>Surplus for the Year</b>	<b><u>220,813</u></b>	<b><u>46,498</u></b>