

**CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 529386**

**CLIFF COLLEGE  
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS  
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

# CLIFF COLLEGE

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## CLIFF COLLEGE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Reference and Administration Details

**Trustees** Karen Stefanyszyn (Chair)  
Revd Mark Hammond (Vice – Chair)  
Mr Stephen Holliday  
Revd Leslie Newton  
Joan Ryan  
Revd Janet Unsworth

**Charity number** 529386

**Principal address** Cliff College  
Calver  
Hope Valley Derbyshire  
S32 3XG

**Auditors** Hawsons Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Pegasus House  
463a Glossop Road  
Sheffield  
S10 2QD

**Bankers** HSBC  
Belgravia Branch  
The Peak  
333 Vauxhall Bridge Road London  
SW1V 1EJ

**Solicitors** Graysons Solicitors  
Courtwood House  
Silver Street Head  
Sheffield  
S1 2DD

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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The Cliff College Committee (CCC), the Cliff College managing trustees, present their report and accounts for the year ending 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 charity's governing document, applicable law and the requirements of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice.

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

The Charity is governed by two charitable trust deeds, one dated 1903 and a second dated 1930. The CCC Trustees who served during the year were:

Revd Loraine Mellor (Chair) (resigned 31 August 2024)  
Revd Mark Hammond (Vice – Chair)  
Revd Ashley Cooper (Principal) (resigned as a trustee 1 September 2024)  
Revd Jonathan Dean (appointed 25 September 2023) (resigned 10 July 2024)  
Stephen Holliday (resigned 25 September 2023) (re-appointed 20 March 2024)  
Jude Levermore (appointed 25 September 2023) (resigned 31 January 2024)  
Revd Leslie Newton  
Revd Raj Patta (resigned 25 September 2023)  
Joan Ryan (resigned 25 September 2023) (re-appointed 20 March 2024)  
Revd Paul Smith (resigned 25 September 2023)  
Revd Janet Unsworth (appointed 25 September 2023)

The CCC is appointed by the Methodist Council. In the appointment of members to serve on the CCC, the Methodist Church seeks to employ the widest possible range of skills and expertise, and fully bears this in mind when inviting new managing trustees to take up their responsibilities. Each member of the CCC is a member of a sub-group that meets to scrutinise and report on an element of the College's life and work. All new CCC members are inducted in briefing meetings with the Principal and senior staff members.

Appointments to the CCC are for an initial period of three years, with the option to extend for up to a further three years. Thereafter, a member may serve for a further year if the nomination is supported by 75% of the members present at a meeting to consider the nomination.

The ultimate responsibility for the College lies with Methodist Conference and, as the College is part of the wider Methodist Church, it is governed by Methodist Church standing orders and the decisions made annually by the Methodist Conference. The Trusteeship is held by the Methodist Council which appoints the CCC to govern the College.

The strategic direction of the Charity is set by the CCC which then delegates the day-to-day running of the College to the College's Senior Strategy Group (an internal management group consisting of the Principal, Vice Principal Academic, Vice Principal Mission and Chief Operating Officer). The CCC Chair and Vice-Chair receive the minutes of the Senior Strategy Group meetings and attend meetings when appropriate. The Senior Strategy Group reports to the CCC at each of its meetings.

The CCC also receives regular reports from the Board of Directors of Cliff College Outreach Limited, the commercial trading arm of the College.

## **CLIFF COLLEGE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### **Objectives and activities**

The College's vision is to be 'A Global Centre for Evangelism and Missiology'. Cliff College's uniqueness is as a community being formed by God's Spirit and centred on God's Word, equipping people for practical ministry and engaging in mission.

In living out this vision, the College recognises its commitment to the Methodist Church and its heritage in the Wesleyan family; it exists to train people in mission and evangelism, which aims to impact all sections of the church and serve the widest possible constituency. These are achieved through:

- a range of validated courses and programmes with mission and evangelism at their core
- short courses, Ministry and Ministry Development courses and a Summer School to serve the needs of lay people in the church
- support for missional impact across the Methodist Church of Britain and wider
- an annual Festival to deliver a vibrant programme for all ages
- the 'Cliff Year', a year of vocational exploration for young people
- the conference centre to provide accommodation for individuals and groups
- Global partnerships to support lay and ordained training across the globe

Cliff College exists for the charitable purposes of the advancement of education and of the advancement of religion. All other charitable activities undertaken by the College are to further the attainment of its vision. The CCC have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake.

#### **Risk factors**

The CCC have assessed the major risks to which the Charity is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. A risk register is maintained by the Senior Strategy Group and the register is reviewed by the CCC.

The most serious risks to Cliff College's survival and development are identified as:

1. insufficient student numbers leading to a loss in income
2. insufficient conference centre bookings
3. changes in Government legislation and/or the policies of our partners including the University of Manchester
4. a renegotiation of the College's relationship with the Methodist Church
5. negative publicity leading to a loss of confidence for the College's position within the UK church and Higher Education sector
6. rising inflationary costs that outstrip rising income caused by changes in student residencies and ongoing cost of living crisis

These risks have been managed in a variety of ways:

1. In terms of student recruitment, the College website has proved effective with much clearer and concise course information being made available and has provided good links to the College's growing social media presence. Our 'Admissions Officer' has worked to make applying for our courses more streamlined. Recruitment processes have been developed online with successful virtual open days.
2. The creation of a new Commercial Manager role to increase income and profitability of the Conference Centre. We have seen a significant uptake in conference centre bookings during this year.
3. The College remains up to date with government policy and maintains good relationships with the Office for Students. Relevant staff members have undertaken training to ensure compliance in key areas. The College also maintains strong relationships with its partners, meeting regularly and ensuring that each other's expectations are fully understood. The College has undergone an Institutional and Periodic Review by the University of Manchester, the outcome of which was a renewed relationship with the University of Manchester as our validating partner for a further five years.
4. The Methodist Church is undergoing a training review which will enable clear expectations to be set and managed between the College and the church.
5. As required, the College's presence in media and social media has been closely monitored, and advice has been taken where needed to ensure that the College is represented fairly. Managing the College's public reputation is an activity which is shared by the Methodist Church in Britain, who have committed to fund potential liability arising from the College's actions.
6. A clear strategy to a staged release of funds from surplus investment properties to Strengthen College reserves.

### **Achievements and performance**

The College runs taught academic programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, as well as supervising research programmes. All of the College's academic programmes are validated by the University of Manchester, and the College has an active Collaborative Agreement with the University's School of Arts, Languages, and Cultures.

In September 2023 we launched the new BA Theology and Mission programme (validated by the UoM) enhancing the quality of courses we are able to offer. This programme is our first undergraduate, fully hybrid programme which gives new opportunities of study and will aid recruitment.

We are also in the process of teaching out two degree programmes

- Certificate, Diploma and Bachelors (Honours) degree programmes in Theology and Ministry
- Certificate, Diploma and Bachelors (Honours) degree programmes in Mission and Ministry

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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Postgraduate programmes include Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma and Masters degree programmes in Mission. Students may study on specialist pathways, including:

- Biblical Theology and Mission
- Children's and Youth Mission
- Christian Mentoring
- Disability, Theology and Mission
- Leadership, Mission and Renewal
- Literature, Theology and Culture
- Mission and Evangelism
- Mission and Global Justice
- Pioneering Ministries/Fresh Expressions

The College provides supervision for students on doctoral programmes, which are awarded by the University of Manchester. Alongside a standard PhD, the College also has a professional doctorate programme, the PhD Missiology.

The College's academic team continues to develop and deliver various courses in effective ways so that the educational and religious aims of the Charity continue to be achieved, including increasingly online. As part of its Christian heritage, and by provision being built into the learning objectives of accredited programmes, Cliff College students continue to engage in periods of placement and mission. For full-time students these placement experiences significantly increase their employability. Most part-time students remain active in their paid or voluntary church or community roles throughout their time of study at the College.

The College also maintains three research centres, providing annual lectures and research opportunities on three topics:

- The Samuel Chadwick Centre: focussing on gathering and disseminating the fruits of research in pneumatology with particular reference to the Wesleyan, Pentecostal and charismatic traditions.
- The Bible, Church and Gender Centre: focusing on biblical and practical gender studies and how these intersect and inform the lives of women and men in the contemporary church
- Generation: the centre for the study of youth, children and families mission and ministry

During this year, the College has been developing links with the Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) to offer shared work and research in the area of Children Youth and Family.

The College is also a member of the Manchester Wesley Research Centre, which connects the College with other institutions in the Methodist, Wesleyan, Evangelical, Holiness and Pentecostal traditions, and resources research and scholarship.

## **CLIFF COLLEGE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### **Cliff Global Partnerships**

Cliff College's work with global partners focuses on three main areas:

- In-country training: providing training and support for training, in partnership with local training centres, at a variety of levels to meet the local needs.
- Immersion trips: providing experiences of the global church to groups of individuals from the UK, including from Cliff College.
- Theology X: providing a learning platform that underpins in-country training.

The College works in partnership with the Methodist Church Global Relationships team in developing relationships with a number of British Methodist Church partners and their theological institutions. In this year, this has included continued support and development for theological and practical training in Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. The College was represented at the Wesley Theological Society held in the US during February 2024, as well as present at the General Conference of the United Methodist Church meeting in Charlotte, USA in May 2024 and it continues to develop strong links with the Methodist Church in Ireland and the European Methodist eAcademy.

#### **Library**

The library is a valuable resource for students, not only for those attending internal courses but also for others who come to carry out their research activities. The move to online learning has led to a significant investment in the Digital Theology Library, to support the physical resources at Cliff. The archive section continues to grow in size and importance, attracting students wishing to explore Methodist history and heritage in detail. During the year, further acquisitions of relevant material for both the archive and the library have been made.

#### **Festival**

The Cliff College 'Festival' is a major public event that the College holds each year over the second bank holiday weekend in May. Festival is supported by Methodist Church partners, the Methodist Church Learning Network and the charity 'All We Can'. Festival is a resource for church groups and individuals as well as being an important aspect of our student recruitment activity and opportunity for students to put their learning into practice.

#### **CCO (Cliff College Outreach Limited)**

CCO is the trading arm of the College, providing a range of activities that support the charitable aims of the College. There are two specific areas of activity the CCO oversees:

- The Conference Centre provides high-quality facilities and modern accommodation options across the site to a wide range of customers.
- Theology X Commercial provides an online learning platform for a range of other organisations, both in the UK and across the globe. It also provides access to professional studio recording and editing facilities, in order for partners to build high-quality online learning opportunities.

The Board of Directors continues to actively monitor the financial context in which CCO operates in order that appropriate and prompt action can be taken to respond to the external challenges. Any profits from CCO are provided to College for its charitable purposes.



## **CLIFF COLLEGE**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### **Financial review**

From a financial point of view, the College had an expected difficult year; however, investment in recruitment processes means that student number forecasts for next year are healthy, and conference bookings are starting to move in the right direction. Investment Property rentals remained strong although a revised strategy is in place to see vacant or under-utilised investment properties released to replenish reserves by circa £1m during the next two financial years thus supporting the ongoing work of the College and to enable an effective working cashflow.

The College continues to make students aware of their financial responsibilities and to this end all new undergraduate students are provided with information and support in managing their personal finances. One-to-one 'finance' interviews are held with all residential students and students that attend site for teaching weeks, in which they are made aware of the specific charges that they will be required to pay to the College for tuition fees and residential fees; a payment plan is then agreed upon. Many UK students are able access loans from the Student Loans Company to finance their studies. Throughout the year, student accounts are closely monitored to ensure the minimum of bad debts. Student loans are also available to postgraduate students and, while some of our Master's programme students are funded by their employer, these loans are beneficial to those who are not.

#### **Investments**

Supporters of the College, over many years, have donated substantial sums of money by way of gifts and legacies and have continued to provide this support during the year. The outcome of this generosity is that many investments have been made to provide an income, some for the specific benefit of the students and some to provide general income for the College. Most of the funds are invested through either the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP) or the Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church (CFB) and are therefore subject to the Methodist Church's ethical investment policy. The College remains committed to moving its investments, where possible, into higher yielding funds without compromising its commitment to a low-risk investment strategy as befits a charity.

#### **Arrangements for setting the remuneration of key management personnel**

The salaries of key management personnel are set by the CCC, with reference to recommended ministerial stipend set by the Methodist Church for ordained staff, with other salary levels set alongside those offered in the theological college sector (for teaching staff), and general salary levels (for non-teaching staff) with the Living Wage Foundation Living Wage as a benchmark. The Senior Strategy Group are now part of the Methodist Church's Connexional Team, and salaries for these members of staff are set by the Connexional Team.

#### **Reserves policy**

At the 31 August 2024 the College held total reserves of £9,814,118 of which £9,623,729 were held as unrestricted funds. During the year, the College received income of £2,261,032 and had expenditure of £2,726,932 which after gains on investments of £1,106 resulted in a net decrease in reserves of £464,794. The decrease in reserves resulted in the College having an overall deficit in free reserves of £413,223.

It is the policy of the College that free reserves, within 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 level of free reserves at 31 August 2024 is not consistent with this policy. The CCC are aware that this is outside of the College's reserves policy and have agreed a strategy to restore reserves to an appropriate level (the sale of asset properties is part of this strategy). The ongoing support of the Methodist Church remains pivotal as we seek to return the College to surplus. They therefore consider that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised.

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### Plans for the future

The College has recognised that greater diversity in income is essential, and this is reflected in the work of the conference centre and commerciality of TheologyX. A new 2-year strategy is being developed and will be implemented ready for September 25. This plan directs the work of the College in developing its two core income streams:

- Providing a full range of accessible learning opportunities, at all levels, to grow a vibrant and diverse student body, both onsite and online.
- Maximising the use of the Conference Centre, both for external conference bookings as well as leisure rentals and clear exploration of the needs and requirements of the site.

In the shorter term our priority is to replenish reserves. This will provide the College with a firm financial foundation on which to move forward with the developing strategy highlighted above.

#### Statement of disclosure to auditors

The Trustees of the charity at the date of approval of this Annual Report each confirm that:

- as far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditors are unaware; and
- they have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information.

On behalf of the board of managing trustees on 5 February 2025



Karen Stefanyszyn (Chair)

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

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The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the accounts in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CLIFF COLLEGE

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### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cliff College (the 'charity') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Charity Statement of Financial Activities, Charity Balance Sheet, Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of 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 group's and the parent charity's affairs as at 31 August 2024, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011;
- where applicable, funds from whatever source administered by the provider for specific purposes have been properly applied to those purposes and managed in accordance with relevant legislation;
- where applicable, funds provided by the OfS, UK Research and Innovation (including Research England), the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education have been applied in accordance with the relevant terms and conditions; and
- the requirements of the OfS's accounts direction have been met.

### 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 group and parent charity 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 trustees' 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 group and parent charity'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 trustees 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 trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, 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.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CLIFF COLLEGE**

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### **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 trustees' report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the parent charity's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the group and the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 9, the trustees 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 trustees 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent charity'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the parent charity 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 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

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:

The parent is subject to laws and regulations that directly and indirectly affect the financial statements. Based on our understanding of the charity and the environment it operates within, we determined that the laws and regulations which were most significant included FRS 102 and the Charities Act 2011. We considered the extent to which non-compliance with these laws and regulations might have a material effect on the financial statements, including how fraud might occur. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to the posting of inappropriate journal entries to improve the charity's result for the period, and management bias in key accounting estimates.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF CLIFF COLLEGE**

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Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussions with management and those responsible for legal compliance procedures within the parent to obtain an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the charity and how the charity complies with that framework, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of Trustee meetings;
- Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls that management has in place to prevent and detect fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates.
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual account combinations or posted by senior management.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the more removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor-s-responsibilities-for](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditors/audit-assurance/auditor-s-responsibilities-for-the-audit-of-the-fi/description-of-the-auditor-s-responsibilities-for). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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 auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Hawsons

Hawsons Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor  
Pegasus House  
463a Glossop Road  
Sheffield  
S10 2QD

5 February 2025

*Hawsons Chartered Accountants is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.*

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
Income from:		£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	991,814	100,000	-	1,091,814	850,651
Charitable activities	3	470,014	-	-	470,014	475,432
Other trading activities	4	447,844	-	-	447,844	307,703
Investments	5	10,372	-	-	10,372	14,253
Other	6	240,988	-	-	240,988	171,210
<b>Total income</b>		<b>2,161,032</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,261,032</b>	<b>1,819,249</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	7	2,126,784	35,740	-	2,162,524	2,199,453
Other		564,408	-	-	564,408	525,174
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>2,691,192</b>	<b>35,740</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,726,932</b>	<b>2,724,627</b>
<b>Gains/(losses) on investments</b>	12	-	-	1,106	1,106	(995)
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		<b>(530,160)</b>	<b>64,260</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>(464,794)</b>	<b>(906,373)</b>
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		<b>74,599</b>	<b>(74,599)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other recognised gains</b>						
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	170,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(455,561)</b>	<b>(10,339)</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>(464,794)</b>	<b>(736,373)</b>
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		<b>10,079,290</b>	<b>184,765</b>	<b>14,857</b>	<b>10,278,912</b>	<b>11,015,285</b>
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>		<b>9,623,729</b>	<b>174,426</b>	<b>15,963</b>	<b>9,814,118</b>	<b>10,278,912</b>

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Endowment Funds	Total 2024	Total 2023
<b>Income from:</b>		£	£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	2	991,814	100,000	-	1,091,814	850,651
Charitable activities	3	470,014	-	-	470,014	475,432
Other trading activities	4	487	-	-	487	865
Investments	5	10,372	-	-	10,372	14,253
Other	6	593,302	-	-	593,302	271,210
<b>Total income</b>		2,065,989	100,000	-	2,165,989	1,612,411
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	7	2,126,784	35,740	-	2,162,524	2,199,453
Other		492,487	-	-	492,487	343,695
<b>Total expenditure</b>		2,619,271	35,740	-	2,655,011	2,543,148
<b>Gains/(losses) on investments</b>	12	-	-	1,106	1,106	(995)
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		(553,282)	64,260	1,106	(487,916)	(931,732)
<b>Transfer between funds</b>		74,599	(74,599)	-	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains</b>						
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	170,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(478,683)	(10,339)	1,106	(487,916)	(761,732)
<b>Fund balances brought forward</b>		10,093,256	184,765	14,857	10,292,878	11,054,610
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>		9,614,573	174,426	15,963	9,804,962	10,292,878



# CLIFF COLLEGE

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	11	10,036,952	10,247,411
Investments	12	15,963	14,857
		<u>10,052,915</u>	<u>10,262,268</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	126,311	272,954
Cash at bank and in hand		165,293	251,968
		<u>291,604</u>	<u>524,922</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	<u>(446,401)</u>	<u>(396,278)</u>
<b>Net currents (liabilities)/assets</b>		<u>(154,797)</u>	<u>128,644</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>9,898,118</u>	<u>10,390,912</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	15	<u>(84,000)</u>	<u>(112,000)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>9,814,118</u>	<u>10,278,912</u>
<b>Capital funds</b>			
Endowment funds	17	15,963	14,857
<b>Income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	18	174,426	184,765
Unrestricted funds General		9,623,729	10,079,290
		<u>9,814,118</u>	<u>10,278,912</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 5 February 2025

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees



Karen Stefanyszyn (Chair)



Reverend Andrew Stobart – OfS accountable officer

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## CHARITY BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	11	10,036,952	10,247,411
Investments	12	15,963	14,857
		<u>10,052,915</u>	<u>10,262,268</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	135,458	260,807
Cash at bank and in hand		102,694	236,400
		<u>238,152</u>	<u>497,207</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	<u>(402,105)</u>	<u>(354,597)</u>
<b>Net currents (liabilities)/assets</b>		<u>(163,953)</u>	<u>142,610</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>9,888,962</u>	<u>10,404,878</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	15	<u>(84,000)</u>	<u>(112,000)</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>9,804,962</u>	<u>10,292,878</u>
<b>Capital funds</b>			
Endowment funds	17	15,963	14,857
<b>Income funds</b>			
Restricted funds	18	174,426	184,765
Unrestricted funds General		<u>9,614,573</u>	<u>10,093,256</u>
		<u>9,804,962</u>	<u>10,292,878</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 5 February 2025

Signed on behalf of the board of Trustees



Karen Stefanyszyn (Chair)



Reverend Andrew Stobart – OfS accountable officer

**CLIFF COLLEGE****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>	<b>20</b>	(261,110)	(605,659)
<b>Cash flow from investing activities</b>			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(16,753)	(93,737)
Receipts from sale of tangible fixed assets		218,188	775,000
Interest received		10,372	14,253
Interest paid		<u>(9,372)</u>	<u>(5,924)</u>
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>		<u>202,435</u>	<u>689,592</u>
<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>			
Bank loan repayments		<u>(28,000)</u>	<u>(28,000)</u>
<b>Net cash flow from financing activities</b>		<u>(28,000)</u>	<u>(28,000)</u>
<b>Net (decrease)/Increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		(86,675)	55,933
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<u>251,968</u>	<u>196,035</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>		<u>165,293</u>	<u>251,968</u>

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Charity information

Cliff College is a registered charity (no 529386). The principal address is Calver, Hope Valley, Derbyshire, S32 3XG.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Practice.

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Cliff College and Cliff College Outreach Limited (a company limited by guarantee, registered company number 02331438).

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historic cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the main functional currency of the charity and rounded to the nearest £.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

##### Going concern

After due consideration of all relevant factors including the planned realisation of certain property assets and the ongoing support provided by the Methodist Church, the charity's income and cash flow forecasts and projections indicate that the charity should be able to continue to operate for the going concern assessment period. Accordingly they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.2 Charitable funds

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

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees 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 trustees for specific purposes. The purposes and uses of the designated funds are set out in the notes to the accounts.

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.

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**1.3 Income recognition**

Grants are accounted for on a receivable basis.

For legacies, entitlement and recognition is the earlier of receipt of the legacy or where it is probable that it will be received.

Donations received towards student fee sponsorship may be deferred for use in later years. The disbursements from this fund vary according to student needs.

Incoming resources from endowment funds are unrestricted and are transferred to unrestricted funds at the end of the financial year.

Student fees invoiced in advance are treated as deferred income.

**1.4 Expenditure recognition**

Resources expended are recognised in the year in which the liability is incurred.

Costs of raising funds relate to the cost of providing conference facilities and other fundraising activities.

Expenditure relating to charitable activities includes all the costs, including support costs, relating to the running of the college as an educational institution.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

**1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated 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:

Buildings	Straight line over 100 years
Property refurbishment	Straight line over 15 years
Computer equipment	33.3% straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line
Land is not depreciated	

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.

Investment properties are measured at fair value at each reporting date with changes in fair value recognised in net gains / (losses) on revaluation of fixed assets in the SoFA.

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**1.6 Investments**

Investments are recognised initially at fair value, which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value with changes recognised in net gain/losses in the SOFA.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the charity. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of the entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

**1.7 Impairment of fixed assets**

Assets not measured at fair value are reviewed for any indication that the asset may be impaired at each balance sheet date. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, or the asset's cash generating unit, is estimated and compared to the carrying amount. Where the carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount where the impairment loss is a revaluation decrease.

**1.8 Pensions**

The pension costs charged in the accounts represent the contributions payable by the charity during the year.

The charity participates in a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, as the proportion attributable to the charity is not separately identifiable, the pension schemes are accounted for as defined contribution pension schemes in the accounts. Following the closure of the defined benefit pension scheme the charity contributed to a defined contribution pension scheme. Further details are included in note 16.

**1.9 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**1.10 Financial instruments**

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for, according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities. Where shares are issued, any component that creates a financial liability of the company is presented as a liability in the balance sheet. The corresponding dividends relating to the liability component are charged as interest expense in the profit and loss account.

**1.11 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainties**

In the application of the charity'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.

The trustees have based their estimate of the value of the land and buildings of the charity on independent professional valuations. The accuracy of these valuations could therefore have a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities.

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Fund £	Group and Charity Restricted Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and gifts	68,771	-	68,771	101,209
Legacies receivable	20,358	-	20,358	168,069
Grants from the Methodist Church	888,262	-	888,262	428,297
Global Partnership income	-	100,000	100,000	100,000
TheologyX income	-	-	-	27,000
Other grants	14,423	-	14,423	26,076
	<u>991,814</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>1,091,814</u>	<u>850,651</u>
For the year ended 31 August 2023	<u>750,561</u>	<u>100,000</u>		<u>850,651</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Legacies receivable</b>		
Unrestricted funds		
M Woodlock-Smith	17,926	150,000
J Robson	1,105	-
M Smith-Croucher	-	12,000
G Ware	-	8,205
A Jackson	-	1,000
A Moden	-	538
S Britton	-	(3,674)
Other - various	1,327	-
	<u>20,358</u>	<u>168,069</u>

### 3 Charitable activities

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Student fees	376,854	426,101	376,854	426,101
Festival Income	93,160	49,331	93,160	49,331
	<u>470,014</u>	<u>475,432</u>	<u>470,014</u>	<u>475,432</u>

### 4 Other trading activities

	Group 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Charity 2024 £	Charity 2023 £
Trading income	<u>447,844</u>	<u>307,703</u>	<u>487</u>	<u>865</u>

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 5 Investment income

	Group and Charity Unrestricted 2024 £	Unrestricted 2023 £
Central Finance Board Funds	10,372	14,253

### 6 Other income

	Group 2024 £	2023 £	Charity 2024 £	2023 £
Rental Income	146,594	108,059	266,594	198,059
Other income	94,394	63,151	326,708	73,151
	<u>240,988</u>	<u>171,210</u>	<u>593,302</u>	<u>271,210</u>

### 7 Charitable expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	743,869	-	-	743,869	822,303
Methodist Church stipends	167,355	-	-	167,355	156,559
Student course costs	168,986	14,174	-	183,160	163,476
Festival costs	99,225	-	-	99,225	145,785
Global Partnership costs	-	21,566	-	21,566	34,964
Theology X Platform costs	37,940	-	-	37,940	52,842
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	(88,188)	-	-	(88,188)	-
	<u>1,129,187</u>	<u>35,740</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,164,927</u>	<u>1,375,929</u>
Share of support costs (see note 8)	997,597	-	-	997,597	823,524
	<u>2,126,784</u>	<u>35,740</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,162,524</u>	<u>2,199,453</u>
For the year ended 31 August 2023	<u>2,154,429</u>	<u>45,024</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>2,199,453</u>

In accordance with the Access and Participation Plan, the College has spent £41,000 (2023: £41,000) on Access Investment; £7,000 (2023: £5,000) on Financial Support Investment; £10,000 (2023: £10,000) on Support for Disabled Students; and £2,000 (2023: £2,000) on Research and Evaluation Investment.



## CLIFF COLLEGE

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 8 Allocation of support costs

	Charitable activities £	Group and Charity Other activities £	Total £
<b>2024</b>			
Governance	114,389	20,186	134,575
Finance	41,395	7,305	48,700
IT	106,017	18,709	124,726
Property costs	239,054	42,186	281,240
Depreciation	82,630	14,582	97,212
Office costs	141,777	25,020	166,797
Irrecoverable VAT	68,313	12,055	80,368
Other	204,022	36,004	240,026
	<u>997,597</u>	<u>176,047</u>	<u>1,173,644</u>
<b>2023</b>	£	£	£
Governance	49,732	8,776	58,508
Finance	53,290	9,404	62,694
IT	101,312	17,879	119,191
Property costs	130,228	22,981	153,209
Depreciation	74,162	13,087	87,249
Office costs	110,389	19,481	129,870
Irrecoverable VAT	74,228	13,100	87,328
Other	230,183	40,620	270,803
	<u>823,524</u>	<u>145,328</u>	<u>968,852</u>

Support costs have been allocated based on the relevant proportions of income.

Governance costs includes audit and accountancy fees for the year of £15,740 (2023: £14,900).

#### 9 Trustees and key management remuneration

Cliff College is controlled by The Methodist Council, whose members are the Trustees of Cliff College and appoint the Cliff College Committee to serve as the governing body of the college.

The college considers its key management personnel to be its Senior Strategy Group which comprise the Principal, the Vice Principal Academic, the Vice Principal Mission and the Chief Operating Officer. The total amount of benefits received by key management personnel is £226,469 (2023: £214,130).

Other than the Principal who is part of the Senior Strategy Group, no other members of the Cliff Committee received any remuneration during the current or previous year. During the year no expenses were reimbursed to members of the Cliff College Committee. In the prior year 6 members of the Committee were reimbursed a total of £1,244 relating to travel expenses.

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 10 Employees – Group

The average monthly number of employees and full time equivalent (FTE) during the year was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Academic	12	11	12	10
Non Academic	30	24	31	24
	<u>42</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>34</u>

	<b>Group</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Employment costs</b>		
Wages and salaries	1,093,217	1,086,388
Social security costs	99,399	100,832
Other pension costs	<u>60,114</u>	<u>66,533</u>
Total staff costs	<u>1,252,730</u>	<u>1,253,753</u>

There are no employees whose annual emoluments were £60,000 or more.

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 11 Tangible fixed assets

### Group and Charity

	Investment Properties	Land and Buildings	Computer Equipment	Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost or valuation</b>						
At 1 September 2023	3,705,000	6,516,000	450,025	495,096	33,695	11,199,816
Additions	-	-	5,881	10,872	-	16,753
Transfer	260,000	(260,000)	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(130,000)	-	-	-	-	(130,000)
<b>At 31 August 2024</b>	<b>3,835,000</b>	<b>6,256,000</b>	<b>455,906</b>	<b>505,968</b>	<b>33,695</b>	<b>11,086,569</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2023	-	92,380	376,396	466,446	17,183	952,405
Charge for the year	-	46,190	33,781	12,102	5,139	97,212
<b>At 31 August 2024</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>138,570</b>	<b>410,177</b>	<b>478,548</b>	<b>22,322</b>	<b>1,049,617</b>
<b>Net book value</b>						
<b>At 31 August 2024</b>	<b>3,835,000</b>	<b>6,117,430</b>	<b>45,729</b>	<b>27,420</b>	<b>11,373</b>	<b>10,036,952</b>
<b>At 31 August 2023</b>	<b>3,705,000</b>	<b>6,423,620</b>	<b>73,629</b>	<b>28,650</b>	<b>16,512</b>	<b>10,247,411</b>

Investment Properties included at valuation had a historical cost of £1,279,656 (2023: £1,279,656) with accumulated depreciation of £65,493 (2023: £65,493). Land and buildings included at valuation had a historical cost of £6,872,187 (2023: £7,002,187) with accumulated depreciation of £1,358,818 (2023: £1,358,818).

Freehold land and buildings were subject to independent professional valuation at 31 August 2022.

The Investment Properties were subject to independent professional valuations at 31 August 2023. A number of the investment properties have also been subject to independent professional valuations at 31 August 2024.

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 12 Fixed asset investments

	Group and Charity		
	CFB Managed mixed fund £	CFB Managed fixed interest £	Total £
Market value at 1 September 2023	14,830	27	14,857
Change in value in the year	1,105	1	1,106
Market value at 31 August 2024	15,935	28	15,963

The custodian trustees are the Trustees for the Methodist Connexional Funds (Registered) and the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. The market value of the investments has been provided by the Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP).

	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
13 Debtors				
Trade debtors	62,503	177,501	31,821	92,313
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	39,829	73,041
Other debtors	11,179	23,622	11,179	23,622
Prepayments and accrued income	52,629	71,831	52,629	71,831
	126,311	272,954	135,458	260,807

	Group		Charity	
	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
Trade creditors	217,649	261,926	206,645	248,137
Tax and social security costs	50,746	44,089	20,031	22,667
Other creditors	18,161	18,178	18,161	18,178
Bank loan	28,000	28,000	28,000	28,000
Accruals and deferred income	131,845	44,085	129,268	37,615
	446,401	396,278	402,105	354,597

	2024 £	2023 £	2024 £	2023 £
15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year				
Bank Loan	84,000	112,000	84,000	112,000

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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#### 16 Pension costs

The College is a participating employer of the Pension and Assurance Scheme for Lay Employees of the Methodist Church ("the Scheme"), a defined benefit scheme.

A valuation of the Scheme for the purposes of these disclosures was carried out at 31 August 2024 by an independent actuary. The major assumptions used by the actuary, together with those used in the previous year, were:-

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Discount rate	5.0	5.2
RPI inflation rate	3.3	3.4
CPI inflation rate	2.7	2.8
Rate of increase in pensionable earnings	2.7	2.8
Rate of increase in pension payments	2.2/3.2/5.0	2.2/3.3/5.0

The major categories of the Scheme's assets (excluding money purchase AVCs) as a percentage of the total Scheme assets, were as follows:

	<b>31 August 2024</b>	<b>31 August 2023</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Equities	-	-
Corporate bonds	-	46
Property	-	-
Cash	0.4	19
Liability driven investment	-	31
Annuities	99.6	4

The following amounts at 31 August 2024 were measured in accordance with the requirements of FRS 102.

	<b>£ million</b>
Total market value of assets	54.2
Present value of scheme liabilities	55.1
	<u>0.9</u>
Net overfunding in Scheme	
Unrecognised assets	<u>(0.0)</u>
Net Defined Benefit Asset	<u>(0.9)</u>

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)**  
**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**16 Pension costs (continued)**

The Scheme operated by the Methodist Church is a defined benefit scheme. However, the College is not the only participating employer in the Scheme and it is unable to determine its share of the underlying assets and liabilities on a consistent and reasonable basis. This is because contributions paid into the Scheme are not invested separately to those paid by other employers participating in the Scheme. As such no separate fund is identifiable in respect of the College. In order to determine a current fund for each participating employer it would be necessary to separately account for contributions, benefit payments and investment returns for each participating employer.

Under the terms of the Scheme, the assets and liabilities are pooled amongst the participating employers. If a participating employer were to cease to participate then that employer would be required to pay a debt to fully fund their share of the Scheme's liabilities. The College would not be liable for another employer's debt but has an option to assume responsibility under an apportionment arrangement.

The Scheme closed to new entrants and the future accrual of pensionable service with effect from 31 May 2019 and therefore regular employer contributions ceased on that date.

A full actuarial valuation of the Scheme was carried out at 1 September 2023 by the Scheme Actuary. The valuation disclosed a past service deficit of £676,000. The shortfall revealed at 1 September 2023 was eliminated by contributions to be paid from the Pension Reserve Fund of the Methodist Church to the Scheme as follows:

- £700,000 (the shortfall plus interest) was transferred on 22 April 2024; and
- A further £50,000 was transferred on 22 April 2024 in support of the Scheme's secondary funding objective to purchase annuities with an insurance company.

The next full actuarial valuation is due to be carried out as at 1 September 2026.

The College contributed to a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of its employees. The employer contributions paid to the Scheme during the year totalled £60,114 (2023: £66,533).

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 17 Permanent Endowment funds

### Group and Charity

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Investment gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
General	8,598	-	-	-	771	9,369
Student prizes	6,259	-	-	-	335	6,594
	<u>14,857</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,106</u>	<u>15,963</u>

  

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Investment gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
General	8,979	-	-	-	(381)	8,598
Student prizes	6,873	-	-	-	(614)	6,259
	<u>15,852</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(995)</u>	<u>14,857</u>

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 18 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpected balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes.

	<b>As restated</b>				
	<b>Balance at</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance</b>
	<b>1 September</b>				<b>31 August</b>
	<b>2023</b>				<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Global Partnership	119,392	100,000	(21,566)	(74,599)	123,227
Bursary Fund	15,730	-	(14,174)	-	1,556
Welfare Fund	27,845	-	-	-	27,845
Other	21,798	-	-	-	21,798
	<u>184,765</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>(35,740)</u>	<u>(74,599)</u>	<u>174,426</u>

	<b>Balance at</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at</b>
	<b>1 September</b>				<b>31 August</b>
	<b>2022</b>				<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Global Partnership	81,861	100,000	(34,964)	(27,505)	119,392
Bursary Fund	25,790	-	(10,060)	-	15,730
Welfare Fund	27,845	-	-	-	27,845
Other	21,798	-	-	-	21,798
	<u>157,294</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>(45,024)</u>	<u>(27,505)</u>	<u>184,765</u>

### Restricted funds

**Global Partnership** receives funding from the Methodist Church to arrange mission trips to developing countries.

The **Bursary Fund** exists to provide support to students who need help paying for their course fees.

The **Welfare Fund** exists to provide support to students who are in general financial difficulties. Disbursements are made according to need.

Sufficient resources are held in an appropriate form to enable each fund to be applied in accordance with any restrictions placed upon it.



# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 19 Analysis of net assets between funds

#### 2024

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2024 £
<b>Charity</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	10,036,952	-	-	10,036,952
Investments	-	-	15,963	15,963
Net current liabilities	(338,379)	174,426	-	(163,953)
Creditor greater than one year	(84,000)	-	-	(84,000)
	<u>9,614,573</u>	<u>174,426</u>	<u>15,963</u>	<u>9,804,962</u>
<b>Cliff College Outreach</b>				
Net current assets	9,156	-	-	9,156
<b>Group</b>	<u>9,623,729</u>	<u>174,426</u>	<u>15,963</u>	<u>9,814,118</u>

#### 2023

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £
<b>Charity</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	10,247,411	-	-	10,247,411
Investments	-	-	14,857	14,857
Net current assets	(42,155)	184,765	-	142,610
Creditor greater than one year	(112,000)	-	-	(112,000)
	<u>10,093,256</u>	<u>184,765</u>	<u>14,857</u>	<u>10,292,878</u>
<b>Cliff College Outreach</b>				
Net current assets	(13,966)	-	-	(13,966)
<b>Group</b>	<u>10,079,290</u>	<u>184,765</u>	<u>14,857</u>	<u>10,278,912</u>

# CLIFF COLLEGE

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Group	
	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>20 Reconciliation of net (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Net (expenditure) for the year	(464,794)	(906,373)
Interest receivable	(10,372)	(14,253)
Interest payable	9,372	5,924
Losses on investments	(1,106)	995
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(88,188)	-
Depreciation on tangible fixed assets	97,212	87,248
Decrease in debtors	146,643	59,537
Increase in creditors	50,123	161,263
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	<b>(261,110)</b>	<b>(605,659)</b>

## 21 Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the charity has had outstanding commitments for future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases, which fall due as follows.

	Group	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Within one year	3,853	3,853
Within two to five years	3,532	7,385
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,385</b>	<b>11,238</b>

	Group	
	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>22 Grant and Fee Income</b>		
Grant Income from the OfS	14,423	16,346
Grant income from other bodies	-	10,000
Fee income for taught awards	284,767	322,117
Fee income for research awards	44,498	43,800
Fee income from non-qualifying courses	47,589	60,184
	<b>391,277</b>	<b>452,447</b>

## CLIFF COLLEGE

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

23 Head of Provider Remuneration	Group	
	2024 £	2023 £
Principal		
Stipend cost	36,700	34,613
Pension	7,678	7,243
Other non-taxable benefits (provision of Manse)	20,000	20,000

This remuneration package is in line with others in the theological college sector, and is in line with value and performance delivered. Performance is reviewed by the Board of Governors. As the Principal is an ordained minister in the Methodist Church in Britain, the remuneration is set by the stipend level of the Methodist Church in Britain.

The head of provider's basic salary and remuneration are 1.8 times the median pay and remuneration of staff respectively, where the median pay is calculated on a full-time equivalent basis for the salaries paid by the provider to its staff.

#### 24 Related parties

Cliff College has a subsidiary company, Cliff College Outreach. Cliff College Outreach is a company limited by guarantee whose members are made up of the Cliff College Committee.

Cliff College Outreach was set up in 1988 in order to serve the College in the building of the Broadbelt and Eagles buildings and to act as the vehicle carrying out the trading activities of the charity as provider of conference accommodation to third parties during times when the buildings were not being used by the College for housing students.

The activities of Cliff College Outreach are in line with the policies and strategies of Cliff College, and indeed occupy the same premises and complement the overall charitable activities and financial strength of the charity. Details of the subsidiary company's assets at 31 August 2024 and results for the year then ended are as follows:

	Cliff College Outreach £
Turnover	447,357
Cost of sales	(162,259)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>285,098</b>
Administrative expenses	(261,976)
<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>23,122</b>
Debtors	30,682
Cash at bank and in hand	62,599
	<b>93,281</b>
Creditors	(84,125)
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>9,156</b>