

Charity registration number 108156

**NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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**Trustees**

N McDowell  
A Mac Séafraidh  
N Uprichard  
C Mitchell  
A McCammon  
Mrs Linda Ervine  
H Floyd  
Paul Lynas  
J Waterworth  
A Burns  
I McMillan  
A D Harrison  
G Monroe  
S Jackson  
A Taylor

**Charity number**

108156

**Independent examiner**

Miscampbell & Co  
6 Annadale Avenue  
Belfast  
BT7 3JH

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# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - 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 2015), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### *Public benefit*

The Trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the should undertake.

2023-2024 has seen many new developments with Naíscoil na Seolta as an Integrated Irish-medium pre-school. As you know Naíscoil na Seolta was established previously as a result of a major Turas project that has been in the planning and development since 2018. The move to Garnerville Presbyterian Church rented accommodation in September 2022 has been successful in providing a level of stability and we are very grateful for this temporary accommodation. The past year has seen the fruition of plans to move to a more permanent site where the management and staff of Naíscoil na Seolta have complete control over a suitable building and hours of use. 2023-2024 also saw the development of a realistic and funded plan to see the establishment of an IME/Integrated primary school, Scoil na Seolta.

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### *Significant activities and achievements against objectives*

2023-2024 has shown continued strong interest in our playgroup and pre-school provision by parents. A total of 14 children have attended Naíscoil na Seolta and we received expressions of interest for 31 places in 2023-2024. The period 2023-2024 has been our first year of funded pre-school PEG (Pre-school Education Group) places. The decision by PEG to allow us a concessionary 5 funded places (usually a minimum of eight places is required) has allowed us to get off the ground as a funded voluntary IME/Integrated pre-school and we now look forward to 11 PEG funded places in 2024-2025. Naíscoil na Seolta is now fully established as a voluntary pre-school provider. Further to this we have had 49 expressions of interest for 2024-2025 with 26 of these now having allocated Naíonra places (pre-pre-school). We now have over 100 expressions of interest for the next 4 years. These figures undoubtedly reflect the excellent work of staff, volunteer staff and committee members in attracting parents in the community and in promoting the many advantages of bilingual education. The past year has witnessed the consolidation of an especially talented and well qualified staff team (both paid and voluntary) reflected in our increased PEG and naíonra numbers for 2024-2025. The ability of staff to provide an interesting, playful, and educational environment for children as well as working well with parents, has been critical in building up the operation and image of the naíscoil in the community.

The continued growth and increased numbers are essential to the future success of the project and the committee's plan to create an IME/Integrated primary school. The current site at Garnerville Presbyterian Church alas limits all future developments - for the expanded numbers, sessions times and the development of Scoil na Seolta. Thankfully we have been able to proceed substantially with plans for further development on a more permanent site. In 2022-2023 we successfully applied for substantial funding from Ciste um Oileán Comhroinnte (The Shared Island Fund) to fund a feasibility study which resulted in finding a site located on Montgomery Road, Castlereragh Road/ Lisnasharragh area. Since then, further successful negotiation has resulted in attracting very substantial funding from An Roinn Turasoireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán (Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media). This funding will eventually amount to over £700k and will allow us to redevelop the site and erect suitable modular buildings on the site at Montgomery Road. The plans for developing the site are regrettably still at the stage of receiving planning permission by Belfast City Council. However, we have received a very positive response from the planning office and the otherwise lengthy process is well advanced.

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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Overall, we expect to have the site ready for children before the end of this year. We had hoped to move on to the site before September of this year but the above-mentioned delay along with delays in negotiating the lease with the owners and in turn employing the contractors has postponed our move until the end of the year. The downside of this has meant we have been forced to postpone our original plan to have Rang 1 (P1) in place for September 2024. As you can imagine, it has been an onerous task trying to encourage parents to send their children to a school that is not yet built on what is presently a vacant industrial site. We did have a plan B for this scenario of various delays but with a number of parents understandably withdrawing their children for Rang 1, the numbers became too low to realistically proceed. This is particularly regrettable as we had secured funding for a teacher's salary from the Integrated Education Fund. We hope that this funding can be likewise postponed until 2025.

Notwithstanding the postponement of Rang 1 we have had to consider reorganising the management of the IME/ Integrated pre-school and primary school, possibly moving to the legal status of a board of governors rather than a committee in 2024-2025. With this in mind we have started to refer to the project as "Scoil na Seolta" as a generic term for both the naíonra, pre-school and future primary school.

We have been fortunate in being able to continue to work with Ciarán McCavana of Quarter Chartered Accountants who undertook last year's feasibility study on behalf of Scoil na Seolta. Likewise, we have also been able to work with Pilib Ó Ruanaidh of Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta. Iontaobhas na Gaelscolaíochta have agreed to assist in the management of the substantial funding money for the development of Scoil na Seolta. Neither Turas nor East Belfast Mission can manage this fund currently.

An official development proposal to be presented to the EA/DENI is close to completion. This development proposal has largely been completed in cooperation with NICIE and Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta.

Committee work can be challenging and even tedious at times. I'd like to thank all the committee members for their assistance over the past year. However, much work remains for the committee, and I look forward to establishing a more active committee for 2024-2025, with re-activated sub-committees and more input from all committee members.

As Chairperson I would like to thank the valuable contributions made to the committee by Annelies Taylor who did a massive amount of work in establishing the committee and previously held the office of Chairperson. I would also like to extend the committee's thanks to Sandra Jackson who has been our dedicated secretary for several years. Both have now stepped down.

Finally, I would like to express gratitude to the massive contribution of Gearóidín Monroe, Stiúrthóir Náiscoile/Pre-school Leader and Manager over the past two years. Gearóidín's management and overall work at Naíscóil na Seolta has played a significant role in creating a stable and successful staff team which has nurtured our success.

#### **Financial review**

##### *Reserves policy*

It is the policy of the that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The Trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the 's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

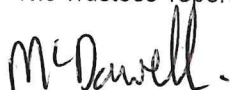
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### Structure, governance and management

The Trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

N McDowell  
A Mac Séafraidh  
N Uprichard  
C Mitchell  
A McCammon  
Mrs Linda Ervine  
H Floyd  
Paul Lynas  
J Waterworth  
A Burns  
I McMillan  
A D Harrison  
G Monroe  
S Jackson  
A Taylor

The Trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



N McDowell  
Trustee

27 May 2025



A Mac Séafraidh  
Trustee

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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I report to the Trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Naiscoil na Seolta for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. It is my responsibility to:

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

### Basis of independent examiner's report

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

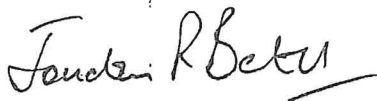
The examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such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

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

1. that accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. that the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

### Independent examiner's statement

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



Jonathan R Bethel  
Miscampbell & Co

6 Annadale Avenue  
Belfast  
BT7 3JH

Dated: 27 May 2025

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	3	17,060	250,970	268,030
<b>Total income</b>		<u>17,060</u>	<u>250,970</u>	<u>268,030</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities	4	6,291	55,019	61,310
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>6,291</u>	<u>55,019</u>	<u>61,310</u>
<b>Net income and movement in funds</b>		<u>10,769</u>	<u>195,951</u>	<u>206,720</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		36,061	39,890	75,951
<b>Fund balances at 31 March 2024</b>		<u>46,830</u>	<u>235,841</u>	<u>282,671</u>

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

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

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	Notes	2024 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	10		373
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		287,597	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	(5,299)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>282,298</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>282,671</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>			<u>282,671</u>
<b>The funds of the</b>			
Restricted income funds	12		235,841
Unrestricted funds			<u>46,830</u>
			<u>282,671</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 27 May 2025

Trustee



# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

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### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Naiscoil na Seolta is a unincorporated charity.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

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

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

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

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

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

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the .

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the 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 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.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the 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.

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Expenditure

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.

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Fixtures and fittings	50% straight line
Computers	50% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

#### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible 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 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.

#### *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.

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### *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 's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

### 1.9 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 is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the 's accounting policies, the Trustees 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 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Donations and gifts	9,535	-	9,535	-	-
Grants	7,525	250,970	258,495	-	-
	<u>17,060</u>	<u>250,970</u>	<u>268,030</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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

### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Charitable Expenditure 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>	
Staff costs	45,989
Depreciation and impairment	373
Insurance	569
Telephone	244
Rent	6,819
Training	700
Uniform	698
	<u>55,392</u>
<b>Share of support and governance costs (see note 5)</b>	
Support	4,718
Governance	1,200
	<u>61,310</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>	
Unrestricted funds	6,291
Restricted funds	55,019
	<u>61,310</u>

### 5 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024 £
Bank Fees	41
Heat & Light	1,679
Purchases	2,832
Maintenance	60
Consultancy	106
Governance costs	1,200
	<u>5,918</u>
<b>Analysed between:</b>	
Charitable Expenditure	<u>5,918</u>

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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

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<b>6</b>	<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>2024</b>
		<b>£</b>

The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):

Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	373
	<u>          </u>

### 7 Trustees

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

### 8 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Number</b>
Employees	3
	<u>          </u>

<b>Employment costs</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>

Wages and salaries	45,989
	<u>          </u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

#### Remuneration of key management personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:

### 9 Taxation

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

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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

### 10 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £	Computers £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 April 2023	-	3,372	3,372
Additions	746	-	746
At 31 March 2024	<u>746</u>	<u>3,372</u>	<u>4,118</u>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>			
At 1 April 2023	-	3,372	3,372
Depreciation charged in the year	373	-	373
At 31 March 2024	<u>373</u>	<u>3,372</u>	<u>3,745</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
At 31 March 2024	<u><u>373</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>373</u></u>

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

	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	<u>5,299</u>

### 12 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
American Ireland Fund	-	18,993	(1,705)	17,288
Award for All Grant	-	10,000	(3,915)	6,085
Department of Tourism, Culture and the Gaeltacht	-	175,455	(35,039)	140,416
Foras na Gaeilge	7,499	29,836	(12,655)	24,680
Community Foundation	-	16,686	(1,705)	14,981
Community Fund NI	16,000	-	-	16,000
Community Fund Ireland	16,391	-	-	16,391
	<u>39,890</u>	<u>250,970</u>	<u>(55,019)</u>	<u>235,841</u>

# NAISCOIL NA SEOLTA

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

### 13 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	36,061	17,060	(6,291)	46,830

### 14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
At 31 March 2024:			
Tangible assets	373	-	373
Current assets/(liabilities)	46,457	235,841	282,298
	<u>46,830</u>	<u>235,841</u>	<u>282,671</u>

### 15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year ( - none).