

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 2024

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Governors	Mr T. M. Bramald (Chairman) Mrs. A. R. Marshall Mrs. P. J. Derries Mrs. S. Dunford Mr. E. Roney Dr. J. Watson Mr P. Evans Mrs I. Cheer Mr D E Armstrong Dr. E. C. Miller Mr. M. Mole Mrs C Targonski Mr R Reay	(Appointed 18 October 2024) (Retired 31 August 2024) (Retired 31 August 2024) (Appointed 13 December 2024) (Appointed 11 January 2025)
Headmaster	Mr J. C. E. Lee	
Secretary	Mrs V. J. Bryson	
Charity number	513534	
Company number	01675232	
Principal address	Longridge Towers Berwick-upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 2XQ	
Registered office	Longridge Towers Berwick-upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 2XQ	
Auditor	Greaves West & Ayre 17 Walkergate Berwick-upon-Tweed Northumberland TD15 1DJ	
Bankers	Barclays Bank P.L.C.	
Solicitors	Sanderson McCreath & Edney 4 Quay Walls Berwick Upon Tweed TD15 1HD	

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

CONTENTS

	Page
Governors' report	1 - 12
Statement of Governors' responsibilities	13
Independent auditor's report	14 - 17
Statement of financial activities	18
Balance sheet	19
Statement of cash flows	20
Notes to the financial statements	21 - 35

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 2024.

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 38 pupils (2023: 47 pupils) on a means tested basis and to a further eight pupils (2023: four pupils) from Holy Island.

The School continues to foster strong relationships with local schools in the maintained sector, aiming to collaborate where possible. This year we hosted number of successful events such as the Area Cross Country and Area Hockey competitions, making full use of the School's sports facilities and grounds. These events not only promote healthy competition and physical activity but also strengthen our ties with local schools.

In addition to hosting these events, the School also facilitates the use of its premises for a range of community and educational activities. Local groups made use of our music room, sports hall, and outdoor spaces for orchestra rehearsals, sporting activities, and other events and rehearsals. We were pleased to provide access to these facilities, ensuring that our resources were put to good use for the benefit of local groups and individuals.

The School's fleet of minibuses was made available to volunteers from the education and charity sectors, helping transport students and volunteers to and from events and school activities. This small but valuable service enables our local partners to carry out their work more efficiently.

Our collaboration with the Ogden Trust has continued this year, supporting local physics departments in schools. The Trust's initiatives align with ours, enriching STEM education in the region, and we are proud to contribute to this important cause.

In the area of sports, we held a coaching camp for rugby and hockey, which exceeded expectations in terms of participation from senior pupils; demonstrating the strong interest in extracurricular activities and the quality of the coaching provided. This was in addition to our summer camps, which offered a variety of junior sports and activities. These were, again, extremely well-received, with high levels of engagement and positive feedback from both participants and their families.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Volunteers

The Longridge Towers School Development Association (LTSDA), a dedicated group of parents and supporters of the School, continue to play a vital role in supporting some of the School's activities, particularly through social and fundraising efforts. This year, the LTSDA successfully organised a series of events including an online auction, quiz night, raffle and disco. These events were instrumental in raising funds for school projects. We also benefitted from the generous sponsorship for a new sound system for the Chapel Theatre. The LTSDA team were on site to support events such as the nativity play, sports days and the ever-popular Christmas fair, adding both energy and enthusiasm to these occasions.

A highlight of the year has been the continued work on Mabel, the double-decker bus funded by the LTSDA. The project has reached its final stages, with a renewed focus on ensuring high-quality completion, including the installation of heating, flooring, storage, and coloured blinds. Collaboration between the LTSDA, School Governor, and Junior Department colleague has ensured the bus meets the high standards we aim for. We are also grateful to local suppliers and generous parent sponsors who have supported specific aspects of the renovation. The official opening of Mabel took place in Autumn 2024, after which Mabel will provide as a dedicated reading area and library for our pupils—a much-anticipated resource for enhancing literacy and learning.

The LTSDA's contributions are greatly appreciated by the Governors, Senior Leadership Team, and Staff, all of whom are grateful for the on-going support and enthusiasm of this voluntary group. The positive partnership between the LTSDA and the School continues to grow, and we are particularly grateful for the role of our co-Chairs this year, who have provided invaluable leadership and direction in anticipation of the retirement of our current Chair at the next AGM.

In addition to the work of the LTSDA, we have been fortunate to benefit from the support of a volunteer Assistant Librarian, who has helped us to make significant improvements to our library's book stock and storage. Furthermore, our volunteer Junior Reader has continued to support junior pupils with their reading on a weekly basis, providing invaluable one-on-one time with students.

We are incredibly grateful to all the community members who give their time and expertise to support the School. Volunteers continue to make a lasting impact on both the day-to-day operations and the long-term development of the School, and we look forward to building on these partnerships in the coming year.

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.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Achievements and Performance

Strategy

This year, we introduced a new initiative of Parent Engagement Evenings, designed to foster stronger collaboration and communication between the School and our parent community. We hosted three meetings throughout the year, providing an informal setting for parents and staff to come together and discuss various aspects of the School's activities and priorities.

One of the features of these meetings was the opportunity to share and discuss the School's targets for the year. This allowed us to keep parents informed about our goals and progress, and to gather valuable feedback. A key part of each session was a Q&A segment, where parents could ask questions and engage in open dialogue with staff and leadership. The response to these meetings has been overwhelmingly positive, with many parents appreciating the chance to engage directly with the School in a relaxed and constructive environment.

The sessions also provided an opportunity to discuss a wide range of topics, from academic initiatives and extracurricular activities to school policies and future plans. We are grateful to all who attended and contributed to these discussions, and we look forward to continuing this important dialogue in the coming year.

Throughout the year, we have been actively reviewing and refining our school targets to ensure they align with our strategic vision and are directly linked to the success and achievement of our pupils. Our targets for the year focus on several key priorities that are central to the development of every student, including:

Academic Progression: Ensuring that all students make measurable progress across their subjects, with particular attention to individual learning needs.

Literacy and Numeracy: Continuing to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes for all pupils, particularly in the early years and throughout Key Stage 3.

Attendance: Striving for high levels of attendance, as we know that consistent school attendance is crucial to academic success and personal development.

Behaviour: Maintaining a positive school culture where behaviour is exemplary, ensuring all pupils have a conducive environment for learning and personal growth.

Destination: Supporting pupils in making informed choices for their future, whether that's further education, apprenticeships, or employment, and ensuring they leave school well-prepared for their next steps.

These targets are not only key to the daily operations of the School but also align with our strategic themes. They directly contribute to our overarching goals of:

Sustainability: Embedding long-term strategies for the well-being and achievement of our pupils, ensuring that these targets remain relevant and effective for years to come.

Extending Partnerships: Building on our work with local schools, educational institutions, and the wider community to offer enriched opportunities for our students.

Local Community: Strengthening our role as a valued community asset by ensuring that our targets reflect the needs and aspirations of our local area.

We reviewed our progress against our strategic aims, taking into account both our successes and the areas where we can further develop. This ongoing process ensures that we remain focused on delivering the best outcomes for our pupils and continue to evolve in line with the needs of our school community and the wider educational landscape.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 continues to work collaboratively, with a shared commitment to fostering an environment of support, growth, and achievement. This year, we were pleased to welcome a number of new staff members who have seamlessly integrated into the team. Their fresh perspectives and continued dedication have been invaluable in supporting the on-going development of the School.

We believe that learning extends beyond the classroom, and this year we continued to offer a diverse range of educational trips designed to complement and enhance the curriculum. These trips not only reinforce classroom learning but also expose pupils to a broader and more diverse range of environments and experiences. Highlights of this year's trips include visits to Newcastle (Sikh Temple, Life Centre and Maths Department at University), Edinburgh, London for an Art tour, and Cumbria as well as overseas destinations such as New York, Ardèche (France), and a History trip to Berlin.

Each year group and subject set has its own favourite memories from these trips, which play a significant role in expanding our pupils' understanding of the world and enriching their educational journey.

Our boarding provision continues well, with a steady number of pupils benefitting from both full and part-time boarding. This year, we were fortunate to welcome several small groups for short stays in the boarding house. Notably, a group of visiting pupils joined us for Chinese New Year, and we look forward to welcoming them again next year. During their stay, the pupils celebrated the occasion with a special dinner, joined by other boarders who enjoyed learning about the customs and traditions of a different culture.

We have also seen an increase in flexi-boarding uptake, particularly from families with pupils who have weekly sporting commitments, or those seeking to reduce travel time and focus on academics during the week. Our partnership with Northumberland County Council and Holy Island has also contributed to the growth in boarding numbers alongside more flexible boarders. The boarding team takes great pride in the positive and supportive atmosphere they have created, and it is heartening to hear that many pupils describe our boarding experience as a 'home from home'. Boarders enjoy a nurturing, supportive, and fun environment, with weekend activities and trips such as Alnwick Gardens, Edinburgh Dungeons, Go-karting and Metro Centre. Local trips include being involved in Remembrance Day and Easter Sunday services.

Our student councils have been instrumental in driving school spirit, with many pupils offering suggestions for activities, engaging in fundraising efforts, and organising popular events such as bake sales, dress down days, and junior discos. These activities foster a sense of community, responsibility, and leadership, and contribute to the vibrant school culture we continue to nurture. Throughout the year, we hosted a series of engaging and celebratory activities that brought the entire school community together. Highlights include Sports Days, STEM activities, Diwali celebrations, Harvest Festival and Founders Day. Our guest speaker on Founders Day delighted all our pupils, parents and dignitaries with her personable and relatable speech, as well as inspiring our pupils to take a chance and apply for something even if it may feel out of their reach – she encapsulated Carpe Diem throughout the day.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Financial Performance

We have been fortunate to experience another stable year financially, with well controlled cost management and steady pupil numbers. This has allowed the School to maintain a sustainable equity position, including a strong focus on cash-flow management, better credit control, improved financial oversight as well as enhanced financial controls.

Our budgets and forecasts have been significantly influenced by VAT concerns. In July the Government announced material financial changes impacting the independent school sector, particularly the application of VAT on fees. This requires VAT registration and the removal of Business Rates discounts for the sector.

We dedicated considerable time to evaluate financial scenarios and the likely impact on pupil numbers. We have shared our immediate strategy with parents for addressing VAT on fees in January 2025. The introduction of VAT into our accounts will require an additional level of processing and financial monitoring, and we are working closely with advisory boards such as Independent Schools Bursary Association (ISBA), Society of Heads (SoH), as well as support from a VAT consultant to ensure we map out a viable and sustainable financial path forward.

After 40 years, we were pleased to have the opportunity to purchase back two fields adjacent to the southern boundary of the School. Originally part of the Longridge Estate, this land was sold in the early 1980's to a local farmer when the convent was still on site. The 9.9 acres of flat land, is located adjacent to some of our sporting facilities; once the fencing was complete; we immediately started to use the land, extending our cross-country course around the perimeter to provide a longer more varied course for pupils to use on a regular basis. We are considering our options for further sporting developments, possibly an improved running track and cricket strip and one area has been set aside for renewable energy supplies such as a solar array.

We are grateful to have received small bequests and donations throughout the year, which have been directed towards various projects, including bursaries, mental health support, sports, events, EYFS and sound equipment. These donations are invaluable to our school and our pupils and we sincerely appreciate the generosity of alumni, sponsors and families.

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; 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 2.5. Languages continue to be a subject with high achievement, including some top grades for some of our overseas pupils, including Russian and German.

Sixth Formers achieved a high pass rate at A level with 68% of the grades being at A* to C, showing a significant improvement on the previous year. Our sixth formers have ambitious goals for their university choices and this year's leavers all achieved their first or second choice of destination. This continues the School's record of success in enabling its students to proceed to the next stage of their career. At GCSE, 90% of candidates achieved grade 4 or above at GCSE, which is much higher than national average of 70% and a 10% improvement on our results in the previous year.

Classroom curriculum lessons have been enhanced by visiting speakers and workshops in art, creative writing, photography and strategy, music workshops including Ceilidh or folk dance. Pupils have participated in a host of sporting fixtures of; rugby, hockey, football, netball, cross-country and swimming galas. This year has seen a marked increase in not only the breadth and depth of fixtures we have participated in but that our cohesive approach to coaching is showing better results. We have worked to ensure our junior pupils had more sporting opportunities which they have enjoyed. We continue to use the Jigsaw programme as our PSHE curriculum, and this has been enhanced with a number of assemblies and guest speakers, providing opportunities for intra-year discussion which has benefited pupils from Year 1 to Upper Sixth 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 2024

Early Years and junior pupils all partake in Forest School lessons each week, typically held in the woods, but also include beach excursions to broaden the outdoor learning experiences. This dovetails nicely with the opportunities offered to our KS3 pupils, who this year have learned whittling, about the annual seed growing cycle and continued focus on ecology around the site, with the bird feeders and hedgehog boxes they have made and installed now a regular haven for wildlife on site. We have planted a further 1,000 trees on site this year to provide safer areas for birds to find food and shelter.

During the year, our pupils continue with their philanthropic 'services', fundraising for their chosen house charities. The junior captains arrange fundraising throughout the year by running events such as on Children in Need. The senior Houses set themselves a goal to raise over £5,000 which meant more events and activities, and this was achieved, with the Ceilidh being a very memorable occasion.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Our enrichment programme continues to be diverse and popular with pupils enjoying activities every day after the end of their timetabled lessons. Many pupils opt for sporting activities, and the opportunity to be involved for more physical activity each afternoon. Others immerse themselves in the arts, with music, drama and art proving to be popular choices. This year our senior chess club has been active and we saw the publishing of 'The Lens', a pupil-run newspaper.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award continues to be popular, with over twenty pupils completing their Bronze award this year, having partaken in expeditions throughout the region, along with numerous opportunities for service and volunteering. A wide range of dramatic and musical events took place including a school production of 'The X Factory' and junior show of 'The Lion King'. There were laughs and tears in the Chapel during our Nativity play from our EYFS pupils.

The AGM this year was focussed on celebrating our 40th anniversary. We were honoured to hear from our first Head Girl, some of the Founders as well as a heartfelt speech from Ian McCreath, our new President. We also gained insight into the history of the building and how the school was set up in the early days and we were delighted to welcome a cross-section of former pupils, staff and trustees to join us in this important milestone.

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. Our staff retention remains very high, but we did see a small but meaningful change in a number of staffing as well as governance roles.

Tom Bramald has settled in well as our new Chair of Governors, providing clarity of vision for meetings and being keen to get involved in some of our school activities such as UCAS evening, Open Morning and regular visits to catch up with pupils and colleagues.

We are honoured that Ian McCreath has accepted our invitation to become the President of Longridge Towers School following the sad passing of Jim Stobo in August 2023. Ian's long-standing connection to the school, which dates back to its founding, makes him a natural fit for this important role. As President, he is committed to offering his time and support to the school and its community, ensuring its continued success for generations to come.

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 and refine the plan in collaboration with the Governors as part of the Education, Teaching, and Learning Committee.

We have made steady progress toward the objectives outlined in our School Development Plan, noting many improvements as we focus on key strategic areas such as staff training, numeracy, literacy, and the use of data to inform decision-making. The Plan, which covers the period from 2021 to 2025, is centred on our School Motto, Values, Objectives, Purpose, and our School Ethos. These elements have been updated to ensure they are more memorable and relevant to our school community.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

During the year we asked our pupils to help update our School Values, linking them to CARPE as part of our Motto. The pupils designed posters which are displayed around school on floor length banners, as well as being used in school communications. The Purpose was updated to 'Longridge is a School where everyone can excel. We provide a holistic education where our pupils can fulfil their potential, as confident, independent, and life-long learners.' We encourage our community to demonstrate specific values:

Care – looking after ourselves, and others

Achieve – attaining successful outcomes

Respect – showing due regard for ourselves, for others and for our environment.

Persevere – keeping going when challenged in school, or in life

Excel – being the best we can be at all times

In December 2023, our J6 pupils created the following acrostics to articulate these values in a way that was meaningful to them:

Care – Consideration for others; Accompany people when they are lonely, Respect other people, Equal rights for everybody

Achieve – Always Challenge yourself Highly In Everything Voluntarily with great Endeavour

Respect – Responsibility, Education, Safety, Patience, Encouraging friends, Careful play, Tolerate everyone

Persevere – Patience, Education, Rapidly improve, Scientist eventually, Endeavour, Very hard-working, Excellence, Reaching high, Excel

Excel – Excel is Xcellent Continuation of hard work Endless commitment Leaving you with high achievement and satisfaction.

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.

Compliance and Monitoring

In April 2024, we underwent an inspection by the Independent School Inspectorate (ISI) as part of their cyclical monitoring and inspection visits. The inspection took place over three days, with five Head Teachers conducting the review under the new ISI framework. The inspection covered all aspects of the School, including pastoral care, data management, education, teaching and learning, as well as compliance. It was an intense few days, and we were delighted to learn after the visit that everything had met the required standards.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Financial Review

Summary

The surplus before depreciation was £222,830 (2023 surplus £301,514) and there was a surplus for the year of £129,100 (2023 surplus £220,813).

The school roll, which is the essential driver in our school financial performance, has remained steady throughout the year. We were able to control our costs well, investing in improvements where possible but also maintaining a prudent approach with an eye to the future impacts VAT may have.

Our site development has continued with a clear focus on enhancing teaching areas, playgrounds, and shared spaces to improve both staff and pupil experiences. We have also made strides in diversifying income streams, with plans to further utilise the site and buildings outside of term time, rolling out new initiatives over the next year.

Over the summer, we undertook several IT projects, including moving our Student Management System (SMS) to an online platform, whereas it had previously been hosted on-site. The IT team managed this transition smoothly, providing training and guidance to ensure staff felt confident and comfortable with the change before the start of the new academic year.

We have continued to support many families through our bursary and scholarship programmes, and have received several requests for hardship assistance from existing families. While our bursary fund is limited, we have been able to offer financial support to ensure that pupils experiencing financial changes are able to remain at the school.

Our scholarship programme has also evolved, with scholars meeting more regularly to take on shared responsibilities and engage in various opportunities. This includes shared lunches and activities that foster a sense of community and collaboration.

The overdraft position at the year-end was £nil (2023 £nil).

Reserves

The total funds held by the School at the year end is £4,750,788 (2023: £4,621,688). 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. The Science Facilities Fund balance at the year-end is £6,684 (2023: £10,154).

Major Repairs Fund (notes 17 and 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. The Major Repairs Fund balance at the year-end is £61,995 (2023: £61,995).

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 therefore each year they set aside a small reserve for those existing parents facing financial hardship. This is done on an annual basis and spent within the year, therefore the Bursary Fund balance at the year end is £nil (2023: £nil).

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. The General Fund balance at the year end is £4,682,109 (2023: £4,549,539).

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Risk Management

We continue to closely monitor and mitigate risks through a comprehensive approach, which includes the identification, assessment, and control of risks throughout the year. Our risk management 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;
- 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 while these systems provide reasonable assurance, they cannot offer absolute certainty that all risks have been fully managed.

Risks and Future Uncertainty

In recent years, we have seen improvements in both our financial and educational performance. The stabilisation of our school roll has enabled us to balance staffing needs effectively. While we remain highly dependent on our school roll, our financial performance is also significantly influenced by strategic decisions regarding spending and investments.

As a sector, independent schools are vulnerable to changes in government policy, and we regularly plan for and review various financial scenarios. For the year ahead, we have based our planning on a conservative school roll, anticipated VAT and National Insurance changes, and the resulting budget adjustments.

We recognise that uncertainties remain for our pupils, their families, and the school itself, given the on-going changes within the sector. However, our strong performance in recent years has allowed us to build reserves, which will help mitigate some of these uncertainties.

Our focus remains on supporting our pupils and staff, growing the school roll, and improving academic outcomes, all while maintaining a prudent approach to financial management to ensure the continued sustainability of the School.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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. T.M.Bramald (Chairman)	3, 4	
Mrs. I. Cheer	1, 12	
Mrs. P.J. Derries	4, 10	
Mrs. S. Dunford	3, 4, 6	
Mr. P. Evans	2, 6	
Mrs. A. R. Marshall	1, 2, 5, 8	
Dr. E.C. Miller	1, 5, 7, 9, 11	(Resigned: 31 August 2024)
Mr. M. Mole	2, 6	(Resigned: 31 August 2024)
Mr. E. Roney	1, 11	
Dr. J. Watson	1, 6, 7, 9	
Mr. D. E. Armstrong		(Appointed 18 October 2024)
Mrs. C. Targonski		(Appointed 12 December 2024)
Mr. R. Reay		(Appointed 10 January 2025)

Positions held as at 31 August 2024.

- 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.

Additionally, an Awards committee exists for which the Governors are anonymous.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 the Finance Director, supported by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The Headmaster and Finance Director 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).

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 enjoyed many celebrations together throughout the year as part of our 40th anniversary year.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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: 24 DEC 2024

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE GOVERNORS OF LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Longridge Towers School (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 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 2024 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

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

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

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

24 JANUARY 2025

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 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £	Unrestricted funds designated 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Income from:									
Donations and legacies	3	26,854	-	-	26,854	175	-	-	175
Charitable activities	5	5,287,784	(365,364)	-	4,922,420	5,133,858	(442,191)	-	4,691,667
Investments	4	16,489	-	-	16,489	5,311	-	-	5,311
Total income		<u>5,331,127</u>	<u>(365,364)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,965,763</u>	<u>5,139,344</u>	<u>(442,191)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,697,153</u>
Charitable activities	9	4,833,193	-	3,470	4,836,663	4,470,135	-	6,205	4,476,340
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>497,934</u>	<u>(365,364)</u>	<u>(3,470)</u>	<u>129,100</u>	<u>669,209</u>	<u>(442,191)</u>	<u>(6,205)</u>	<u>220,813</u>
Transfers between funds		(365,364)	365,364	-	-	(442,191)	442,191	-	-
Net movement in funds	6	<u>132,570</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,470)</u>	<u>129,100</u>	<u>227,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,205)</u>	<u>220,813</u>
Reconciliation of funds:									
Fund balances at 1 September 2023		4,549,539	61,995	10,154	4,621,688	4,322,521	61,995	16,359	4,400,875
Fund balances at 31 August 2024		<u>4,682,109</u>	<u>61,995</u>	<u>6,684</u>	<u>4,750,788</u>	<u>4,549,539</u>	<u>61,995</u>	<u>10,154</u>	<u>4,621,688</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

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

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		4,973,582		4,824,914
Current assets					
Stocks	13	10,937		8,154	
Debtors	14	220,560		336,226	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,083,451		481,780	
		<u>1,314,948</u>		<u>826,160</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>1,537,742</u>		<u>1,029,386</u>	
Net current liabilities			(222,794)		(203,226)
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>4,750,788</u>		<u>4,621,688</u>
The funds of the charitable company					
Restricted income funds	16		6,684		10,154
Unrestricted funds - general			857,380		724,810
Revaluation reserve			3,824,729		3,824,729
Unrestricted funds - designated	17		61,995		61,995
			<u>4,750,788</u>		<u>4,621,688</u>

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 2024, 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.

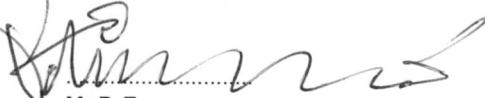
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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 24 DECEMBER 2024



Mr T. M. Bramald (Chairman)
Trustee



Mr P. Evans
Trustee

Company registration number 01675232 (England and Wales)

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	21		827,579		126,401
Investing activities					
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(242,397)		(101,005)	
Proceeds from disposal of tangible fixed assets		-		1,550	
Investment income received		16,489		5,311	
Net cash used in investing activities			(225,908)		(94,144)
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			601,671		32,257
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			481,780		449,523
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>1,083,451</u>		<u>481,780</u>

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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. This is stated after discounts, other sales taxes and net of VAT as the entity is exempt from VAT in the period of these financial statements.

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 2024

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:

Freehold 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 2024

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 2024

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 £365,364 (2023: £442,191) 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 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Donations and gifts	26,854	175

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds general 2024 £	Unrestricted funds general 2023 £
Interest receivable	16,489	5,311

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

5 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Tuition fees	4,850,371	4,740,425
School meals	144,294	149,461
Boarding	192,120	187,076
School bus	308,998	320,034
Hire of school facilities	980	300
Registration	5,401	6,244
Sundry income	15,528	17,627
Trip income	243,882	125,685
Less: Bursaries	(839,154)	(855,185)
	<u>4,922,420</u>	<u>4,691,667</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds - general	5,287,784	5,133,858
Unrestricted funds - designated	(365,364)	(442,191)
	<u>4,922,420</u>	<u>4,691,667</u>

6 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	16,312	24,454
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	93,730	80,701
	<u>110,042</u>	<u>105,155</u>

7 Support costs

	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2024 £	Support costs £	Governance costs £	2023 £
Audit fees	-	16,312	16,312	-	24,454	24,454
Legal and professional	-	13,213	13,213	-	12,482	12,482
	<u>-</u>	<u>29,525</u>	<u>29,525</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,936</u>	<u>36,936</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>-</u>	<u>29,525</u>	<u>29,525</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>36,936</u>	<u>36,936</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the auditors of £15,940 (2023: £24,100) for audit fees.

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 **Governors**

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

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 Charitable activities

	Education Costs	Catering Costs	Boarding & Property Costs	Transport Costs	General Admin & Overhead Costs	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Staff costs	2,458,998	118,716	157,908	309,395	371,521	3,416,538	3,220,432
Depreciation and impairment	-	-	57,801	35,929	-	93,730	80,701
Teaching resources	98,869	-	-	-	-	98,869	85,131
Repairs and cleaning	-	6,350	128,550	-	2,994	137,894	182,122
Heat and light	-	3,451	148,071	-	-	151,522	120,549
Food costs	-	120,507	-	-	-	120,507	118,319
Motor expenses	-	-	-	17,117	-	17,117	26,733
Rates and insurances	-	-	83,819	-	-	83,819	64,953
Cost of trips	243,882	-	-	-	-	243,882	129,665
School bus service costs	-	-	-	204,260	-	204,260	192,208
General admin	48,694	-	22,462	-	13,549	84,705	82,720
Postage, stationery, advertising and telephone	-	-	-	-	80,673	80,673	89,487
Bank charges and interest	-	-	-	-	5,784	5,784	7,608
Staff recruitment costs	-	-	-	-	12,266	12,266	12,540
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	18,748	18,748	11,764
Bad debts	-	-	-	-	36,824	36,824	14,472
	<u>2,850,443</u>	<u>249,024</u>	<u>598,611</u>	<u>566,701</u>	<u>542,359</u>	<u>4,807,138</u>	<u>4,439,404</u>
Share of governance costs (see note 7)	15,940	372	13,213	-	-	29,525	36,936
	<u>2,866,383</u>	<u>249,396</u>	<u>611,824</u>	<u>566,701</u>	<u>542,359</u>	<u>4,836,663</u>	<u>4,476,340</u>

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 Charitable activities

(Continued)

	Education Costs	Catering Costs	Boarding & Property Costs	Transport Costs	General Admin & Overhead Costs	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Analysis by fund							
Unrestricted funds - general	2,866,383	249,396	608,354	566,701	542,359	4,833,193	
Restricted funds	-	-	3,470	-	-	3,470	
	<u>2,866,383</u>	<u>249,396</u>	<u>611,824</u>	<u>566,701</u>	<u>542,359</u>	<u>4,836,663</u>	
For the year ended 31 August 2023							
Unrestricted funds - general	2,608,278	241,546	528,578	583,311	508,422		4,470,135
Restricted funds	-	-	6,205	-	-		6,205
	<u>2,608,278</u>	<u>241,546</u>	<u>534,783</u>	<u>583,311</u>	<u>508,422</u>		<u>4,476,340</u>

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Teaching	55	52
Administration	13	12
Other	38	38
	<u>106</u>	<u>102</u>

Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	2,864,854	2,667,782
Social security costs	263,645	272,043
Other pension costs	288,039	280,608
	<u>2,864,854</u>	<u>2,667,782</u>

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	1	3
£80,001 - £90,000	2	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Of the employees whose emoluments exceed £60,000, 4 (2023: 4) 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 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	4,616,549	635,677	189,122	5,441,348
Additions	151,522	67,145	23,730	242,397
At 31 August 2024	4,768,071	702,822	212,852	5,683,745
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 September 2023	-	493,409	123,024	616,433
Depreciation charged in the year	-	57,801	35,929	93,730
At 31 August 2024	-	551,210	158,953	710,163
Carrying amount				
At 31 August 2024	4,768,071	151,612	53,899	4,973,582
At 31 August 2023	4,616,549	142,268	66,097	4,824,914

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 (2023: £224,474) would have been expended to the income and expenditure account if the property were depreciated.

13 Stocks

	2024	2023
	£	£
Raw materials and consumables	10,937	8,154

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 Debtors

	2024	2023
Amounts falling due within one year:	£	£
Trade debtors	109,680	182,168
Other debtors	5,963	4,301
Prepayments and accrued income	104,917	149,757
	<u>220,560</u>	<u>336,226</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payments received on account	1,160,233	393,362
Trade creditors	115,619	141,671
Other creditors	176,328	276,400
Accruals and deferred income	85,562	217,953
	<u>1,537,742</u>	<u>1,029,386</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 2023 £	Resources expended £	At 31 August 2024 £
Science Facilities Fund	<u>10,154</u>	<u>(3,470)</u>	<u>6,684</u>
Previous year:			
	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>

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 2023	Incoming resources	Transfers	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£
Bursary Fund	-	(365,364)	365,364	-
Major Repairs Fund	61,995	-	-	61,995
	<u>61,995</u>	<u>(365,364)</u>	<u>365,364</u>	<u>61,995</u>
Previous year:	At 1 September 2022	Incoming resources	Transfers	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£
Bursary Fund	-	(442,191)	442,191	-
Major Repairs Fund	61,995	-	-	61,995
	<u>61,995</u>	<u>(442,191)</u>	<u>442,191</u>	<u>61,995</u>

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted 2024 £	Designated 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total Unrestricted 2024 £	Designated 2023 £	Restricted 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:							
Tangible assets	4,970,114	-	3,468	4,973,582	-	6,938	4,824,914
Current assets/(liabilities)	(288,005)	61,995	3,216	(222,794)	61,995	3,216	(203,226)
	<u>4,682,109</u>	<u>61,995</u>	<u>6,684</u>	<u>4,750,788</u>	<u>61,995</u>	<u>10,154</u>	<u>4,621,688</u>

LONGRIDGE TOWERS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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. The total remuneration of the senior management team excluding employers National Insurance was:-

	2024	2023
	£	£
Aggregate compensation	401,027	341,849
	<u>401,027</u>	<u>341,849</u>

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 £18,127 (2023: £5,126) was owed to the school by Governors and £419 (2023: £Nil) 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 £21,771 (2023: £38,764).

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 2024 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 2024

21	Cash generated from operations	2024 £	2023 £
	Surplus for the year	129,099	220,815
	Adjustments for:		
	Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(16,489)	(5,311)
	Depreciation and impairment of tangible fixed assets	93,730	80,701
	Movements in working capital:		
	(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(2,783)	2,223
	Decrease in debtors	115,666	77,071
	Increase/(decrease) in creditors	508,356	(249,098)
	Cash generated from operations	<u>827,579</u>	<u>126,401</u>

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

The charitable company had no material debt during the year.