Xaverian College

Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended: 31 July 2024

Key Management Personnel, Board of Governors and Professional advisers

Key management personnel

Key management personnel are defined as members of the College Leadership Team and were represented by the following in 2023/24:

Mr Anthony Knowles, Principal
Mr Ivan Lewis, Finance Director
Mr Simon Channell, Vice-Principal Student Support
Mr Antonio De Paola, Vice-Principal Curriculum

Board of Governors

A full list of Governors is given on page 14-15 of these financial statements.

Mrs K Stanhope acted as Clerk to the Governing Body throughout the period.

Principal and Registered Office:

Lower Park Road, Manchester, M14 5RB

Professional advisers

Financial statements auditor and reporting accountant:

Murray Smith LLP
Darland House,
44 Winnington Hill
Northwich
CW8 1AU

Internal auditor:

WBG
168, Bath Street,
Glasgow
G2 4TP

Bankers:

Royal Bank of Scotland
38, Mosley Street,
Manchester
M2 3AZ

Solicitors:

Eversheds
70, Great Bridgewater Street,
Manchester
M1 5ES

CONTENTS

Report of the Governing Body

NATURE, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES:

The members present their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2024.

LEGAL STATUS

Xaverian College is a Roman Catholic College founded in 1862 by the Congregation of St Francis Xavier who were the Trustees until December 2001. From December 2001 the Trustees are the Roman Catholic Diocese of Salford.

Xaverian College was designated into the Further Education Sector under the terms of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 on the 1st April 1993 and became a further education corporation under the terms of the Education (Designated Sixth Form Colleges) (Incorporation) (England) Order 2001.

From November 2022, and following a review by the Office for National Statistics, the College returned to the Public Sector Classification and must abide by the Managing Public Money guidance.

The College is an exempt charity for the purposes of Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011.

MISSION

The Governors review the College's Mission each year and have agreed that the statement is still relevant in today's world and that it is appropriate for it to continue as the College's Mission.

In delivering its mission, the College provides the following identifiable public benefits through the advancement of education:

- To provide the opportunity for young people to experience the values and way of life of a Catholic community.
- To enable young people to realise their full potential.
- To nurture the spiritual, moral and personal development of young people.
- To positively contribute to local and national developments.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

Xaverian College is an exempt charity under Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and from 1st September 2013 is regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. The members of the Governing Body are disclosed on pages 14-15.

In setting and reviewing the College's strategic objectives, the Governing Body has had due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and particularly upon its supplementary guidance on the advancement of education. The guidance sets out the requirement that all organisations wishing to be recognised as charities must demonstrate, explicitly, that their aims are for the public benefit.

The details pertaining to the delivery of public benefit are covered throughout the Members Report.

Implementation of Strategic Plan

Each year the College reviews its 3-year strategic plan. This strategic plan includes property and financial plans and ensures that the student is at the centre of our plans. The Governing Body monitors the performance of the College against these plans. The College's continuing strategic objectives and targets are:

- **To nurture and celebrate the distinctive Catholic nature of the college**
  - Support and nurture the liturgical and prayer life of the College and encourage all members of the community to participate in these activities
  - Provide opportunities that encourage all members of the community to contribute to the College's mission and ethos
  - Provide a high level of resource to support the RE team and chaplaincy.
- **To provide a range of programmes responsive to the needs and interest of the individual and Manchester**
  - Provide an attractive, inclusive, and appropriate curriculum.
  - Ensure coherent curriculum planning.
  - Ensure learners develop personal, social and employability skills.
- **To deliver outstanding provision**
  - Provide the highest standards of teaching, learning and assessment
  - Ensure quality improvement, standards and processes deliver outstanding teaching learning and assessment
  - Ensure all learners achieve and make progress relative to their starting points and learning goals.
- **To support young people to overcome the challenges they face on both a personal and academic level**
  - Provide outstanding guidance that meets the individual needs of students.
  - Support and develop students as independent learners.
  - Ensure that support for students enables them to fulfil their potential.
- **To provide outstanding leadership**
  - Ensure the college is in a strong strategic position.
  - Ensure the college workforce is suitably qualified and well trained
  - Provide high quality accommodation and resources
  - Provide excellent financial management and value for money

The College is on target to achieve these objectives.

FINANCIAL OBJECTIVES

The College's financial objectives were to:

- provide management accounts within 10 working days of each period end;
- maintain the Financial Health Grade as at least 'Good';
- maintain at least 90 cash days;
- maintain a current ratio of at least 3:1;
- pay suppliers within 30 days of receipt of a valid invoice;
- continue to make all funding body financial returns on time;
- continue to make all funding body non-financial returns on time; and
- continue to ensure all financial statement audit reports are unqualified.

All of the above objectives were achieved in 2023/24 and the objectives have been adopted, once more, for 2024/25 onwards.

A series of performance indicators have been agreed to monitor the successful implementation of the policies.

The Colleges' 2-year financial forecast for 2024 to 2026, prepared in June 2024 under the new SORP and in the form of the Integrated Financial Model, shows the college's financial health as being 'Outstanding' for each of 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26. This assessment is the same under the proposed, new financial health calculations.

Performance indicators

The College is committed to observing the importance of sector measures and indicators, using benchmarks provided by the Sixth Form Colleges Association, the Joint Council for Qualifications and the UCAS status report.

Key performance indicators include:-

- Pass Rates
- Retention
- Achievement
- High Grades
- Value Added
- Destinations

The College is required to complete the annual Integrated Financial Model for the Education and Skills Funding Agency ("ESFA"). The finance model produces a financial health grading. The current rating of Outstanding is considered an acceptable outcome.

Reserves policy

As part of the financial scrutiny provided by the Governing Body, the reserves are reviewed in conjunction with treasury policy. The review ensures that the level of reserves are aligned to the strategy of the College. The reserves will be utilised in line with the College strategy to ensure the best learning environment is created and maintained for the students.

FINANCIAL POSITION

Financial results

The College delivered an operating surplus in the year of £1,675,622 (2022/23 surplus £1,110,027). Excluding the effects of the Local Government Pension Scheme & Enhanced Pension Provision costs, the College delivered an underlying surplus of £1,519,337 in year (2022/23 surplus £1,193,587).

The College has accumulated reserves of £21,302,921 at 31 July 2024 (2022/23 £21,838,698) and cash balances of £6,852,593 (2022/23 £6,215,877) at 31 July 2024.

In 2023/24 the College continued to explore further capital works relating to increasing capacity of the teaching area to meet the need of the growing demand for places. In May 2023 the College was informed that a £4m capital grant had been secured to assist in the costs of a new Science block on the site of the Sunbury building. This building work commenced in March 2024 with an expected completion date of March 2025.

The College has also had to invest in additional, temporary accommodation to cope with the increasing demand from students for science subjects whilst also reviewing the capacity in the longer term of further estates redevelopment.

The College has significant reliance on the education sector funding bodies for its principal funding source, largely from recurrent grants. In 2023/24 the funding bodies provided 93.6% (2022/23 93.2%) of the College's total income, excluding the release of Capital Grants.

Tangible fixed asset additions during the year amounted to £1,622,342 of which £1,085,714 related to the works on the new Science Block and Maryland roof replacement at the College.

Academic mentors continued to be used throughout 2023/24 but they have been removed from post for 2024/25 as the funding for these positions terminated in 2023/24.

TREASURY POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

Treasury management is the management of the College's cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.

The College has a separate treasury management policy in place.

Under the guidance of Managing Public Money the College is now unable to take new commercial loans but this is not seen as a priority or need in the foreseeable future.

CASH FLOWS AND LIQUIDITY

There was a net cash inflow of £636,716 in 2023/24 (2022/23 inflow of £1,711,952).

The size of the College's total borrowing and its approach to interest rates has been calculated to ensure a reasonable cushion between the total cost of servicing debt and operating cashflow.

The level of cash reserves held by the College is reviewed on a monthly basis with the target of maintaining cash days at or above the sector average. This has been comfortably achieved in 2023/24. The cash reserves have increased slightly year on year driven by the capital grants awarded. These grants will be utilised in 2023/24.

CURRENT AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Student numbers

In 2023/24 the College enrolled 3,026 students (2022/23 2,886) and also provided teaching for 208 (2022/23 174) University of Manchester students studying their foundation year in BioSciences, Pre Dentistry, Pre Medicine or Pharmacy. In 2023/24 the student population was such that the College delivered core programme activity to a value of £16.131m under the new funding methodology. The University students funding being £790k in 2023/24 (2022/23 £676k).

Student achievements

At A Level, the College achieved a 98% pass rate, which is higher than 2023 (97.5%) and higher than this year's national pass rate of 97.1%. The percentage of students achieving high grades (A*- B) this year is 51.1% compared with 50.4% in 2023. Level 3 BTEC was equally successful with an overall pass rate of 100% and high-grade achievement (Distinction*/Distinction) at 85.8%.

At GCSE, the overall pass rate is 65%, slightly lower than the College pass rate of 68.2% in 2023 but significantly higher than this year's national pass rate for post-16 re-sits of 29.6%. The Level 2 BTEC pass rate is 100% which is the same as in 2023.

Students on the Level 1 Foundation Programme study for a BTEC Introductory Diploma comprising units in Business and Health & Social Care. In addition, they follow complimentary courses in Literacy and Numeracy. For these young people, many of whom have not progressed well at school, this study programme is a great boost to their confidence, skill development and employability prospects. The Foundation Department teachers and support staff have yet again produced results with a 100% pass rate.

The overall retention on the University Foundation Programmes, 2023-24 was 97.4%.

89% (74 out of the 83 students completing the course) achieved the standard required for progression to the first year of a Biosciences degree at the University of Manchester.

97% (86 out of 89 students) achieved the standard required for progression to the first year of Medicine or Dentistry at the University of Manchester.

74% (29 out of 39 students completing the exams) achieved the standard required for progression to the first year of Pharmacy at the University of Manchester.

Estate developments

In 2023, the need for further growth was requested by the Local Authority and, therefore, work has begun on a new Science Block which should open in May 2025. Work has also begun on the replacement of the Maryland roof.
As part of the sustainability drive, the College is investing in solar power for 3 of its buildings with completion due by August 2024.

Curriculum developments

The College received Outstanding (grade 1) in all published categories of the last Ofsted inspection (May 2023) in recognition of its outstanding support of students to achieve in a wide range of curriculum from level 1 to level 4.

A particular strength is in making students ready for the next stage in their lives. Students at the College are supported, not only in their academic studies but also, through the pastoral system which provides advice, help and support.

The mission and ethos of the College is to try and support the whole person and help each student become the best version of themselves that they can be.

Many of our students have low levels of prior educational achievement. The College has constantly developed provision to meet the needs of students and support them on to Higher Education, Apprenticeships or Employment.

The College has introduced a number of new initiatives, such as the High Achievers Programme (for Gifted and Talented students) and the Dentists, Medics and Vets Programme. Such initiatives help the students to achieve and successfully support student progress to Higher Education. The additional funding via the Tuition Fund is helping the more disadvantaged students reach their full potential. This funding is withdrawn for 2024/25 so this provision has now been removed.

The College has a very successful partnership with the University of Manchester providing Foundation Year programmes in BioSciences, Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy. The College is also heavily involved with Manchester Catholic Education Partnership (MANCEP) and is leading on an innovative Catholic Leadership & Management Programme involving staff from five outstanding North West sixth form colleges.

Payment performance

The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998, which came into force on 1 November 1998, requires Colleges, in the absence of agreement to the contrary, to make payments to suppliers within 30 days of either the provision of goods or services or the date on which the invoice was received. The target set by the Treasury for payment to suppliers within 30 days is 95 per cent. During the accounting period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 the College paid 95.8% of its invoices (by value) within 30 days (2022/23 96.3%). The College incurred no interest charges in respect of late payment for this period.

EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

There are no adjusting or non-adjusting events occurring after the end of the reporting period.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

The ESFA have confirmed core programme funding to the College for 2024/25 of £16,131,234 for 3,026 students.

The local authority have asked that the College prepare for increased numbers in the medium term. With this in mind the College added capacity with the Teresa Quinn building in January 2021, added additional canteen and social space, erected temporary classrooms on site in preparation for the September 2022 intake with further such accommodation planned for September 2023 whilst the new Science Building is erected.

Over 6,000 applications were received for 2024/25 and the recruitment at the College through September 2024 shows a student body numbering over 3,000.

The demand for places within the Sixth Form sector in Manchester remains strong. The College is well placed to meet this increase by the continuation of its successful A level and Applied level 3 programmes and continued development and adaptation of its level 1 and 2 programmes to meet the demand of the students recruited. The College is also exploring the possibility of providing some of the new T Levels in the future.

The investment in the estate and infrastructure will provide both additional capacity, to ensure that growth in student numbers could be accommodated, and an improved estate, to ensure the best teaching and learning outcomes in both the short and medium term.

During the production of the financial model for submission to the ESFA, the College extended the financial forecasts to develop a five-year financial plan. This document provided assurance that the "going concern" assumption is valid and that the College can meet its liabilities. A range of financial strategies are in place should the assumptions in the document, for example, surrounding the student population, not come to fruition.

The College Governors approved a financial plan in July 2024, which sets out the objectives through to 2026 and this included the provision of significant capital works.

RESOURCES:

The College has various resources that it can deploy in pursuit of its strategic objectives.

Financial

The College has £21.303 million of net assets (including £0.67 million pension liability) and long term bank debt of £994k. In 2022/23 the College had net assets of £21.839 million (£1.39m of which was pension asset) and long term bank debt of £1,124k.

The Local Government Pension Scheme asset included on the balance sheet in prior years has been reduced to nil to reflect the results of an asset ceiling report prepared by the actuaries.

People

The College employs 249 people on average (expressed as the headcount), of whom 143 are teaching staff. This is a slight increase on the previous year (238 expressed as a headcount). The College will continue with a non-replacement of leavers policy to maintain control of payroll expenditure, however, the continued growth in student numbers has required additional staffing.

Reputation

The College has a good reputation locally and nationally. Maintaining a quality brand is essential for the College's success at attracting students and external relationships.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES:

The College has undertaken further work during the year to develop and embed the system of internal control, including financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the College's assets and reputation.

Based on the strategic plan, the Risk Management Group undertakes a comprehensive review of the risks to which the College is exposed. They identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential impact on the College. The internal controls are then implemented and the subsequent year's appraisal will review their effectiveness and progress against risk mitigation actions. In addition to the annual review, the Risk Management Group will also consider any risks which may arise as a result of a new area of work being undertaken by the College.

A risk register is maintained at the College level which is reviewed at least annually by the Audit Committee and more frequently where necessary. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the College and the actions being taken to reduce and mitigate the risks. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system.

The College had a risk management review with internal audit in 2023/24. A Governance review by internal auditors was carried out in 2022/23 and an external Governance review was carried out in 2023/24.

Outlined overleaf is a description of the principal risk factors that may affect the College. Not all the factors are within the College's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the College.

Government funding

The College has considerable reliance on continued government funding through the further education sector funding bodies. In 2023/24, 93.6% of the College's revenue was ultimately public funded and this level of requirement is expected to continue. There can be no assurance that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.

The College is aware that the demand-led funding system which applies a series of factors such as guided learning hours and success rates to calculate an amount of funding to be received for each learner cannot be guaranteed.

This risk is mitigated in a number of ways:

- Funding is derived through a number of direct contractual arrangements;
- Acquiring alternative sources of funding;
- By ensuring the College is rigorous in delivering high quality education and training;
- Considerable focus and investment is placed on maintaining and managing key relationships with the various funding bodies;
- Ensuring the College is focused on those priority sectors which will continue to benefit from public funding;
- Investing in the infrastructure so that the College can continue to provide high quality teaching and learning;
- Increasing the student cohort in a managed way with a targeted increase of 75 students per annum over the medium term;
- Monitoring payroll expenditure closely and seeking efficiencies;
- Ensuring Value for Money in procurement and work under Managing Public Money; and

- Regular and positive dialogue with the funding bodies.

Tuition fee policy

In line with the majority of other colleges, Xaverian College will, if necessary, review tuition fees in accordance with the rising fee assumptions. However, as the College is primarily for 16 to 18-year old full time students, this will have little impact on the growth strategy of the College.

Maintain adequate funding of pension liabilities

In line with other colleges, Xaverian College may be required to make adjustment to its pension contribution rate in order to ensure the pension liabilities are adequately serviced.

STAKEHOLDER RELATIONSHIPS

In line with other colleges and with universities, Xaverian College has many stakeholders. These include:

- Students
- Staff and Governors
- Parents and Guardians
- Education and Skills Funding Agency
- Sixth Form Colleges Association
- Association of Colleges
- University of Manchester
- Manchester City Council
- Manchester Catholic Education Partnership (MANCEP) and the Diocese of Salford.

The College recognises the importance of these relationships and engages in regular communication with them through the College Intranet site and through attendance at meetings.

Equal opportunities

Xaverian College is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all who learn and work here. We respect and value positively differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, class and age. We strive vigorously to remove conditions which place people at a disadvantage and we will actively combat bigotry. This policy will be resourced, implemented and monitored on a planned basis.

The College's Equal Opportunities Policy, including its Race Relations and Transgender Policy is available from the College Office.

The College considers all applications from disabled persons, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the individuals concerned. Where an existing employee becomes disabled every effort is made to ensure that employment with the College continues. The College's policy is to provide training, career development and opportunities for promotion, which are, as far as possible, identical to those for other employees. An equalities plan is published each year and monitored by managers and governors.

Disability statement

The College seeks to achieve the objectives set down in the Equality Act 2010.

- As part of its accommodation strategy the College updated its access audit. The college ensures the estate is compliant whilst being cognisant of the listed nature of some of the buildings. Recent estate works have included innovative solutions to allow for access to those buildings where appropriate;
- The admissions policy for all students is described in the College charter. Appeals against a decision not to offer a place are dealt with under the complaints policy;

- The College has made a significant investment in the appointment of specialist staff to support students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There are a number of specialist support staff who can provide a variety of support for learning. There is a continuing programme of staff development to ensure the provision of a high level of appropriate support for students who have learning difficulties and/or disabilities;
- The College has in place a Disability Equality Scheme and Action Plan aimed at actively promoting disability equality; and
- Counselling and welfare services are described in the College Student Handbook which is issued to students and includes the complaints and disciplinary procedure. The College now employs two, full-time counsellors.

Trade union facility time

The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017 require the College to publish information on facility time arrangements for trade union officials at the College:

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the period	FTE employee number
2	2.0

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	None
1-50%	2
51-99%	None
100%	None

Total cost of facility time	£3,575
Total pay bill	£11,918,494
Percentage of total bill spent on facility time	0.03%
Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time	Nil

Disclosure of information to auditors

The members who held office at the date of approval of this report confirm that, so far as they are each aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the College's auditors are unaware; and each member has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the College's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 10th December, 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Teresa Dervin 10/12/24

Mrs T. Dervin

Chair

Statement of Corporate Governance and Internal Control

The following statement is provided to enable readers of the annual report and accounts of the College to obtain a better understanding of its governance and legal structure. This statement covers the period from 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

The College endeavours to conduct its business having due regard to the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018 ("the Code") insofar as it is applicable to the further education sector.

The College is committed to exhibiting best practice in all aspects of corporate governance. This summary describes the manner in which the College has applied the principles set out in the Code. Its purpose is to help the reader of the accounts understand how the principles have been applied.

In considering those areas of the Code that are applicable to the FE sector, the Governing Body consider that the College follows best practice as contained in the Code. The Governing body recognises that, as a body entrusted with both public and private funds, it has a particular duty to observe the highest standards of corporate governance at all times.

The College is an exempt charity within the meaning of Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011. The Governors, who are also the Trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011, confirm that they have had due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and that the required statements appear elsewhere in these financial statements.

The Governing Body

The members who served on the Governing Body during the year and up to the date of signature of this report were as listed in the table below.

Name	Governor Status	First Appointed	Re-Appointed	Resignation	Governing Body Attendance	Committees Servces (attendance)
Teresa Dervin (Chair)	Foundation	14/05/2007	31/03/2021	N/A	100%	Finance, Personnel & Resources (100%) Remuneration (100%) Search (100%)
Cath Baggaley	Foundation	02/07/2023	N/A	N/A	33%	N/A
Francess Davies-Tagoe	Parent	09/05/2023	N/A	N/A	67%	Quality & Standards (0%)
John Egerton	Co-opted	05/07/2011	10/10/2023	N/A	100%	Audit (100%)
Cathy Fitzwilliam-Pipe	Foundation	25/03/2015	02/11/2023	N/A	83%	Audit (33%)
Andrew Gornall	Staff	15/03/2005	20/7/2023	04/12/2024	100%	Quality & Standards (100%)
Stephen Hall	Foundation	12/10/2021	02/09/2022	N/A	83%	Audit (100%)
David Harrison	Foundation	25/05/2023	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A
Julie Hicklin	Associate	11/10/2016	13/10/2020	N/A	100%	Audit (67%) Quality & Standards (75%)
Louis Kidger	Student	14/02/2023	N/A	02/07/2024	80%	N/A
Anthony Knowles	Principal	01/09/2016	N/A	N/A	100%	Finance, Personnel & Resources (100%) Quality & Standards (100%) Search (100%)
Monsignor Michael Kujacz	Foundation	01/04/2013	01/04/2021	N/A	100%	Audit (67%)
Jo Leach	Staff	05/12/2024	N/A	N/A	60%	Quality & Standards (33%)
Sheldon Logue	Foundation	25/05/2023	N/A	N/A	67%	N/A
Katie McKnight	Associate	09/02/2021	05/7/2022	N/A	33%	N/A

Sean O'Hanrahan	Foundation	05/12/2017	05/12/2021	N/A	100%	Finance, Personnel & Resources (100%)
Stella Parkin	Foundation	18/05/2018	02/09/2022	N/A	83%	Quality & Standards (50%)
Ben Quiligotti	Foundation	02/10/2023	N/A	N/A	67%	N/A
Paul Quinn	Associate	04/07/2017	06/07/2021	21/05/2024	50%	Finance, Personnel & Resources (100%)
Kate Rafferty	Foundation	27/04/2018	26/05/2022	N/A	50%	Search (100%) Remuneration (100%)
David Sharp	Associate	10/10/2023	N/A	N/A	67%	N/A
Chris Thomas	Associate	09/05/2023	N/A	N/A	100%	Finance, Personnel & Resources (100%)
Ameerah Ullah	Student	05/12/2023	N/A	N/A	75%	N/A
George Walker	Associate	01/02/2000	04/05/2021	05/12/2023	0%	Audit (0%) Quality & Standards (0%)
Louise Walmsley	Co-opted	02/07/2013	10/10/2023	N/A	67%	Quality & Standards (100%) Remuneration (100%)

It is the Governing Body's responsibility to bring independent judgement to bear on issues of strategy, performance, resources and standards of conduct.

The Governing Body is provided with regular and timely information on the overall financial performance of the College together with other information such as performance against funding targets, proposed capital expenditure, quality matters and personnel-related matters such as health and safety and environmental issues. The Governing Body met six times in 2023/24

The Governing Body conducts its business through a number of committees. Each committee has terms of reference, which have been approved by the Governing Body. These committees are Finance, Personnel and Resources, Audit, Remuneration, Quality and Standards and Search. An Appeals Committee and Special Committee also meet when required. Full minutes of all Governing Body meetings, except those deemed to be confidential are available on the College's website (www.xaverian.ac.uk) or from the Clerk to the Governing Body at:

Xaverian College
Lower Park Road
Manchester
M14 5RB

The Clerk to the Governors maintains a register of financial and personal interests of the Governors. The register is available for inspection on request to the Clerk to Governors at the above address.

All Governors and the Clerk to Governors are able to take independent professional advice in furtherance of their duties at the College's expense. All Governors have access to the Clerk to the Governors, who is responsible to the Governing Body for ensuring that all applicable procedures and regulations are complied with. The appointment, evaluation and removal of the Clerk are matters for the Governing Body as a whole.

Formal agendas, papers and reports are supplied to Governors in a timely manner, prior to the Governing Body meetings. Briefings are also provided as required.

The Governing Body has a strong and independent non-executive element and no individual or group dominates its decision making process. The Governing Body considers that each of its non-executive members is independent of management and free from any business or other relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of their independent judgement.

There is a clear division of responsibility in that the roles of the Chair and Principal are separate.

Appointments to the Governing Body

Any new appointments to the Governing Body are a matter for the consideration of the Governing Body as a whole. The Governing Body has a "Search" committee, consisting of four Governors, which is responsible for the recommendation of any new member for the Governing Body's consideration. The Governing Body is responsible for ensuring that appropriate training is provided as required. Appointment of Foundation Governors is subject to approval by the Trustees.

Members of the Governing Body are appointed for a term of office not exceeding four years.

Governing Body performance

The Governing Body prepares a detailed Self-Assessment Report (SAR) which critically considers the effectiveness of key areas of Governance and highlights strengths and areas for development. The SAR is reviewed annually by the Committee Chairs and is presented to the Quality & Standards Committee in January and to the full Governing Body in February.

The Governing Body commissioned an External Review of Governance in 2024, which concluded with a final report in April 2024. The review was undertaken by Sandra Prail on behalf of the Association of Colleges. The overall conclusion on Board effectiveness was that "there is strong evidence that the Board is highly proficient and consistently impacts positively on college strategy, effectiveness and outcomes." Three recommendations were made for further improvement and the governors have agreed how these will be taken forward. A full copy of the external review is available on the college website.

The governors and clerk undertake a range of training and development, with presentations throughout the year and a Strategic Development Day with Senior Managers in the summer. Presentations this year included The Student and Teacher Toolkits, Preparing Students for Life in Modern Britain, Marketing Initiatives, Staff Structure and the Accommodation Strategy. Governors also have access to the Educare Programme of online learning which includes modules on Safeguarding, Equality & Diversity, Health & Safety and Prevent, and a series of webinars provided online by the Sixth Form Colleges Association.

Remuneration Committee

Throughout the year ended 31 July 2024, the College's Remuneration Committee comprised three Governors. The Committee's responsibilities are to make recommendations to the Governing Body on the remuneration and benefits of the Principal, Director of Business and Finance, Vice Principal Student Support, Vice Principal Curriculum and the Clerk to the Governors, in accordance with the Governors' Policy on Remuneration. In setting the remuneration of Senior Postholders, the Remuneration Committee considers performance over the year, the Sixth Form Colleges Association averages for these roles and responsibilities and any financial restraints within the sector.

Details of remuneration for the year ended 31 July 2024 are set out in note 7 to the financial statements.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee comprises five members of the Governing Body (excluding the Chair and Principal). The committee operates in accordance with written terms of reference approved by the Governing Body.

The Audit Committee meets on a termly basis and provides a forum for reporting by the College's internal, regularity and financial statements auditors, who have access to the Committee for independent discussion, without the presence of College management.

The College's internal auditors review the systems of internal control, risk management controls and governance processes in accordance with an agreed plan of input and report their findings to management and the Audit Committee.

Management is responsible for the implementation of agreed audit recommendations and internal audit undertake periodic follow up reviews to ensure such recommendations have been implemented.

The Audit Committee also advises the Governing Body on the appointment of internal, regularity, financial statements auditors and their remuneration for both audit and non-audit work as well as reporting to the Governing Body.

The audit committee met 3 times in 2023/24. Attendance was as follows:

Name	Attendance %
Stephen Hall (Chair)	100%
John Egerton	100%
Catherine Fitzwilliam-Pipe	33%
Julie Hicklin	67%
Monsignor Michael Kujacz	67%
George Walker	0% *(stepped down due to ill health)*

Internal control

Scope of responsibility

The Governing Body is ultimately responsible for the College's system of internal control and for reviewing its effectiveness. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as Accounting Officer, for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the College's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and assets for which he is personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to him in the Financial Agreement between Xaverian College and the funding bodies. He is also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of College policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Xaverian College for the year ended 31 July 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The Governing Body has reviewed the key risks to which the College is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Governing Body is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the College's significant risks that has been in place for the year ending 31 July 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

The risk and control framework

The system of internal control is based on a framework of regular management information, administrative procedures including the segregation of duties, and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting systems with an annual budget, which is reviewed and agreed by the governing body;
- regular reviews by the governing body of periodic and annual financial reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined capital investment control guidelines; and
- the adoption of formal project management disciplines, where appropriate.

Whilst internal audit is no longer a mandatory requirement, Xaverian College has made the decision to retain an internal audit service. The work of the internal audit service is informed by an analysis of the risks to which the college is exposed, and annual internal audit plans are based on this analysis. The analysis of risks and the internal audit plans are endorsed by the Governing Body on the recommendation of the audit committee. At minimum annually, Internal Auditors provide the governing body with a report on internal audit activity in the college. The report includes the Internal Auditor's independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the college's system of risk management, controls and governance processes.

Risks faced by the Corporation

The Corporation identifies, evaluates and manages risk through its governing body committee structure and the regular review and update of its risk register. The principal risks and uncertainties are set out in the strategic report.

Control weaknesses identified

No significant control weaknesses have been identified during the period.

Responsibilities under funding agreements

The Governing Body has met its contractual obligations under its funding agreements with the ESFA through its work in its sub-committees, reports from management and reliance on the work of internal and external auditors.

The Department of Education and the Education and Skills Funding Agency introduced new controls for the College on 29th November, 2022 on the day that the Office for National Statistics reclassified Colleges as Public Sector Organisations in the national accounts. The ESFA Chief Executive communicated these changes to all College Accounting Officers and introduced a new College Financial Handbook in 2024. The College has reviewd its policies, procedures and approval processes in line with these new requirements, to ensure there are systems in place to identify and handle any transactions for which DfE approval is required.

Statement from the audit committtte

The audit committee has advised the Governing Body that the Corporation has an effective framework for governanance and risk management in place. The specific areas of work undertaken by the internal auditors on behalf of the audit committee this year are Budgeting and Financial Reporting, Cyber Security, Bursary and Free School Meals, and Follow-Up.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. His review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is infomed by:

- the work of the internal auditors;
- the work of the executive managers within the College who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework; and
- comments made by the College's financial statements auditors and the regularity auditors in their management letters and other reports.

The Principal has been advised on the implications of the result of his review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the audit committee, which oversees the work of the internal auditor and other sources of assurance, and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

The senior management team receives reports setting out key performance and risk indicators and considers possible control issues brought to their attention by early warning mechanisms, which are embedded within the departments and reinforced by risk awareness training. The senior management team and the Audit Committee also receive regular reports from internal audit and other sources of assurance, which include recommendations for improvement. The Audit Committee's role in this area is confined to a high level review of the arrangements for internal control.

The Governing Body's agenda includes a regular item for consideration of risk and control and receives reports thereon from the senior management team and the Audit Committee. The emphasis is on obtaining the relevant degree of assurance and not merely reporting by exception. At its December 2024 meeting, the Governing Body carried out the annual assessment for the year ended 31 July 2024 by considering documentation from the senior management team and internal audit, and taking into account events since 31 July 2024.

Based on the advice of the Audit Committee and the Principal, the Governing Body is of the opinion that the College has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control, and has fulfilled its statutory responsibility for the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the institution and the body and the safeguarding of their assets.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governing Body considers that the College has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The College has a robust, 5-year, financial strategy and has action plans in place should any threat to its operational existence be determined. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 10th December 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Teresa Dervin

Mrs T Dervin
Chair of Governors

A. B. Knowles

Mr. Anthony Knowles
Principal

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As accounting officer, I confirm that the corporation has had due regard to the framework of authorities governing regularity, propriety and compliance, and the requirements of grant funding agreements and contracts with ESFA, and has considered its responsibility to notify ESFA of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with those authorities and terms and conditions of funding.

I confirm on behalf of the corporation that after due enquiry, and to the best of my knowledge, I am able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the corporation, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities and the terms and conditions of funding under the corporation's grant funding agreements and contracts with ESFA, or any other public funder. This includes the elements outlined in the " Dear Accounting Officer" letter of 29 November 2022 and ESFA's bite size guides.

I confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety, funding noncompliance, or non-compliance with the framework of authorities have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to ESFA.

Anthony Knowles

Accounting Officer

10th December 2024

Statement of the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the corporation, I confirm that the accounting officer has discussed their statement of regularity, propriety and compliance with the board and that I am content that it is materiallty accurate.

Mrs Teresa Dervin

Chair of Governors

10th December 2024

Statement of Responsibilities of the Members of the Governing Body

The members of the Governing Body, as charity trustees, are required to present audited financial statements for each financial year.

Within the terms and conditions of the College's grant funding agreements and contracts with ESFA, the corporation – through its accounting officer – is required to prepare financial statements and an operating and financial review for each financial year in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting for Further and Higher Education, ESFA's college accounts direction and the UK's Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the college and its surplus / deficit of income over expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the Governing Body is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- assess whether the corporation is a going concern, noting the key supporting assumptions, qualifications or mitigating actions as appropriate,
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare financial statements on the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to assume that the College will continue in operation.

The Governing Body is also required to prepare a Members' Report which describes what it is trying to do and how it is going about it, including the legal and administrative status of the College.

The Governing Body is responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the College, and which enable it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the relevant legislation including the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 and Charities Act 2011, and relevant accounting standards. It is responsible for taking steps that are reasonably open to it in order to safeguard the assets of the College and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Governing Body is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the College website; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the corporation are responsible for ensuring that expenditure and income are applied for the purposes intended and that the financial transactions conform to the authorities that govern them. In addition, they are responsible for ensuring that funds from ESFA, and any other public funds, are used only in accordance with ESFA's grant funding agreements and contracts and any other conditions, that may be prescribed from time to time by ESFA, or any other public funder, including that any transactions entered into by the corporation are within the delegated authorities set out in the ESFA's bite size guides. Members of the corporation must ensure that there are appropriate financial and management controls in place to safeguard public and other funds and ensure they are used properly. In addition, members of the corporation are responsible for securing economic, efficient and effective management of the corporation's resources and expenditure so that the benefits that should be derived from the application of public funds from ESFA and other public bodies are not put at risk.

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 10th December, 2024 and signed on its behalf by

Teresa Dervin

Mrs Teresa Dervin

Chair of Governors

Independent auditor's report to the Governing Body of Xaverian College

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Xaverian College (the 'College') for the year ended 31 July 2024 which comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure, the Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Balance Sheet, the 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 FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the College's affairs as at 31 July 2024 and of 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 Statement of Recommended Practice; Accounting for Further and Higher Education (the 2019 FE HE SORP) and the Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the ESFA.

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 College 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 Governing Body's 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 doubt on the College'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 Governing Body with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The members of the Governing Body are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our Independent Auditor's Report thereon.

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.

Independent auditor's report to the Governing Body of Xaverian College (continued)

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the College and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Governing Body.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters prescribed by the Post 16 Audit Code of Practice issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency which requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- proper accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- all of the information and explanations required for the audit were not received.

Responsibilities of the Governing Body

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Members of the Governing Body, the Governing Body is 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 Governing Body determines 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 Governing Body is responsible for assessing the College'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 Governing Body either intends to liquidate the College or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Independent 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Independent auditor's report to the Governing Body of Xaverian College (continued)

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

The audit procedures designed to identify irregularities included:

- enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims
- enquiry of College staff with responsibilities for compliance matters to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would 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, intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Independent Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Governing Body, as a body, in accordance with Article 22 of the College's Articles of Government. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Governing Body, as a body, 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 College and the Governing Body, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Murray Smith LLP

Murray Smith LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Darland House

44 Winnington Hill

Northwich

Cheshire

CW8 1AU 11/12/24

Reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity

To: The Corporation of Xaverian College and Secretary of State for Education acting through the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 August 2022 and further to the requirements and conditions of funding in ESFA's grant funding agreements and contracts, or those of any other public funder, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Xaverian College during the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

The framework that has been applied is set out in the Post 16 Audit Code of Practice ("the Code") issued by the ESFA and in any relevant conditions of funding concerning adult education notified by a relevant funder. In line with this framework, our work has specifically not considered income received from the main funding grants generated through the Individualised Learner Record data returns, for which the ESFA or devolved authority has other assurance arrangements in place.

This report is made solely to the Corporation of Xaverian College and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Corporation of Xaverian College and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a 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 Corporation of Xaverian College and the ESFA for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Xaverian College and the reporting accountant

The Corporation of Xaverian College is responsible, under the requirements of the Further & Higher Education Act 1992, subsequent legislation and related regulations and guidance, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received are applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Code. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Code issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in that framework.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity.

A limited assurance engagement is more limited in scope than a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express a positive opinion.

Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity of the College's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- review of evidence supporting the College's Regularity Self-Assessment; and
- review of the College's expenditure during the year

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Signed: Murray Smith LLP

Murray Smith LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Darland House

44 Winnington Hill

Northwich

CW8 1AU

Date: 11/12/24

Statement of Comprehensive Income & Expenditure

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
INCOME			
Funding body grants	2	16,925,676	15,169,431
Tuition fees and education contracts	3	790,500	675,750
Other income	4	178,884	157,519
Investment income	5	120,232	52,112
Total income		**18,015,292**	**16,054,812**
EXPENDITURE			
Staff costs	6	11,896,674	10,611,992
Other operating expenses	8	3,529,648	3,520,047
Depreciation	10	914,000	766,026
Interest and other finance costs	9	(652)	46,720
Total expenditure		**16,339,670**	**14,944,785**
Surplus / (Deficit) before other gains and losses and tax		1,675,622	1,110,027
Taxation		-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		**1,675,622**	**1,110,027**
Actuarial Gain / (Loss) in respect of pensions	15	(2,211,399)	1,774,925
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		**(535,777)**	**2,884,952**
Represented by:			
Unrestricted comprehensive income		**(535,777)**	**2,884,952**
		(535,777)	**2,884,952**

All items of income and expenditure relate to continuing activites.

The notes on pages 32 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Reserves

	Income and expenditure account	Revaluation reserve	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 31 July 2022	12,972,481	5,981,265	18,953,746
Surplus from the income and expenditure account	1,110,027	-	1,110,027
Other comprehensive income (LGPS)	1,774,925	-	1,774,925
Transfers between revaluation and income and expenditure reserves	27,375	(27,375)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	2,912,327	(27,375)	2,884,952
Balance at 31 July 2023	15,884,808	5,953,890	21,838,698
Surplus from the income and expenditure account	1,675,622	-	1,675,622
Other comprehensive income	(2,211,399)	-	(2,211,399)
Transfers between revaluation and income and expenditure reserves	27,375	(27,375)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	(508,402)	(27,375)	(535,777)
Balance at 31 July 2024	15,376,406	5,926,515	21,302,921

Balance sheet as at 31 July 2024

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Non current assets			
Tangible fixed assets	10	22,753,280	22,044,938
		22,753,280	**22,044,938**
Current assets			
Trade and other receivables	11	176,001	195,698
Cash and cash equivalents	16	6,852,593	6,215,877
		7,028,594	**6,411,575**
Less: Creditors – amounts falling due within one year	12	(1,202,815)	(1,566,406)
Net current assets		**5,825,779**	**4,845,169**
Total assets less current liabilities		**28,579,059**	**26,890,107**
Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(6,610,169)	(6,440,554)
Provisions			
Defined Benefit asset/(obligation)	19	-	2,041,000
Other provisions	15	(665,969)	(651,855)
Total net assets		**21,302,921**	**21,838,698**
Unrestricted Reserves			
Revaluation reserve		5,926,515	5,953,890
Income and expenditure account		15,376,406	15,884,808
Total unrestricted reserves		**21,302,921**	**21,838,698**

The financial statements on pages 28 to 49 were approved and authorised for issue by the Governing Body on 10th December 2024 and were signed on its behalf on that date by:

Teresa Dervin

Teresa Dervin

Chair

A. B. Knowles

Anthony Knowles

Principal

Statement of Cash Flows

	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
Cash flow from operating activities			
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		1,675,622	1,110,027
Adjustment for non-cash items			
Depreciation		914,000	766,026
(Increase) / Decrease in debtors		19,697	142,774
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors due within one year		(392,279)	250,514
Deferred Capital Grants Released to income		(309,398)	(204,452)
Pensions costs less contributions payable		(30,285)	(47,440)
LGPS Pension costs less contributions payable		(126,000)	131,000
Adjustment for investing or financing activities			
Investment income		(120,232)	(52,112)
Interest payable		70,935	49,480
Net cash flow from operating activities		1,702,060	2,145,817
Cash flows from investing activities			
Investment income		120,232	52,112
Payments made to acquire fixed assets		(1,619,168)	(890,169)
		(1,498,936)	(838,057)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid		(70,935)	(49,480)
Deferred Capital Grants Received		634,951	582,697
Repayments of amounts borrowed		(130,424)	(129,025)
		433,592	404,192
Increase / (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		**636,716**	**1,711,952**
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	16	6,215,877	4,503,925
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	16	6,852,593	6,215,877

The notes on pages 32 to 49 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Accounts

1. Statement of accounting policies and estimation techniques

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the financial statements.

Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting for Further and Higher Education 2019* (the 2019 FE HE SORP), the *College Accounts Direction for 2023 to 2024* and in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 – *"The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland"* (FRS 102). The College is a public benefit entity and has therefore applied the relevant public benefit requirements of FRS 102.

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgement in applying the College's accounting policies.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.

Going concern

The activities of the College, together with the factors likely to affect its future development and performance are set out in the Governing Body Report. The financial position of the College, its cashflow, liquidity and borrowings are presented in the Financial Statements and accompanying Notes.

The College currently has £994k of loans outstanding with the Royal Bank of Scotland. One loan has 6 years left to run whilst a second, smaller, loan has 10 years to run. The current cash reserves at the College, and the College's forecasts and financial projections, indicate that it will be able to service both loans for the foreseeable future.

Over the last few years, the College has seen steady growth in student numbers as a result of the changing demographic within the Greater Manchester area. Such growth has allowed the College to maintain its resources, invest in its estate and keep teaching and learning at the heart of its community.

Whilst some further growth is forecast, the College has a reasonable expectation that it has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The College also has robust financial strategies should there be any further financial pressures. In 2020/21, an additional, 8 classrooom, teaching block came on stream to support the growth in the 16-18 cohort in the Manchester area. In 2021/22, further capital expenditure provided additional canteen and social space. Both these projects were funded from College reserves. The estates strategy addresses the estate need for the medium term with a new Science block build currently underway. This building will cost in the region of £7.9m with the College contributing £3.9m from reserves. Other plans are being developed to replace the current science block with a multi-classroom building. This will be subject to capital funding becoming available. To alleviate estates pressures further temporary classrooms will be sited prior to the September 2025 intake.

For this reason Xaverian College will continue to adopt the going concern basis in the preparation of its Financial Statements.

Recognition of income

Government revenue grants include funding body recurrent grants and other grants and are accounted for under the accrual model as permitted by FRS 102. Funding body recurrent grants are measured in line with best estimates for the period of what is receivable and depend on the particular income stream involved.

The final grant income is normally determined with the conclusion of the year end reconciliation process with the funding body following the year end, and the results of any funding audits. 16-18 learner-responsive funding is not normally subject to reconciliation and is therefore not subject to contract adjustments.

Non-recurrent grants from non-government sources are recognised in income when the College is entitled to the income and performance related conditions have been met.

Government capital grants are capitalised, held as deferred income and recognised in income over the expected useful life of the asset, under the accrual method as permitted by FRS 102. Other capital grants are recognised in income when the College is entitled to the funds subject to any performance related conditions being met.

Income from tuition fees is recognised in the period for which it is received and includes all fees payable by students or their sponsors, for example the University of Manchester.

Income from grants, contracts and other services rendered is included to the extent of the completion of the contract or service concerned.

All income from short-term deposits is credited to the income and expenditure account in the period in which it is earned.

Accounting for post-employment benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the College are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). These are defined benefit schemes, which are externally funded and contracted out of the State Second Pension.

Contributions to the TPS are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the College in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by qualified actuaries on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method.

As stated in Note 19, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The assets of the LGPS (Greater Manchester Pension Fund – "GMPF") are measured using closing fair values. The contributions are determined by qualified actuaries on the basis of triennial valuations using a prospective benefit method.

LGPS liabilities are measured using the projected unit credit method and discounted at the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred.

Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in interest and other finance costs.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in the financial statements.

Short term Employment benefits

Short term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences (holiday pay) are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render service to the College. Any unused benefits are accrued and measured as the additional amount the College expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement. Holiday periods for key personnel have been aligned with the College's financial year.

Enhanced Pensions

The actual cost of any enhanced ongoing pension to a former member of staff is paid by the college annually. An estimate of the expected future cost of any enhancement to the ongoing pension of a former member of staff is charged in full to the College's income in the year that the member of staff retires. In subsequent years a charge is made to provisions in the balance sheet

Non-current Assets - Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are held at deemed cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Certain items of fixed assets that had been revalued to fair value on or prior to the date of transition to the 2015 FE HE SORP, are measured on the basis of deemed cost, being the revalued amount at the date of that revaluation, being 1 August 2014.

Land and buildings

For a number of elements of the estate (eg the frame), the remaining life assigned by GVA Grimley Ltd was greater than the "normal" life assigned and, as such, a cap has been applied.

The buildings are depreciated on a straight line basis over their expected useful lives as follows:

- Frame – 50 years,
- Windows – maximum of 30 years,
- Roof – maximum of 50 years,
- Lift – maximum of 30 years.

Land is not depreciated as is considered to have an infinite useful life.

The College has a policy of depreciating major adaptations to buildings over the period of their useful economic life of between 20 and 50 years.

Where land and buildings are acquired with the aid of specific Government grants, they are capitalised and depreciated as above. The related grants are credited to a deferred income account within creditors, and are released to the income and expenditure account over the expected useful economic life of the related asset on a systematic basis consistent with the depreciation policy. The deferred income is allocated between creditors due within one year and those due after more than one year.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of any fixed asset may not be recoverable.

On adoption of FRS 102, the College followed the transitional provision to retain the book value of land and buildings, which were revalued as at 1 August 2014, as deemed cost but not to adopt a policy of revaluations of these properties in the future.

Where the revaluation resulted in the carrying value increasing, this has been recognised in the revaluation reserve. An annual transfer between the Revaluation Reserve and Income and Expenditure Reserve is performed of the additional depreciation arising as a result of the revaluation gain.

Buildings owned by third parties

Where the College enjoys the use of an asset which it does not own, and for which no rental or a nominal rental is paid, if practicable, a value is attributed to this benefit and capitalised.

Assets under construction

Assets under construction are accounted for at cost, based on the value of architects' certificates and other direct costs, incurred to 31 July. They are not depreciated until they are brought into use.

Subsequent Expenditure on existing fixed assets

Where significant expenditure is incurred on tangible fixed assets after initial purchase it is charged to income in the period it is incurred, unless it increases the future benefits to the College in which case it is capitalised and depreciated on the relevant basis.

Equipment

Equipment and computer hardware costing less than £250 and furniture, fixtures, fittings and vehicles costing less than £500 per individual item are written off to the income and expenditure account in the period of acquisition.

Inherited equipment was depreciated on a straight-line basis over its remaining useful economic life to the College of 5 years from the original date of acquisition. All inherited equipment is now fully depreciated.

All other equipment is depreciated over its useful economic life as follows:

Equipment & IT Infrastruture	5 years on a straight-line basis
Computer Equipment	3 years on a straight-line basis

Where equipment is acquired with the aid of specific grants, it is capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the above policy, with the related grant being credited to a deferred capital grant account and released to the income and expenditure account over the expected economic life of the related equipment.

The College charges a full year of depreciation in the year of purchase and none in the year of disposal.

Leased assets

Costs in respect of operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term. The College does not use leased assets.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash in hand and deposits repayable on demand.

Provisions and contingent liabilities

Provisions are recognised when:

- the College has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event;
- it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation; and
- a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount expected to be required to settle the obligation is recognised at present value using a pre-tax discount rate. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as a finance cost in the statement of comprehensive income in the period it arises.

A contingent liability arises from a past event that gives the College a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the College. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Agency arrangements

The College acts as an agent in the collection and payment of Discretionary Support Funds. Related payments received from the funding bodies and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Income and Expenditure account and are shown separately in Note 21, except for the 5 per cent of the grant received which is available to the College to cover administration costs relating to the grant. The College recognises Free Meals in Further Education income in the Income and Expenditure account as it is incurred, with any expenditure being matched by the income released. Any shortfall in bursary funding is made up using Free Meals in Further Education Income.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form.

All loans held by the College are classified as basic financial instruments in accordance with FRS 102. These instruments are initially recorded at the transaction price less any transaction costs (historical cost). FRS 102 requires that basic financial instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Loans and investments that are payable or receivable within one year are not discounted.

Taxation

The College is considered to pass the test set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the College is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by sections 478-488 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Judgements in applying accounting policies and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Tangible fixed assets

- Tangible fixed assets, are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values. An assessment of the useful life of the assets was performed at the date of valuation, and the change in useful lives applied as at the date of transition being 1 August 2014.
- The land and buildings utilised by the College are owned by the Diocese of Salford. The College has unrestricted use of the land and buildings and, in the judgement of management, such an arrangement is unlikely to cease in the near future. In management's judgement the College has control over, and will receive the future economic benefits from, the land and buildings, and consequently the land & buildings are recognised as Fixed Assets in the College Balance Sheet.

Local Government Pension Scheme and Enhanced Pension Provision

- The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit asset / (liability) depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension asset / (liability). The actuary has used a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 to value the pensions liability at 31 July 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension asset or liability.

  The actuaries have once again reported a pension surplus as at the year end. This year the College commissioned an additional report containing an asset ceiling calculation which concluded that the asset would not result in a reduction in the future pension contributions. Under FRS 102 a pension asset should only be recognised if it is expected to result in a refund or a reduction in future contributions.

Whilst the asset ceiling calculation depends on a variety of assumptions and therefore contains inherent uncertainties, the College has decided to reduce the pension asset to nil to reflect the result.

- As with the Local Government Pension Scheme, the factors affecting the Enhanced Pension Provision are determined externally to the College. Any changes in in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 15, will impact the carrying amount of the Enhanced Pension Provision.

2 Funding body grants

	2024	2023
	£	£
Recurrent grants		
Education and Skills Funding Agency	15,943,641	14,440,248
Local Authority High Needs Funding	107,271	63,678
Specific Grants		
Teacher Pension Scheme Contribution Grants	565,366	461,053
Releases of government capital grants	309,398	204,452
Total	**16,925,676**	**15,169,431**

3 Tuition fees and education contracts

	2024	2023
	£	£
Tuition Fees	790,500	675,750
Total	**790,500**	**675,750**

4 Other income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other income generating activities	178,884	157,519
Total	**178,884**	**157,519**

5 Investment income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other interest receivable	120,232	52,112
Total	**120,232**	**52,112**

6 Staff costs

The average number of persons (including key management personnel) employed by the College during the year, described as headcounts, was:

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Teaching staff	143	135
Non-teaching staff	106	103
	249	238

Staff costs for the above persons

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	8,644,680	7,700,104
Enhanced Pension Costs	1,180	1,180
LGPS Pension Costs	(23,000)	145,000
Holiday Pay Accrual Movement	4,850	(5,066)
Social security costs	877,752	763,274
Other pension costs	1,826,680	1,522,300
Payroll Sub-total	11,332,142	10,126,792
Contracted Out Staffing Services	461,798	485,200
Restructuring Costs - Contractual	102,734	0
– Non-Contractual	0	0
Total Staff costs	11,896,674	10,611,992

7 Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the College and are represented by the Senior Post-Holders which comprises the Principal, Finance Director, Vice-Principal Student Support and the Vice-Principal of Curriculum.

Emoluments of Key management personnel, Accounting Officer and other higher paid staff

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
The number of key management personnel including the Accounting Officer was:	4	4

The remuneraton packages of the key management personnel are determined following annual reviews by the Remuneration Committee which considers both individual performance and benchmaking information.

7 Key management personnel (continued)

The number of key management personnel and other staff who received annual emoluments, excluding pension contributions but including benefits in kind, in the following ranges was:

	Senior Post Holders	
	2024	2023
	No.	No.
£80,001 to £85,000 p.a.	-	3
£85,001 to £90,000 p.a.	3	-
£90,001 to £95,000 p.a.	-	-
£95,001 to £100,000 p.a.	-	-
£100,001 to £105,000 p.a.	-	-
£105,001 to £110,000 p.a.	-	-
£110,001 to £115,000 p.a.	-	-
£115,001 to £120,000 p.a.	-	-
£120,001 to £125,000 p.a.	-	1
£125,001 to £130,000 p.a.	-	-
£130,001 to £135,000 p.a.	1	-
	4	**4**

Key management personnel compensation is made up as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	395,008	371,181
Pension contributions	60,989	54,553
Total compensation	**455,997**	**425,734**

There were no amounts due to key management personnel that were waived in the year, nor any salary sacrifice arrangements in place.

The above emoluments include amounts payable to the Accounting Officer (who is also the highest paid officer) of:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Salaries	132,503	124,105
Benefits in kind	-	-
Pension Contributions	-	-
	132,503	**124,105**

7 Key management personnel (continued)

The pension contributions in respect of the Vice-Principals are in respect of employer's contributions to the Teachers' Pension Scheme and are paid at the same rate as for other employees. The pension contributions for the Director of Finance are paid at the same rate as for other employees into the Local Government Pension Scheme.

At the end of July 2024, the Principal's basic salary (excluding pension contributions) is 3.31 times the median pay of staff, where the median pay is calculated on a full-time equivalent basis for the salaries paid by the provider to its staff.

The Governors, other than the Principal, did not receive any payment from the College other than the reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses incurred in the course of their duties.

8 Other operating expenses

	2024	2023
	£	£
Teaching costs	306,930	347,106
Non-teaching costs	1,738,386	1,581,970
Premises costs	1,484,332	1,590,971
Total	**3,529,648**	**3,520,047**

Other operating expenses include:

Auditor's remuneration:		
External Audit – Financial Statements Audit	17,521	17,158
External Audit – Teachers Pension Audit	1,050	1,050
Internal audit	10,584	11,088

9 Interest and other finance costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
On bank loans, overdrafts and other loans	70,935	49,480
LGPS Pension Finance Costs	(103,000)	(14,000)
Enhanced Pension Finance Costs	31,413	11,240
Total	(652)	46,720

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Equipment	Assets Under Construction	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation				
At 1 August 2023	24,222,889	2,464,781	294,092	26,981,762
Additions	95,647	440,981	1,085,714	1,622,342
Transfers	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(212,177)	(44,278)	-	(256,455)
At 31 July 2024	**24,106,359**	**2,861,484**	**1,379,806**	**28,347,649**
Depreciation				
At 1 August 2023	3,201,562	1,735,262	-	4,936,824
Charge for the year	528,929	385,071	-	914,000
Elimination in respect of disposals	(212,177)	(44,278)	-	(256,455)
At 31 July 2024	**3,518,314**	**2,076,055**	-	**5,594,369**
Net book value at 31 July 2024	**20,588,045**	**785,429**	**1,379,806**	**22,753,280**
Net book value at 31 July 2023	**21,021,327**	**729,519**	**294,092**	**22,044,938**

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade receivables	1,640	850
Prepayments and accrued income	174,361	194,848
Total	**176,001**	**195,698**

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	131,052	130,024
Trade payables	111,687	435,290
Other taxation and social security	0	194,671
Accruals and deferred income	604,740	480,421
Holiday Pay Accrual	21,452	16,602
Deferred income - government capital grants	333,884	309,398
Total	**1,202,815**	**1,566,406**

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	862,736	994,188
Deferred income - government capital grants	5,747,433	5,446,366
Total	**6,610,169**	**6,440,554**

14 Maturity of debt

(a) Bank loans and overdrafts are repayable as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
In one year or less	131,052	130,024
Between one and two years	132,108	131,052
Between two and five years	402,958	399,610
In five years or more	327,670	463,526
Total	**993,788**	**1,124,212**

Bank Loan 1 for £2,140,000 repayable over 23 years up to 2030, with bank interest payable at 0.6% per annum above the Bank's interest rate.

Bank Loan 2 for £750,000 repayable over 20 years up to 2034, with bank interest payable at 2.25% per annum above SONIA.

(b) Finance leases

	2024	2023
	£	£
In one year or less	209,732	0
Between one and two years	209,732	0
Between two and five years	204,530	0
In five years or more	0	0
Total	**623,994**	**0**

15 Pension Provisions

	Defined Benefit Obligation	Enhanced pensions	Total
	£	£	£
At 1 August 2023	(2,041,000)	651,855	(1,389,145)
Expenditure in the period	208,000	32,593	240,593
Other Comprehensive Income	(334,000)	(62,878)	(396,878)
Actuarial (Gain) / Loss in Year	(563,000)	44,399	(518,601)
Asset Ceiling Restriction	2,730,000	0	2,730,000
At 31 July 2024	**0**	665,969	665,969

The enhanced pension provision relates to the cost of staff who have already left the College's employ and commitments for reorganisation costs from which the College cannot reasonably withdraw at the balance sheet date. This provision has been recalculated in accordance with guidance issued by the funding bodies.

The principal assumptions for this calculation are:

	2024	**2023**
Inflation Rate	3.3%	2.8%
Interest Rate	4.8%	5.0%

16 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	At 1 August 2023	**Cash flows**	**At 31 July 2024**
	£	**£**	**£**
Cash and cash equivalents	6,215,877	636,716	6,852,593
Total	**6,215,877**	**636,716**	**6,852,593**

17 Capital Commitments

In August 2022, the College took delivery of 4 portacabins to help deal with the increases in student numbers. These modular buildings will be on site for 3 years with an annual charge of £44.1k.

In September 2023, the College took delivery of a number of portacabins to help deal with the increases in student numbers. These modular buildings will be on site for 3 years with an annual charge of £99.1k.

The College has been granted £4m of funding for a new Science Block. Total cost of the project is around £7.9m, with the College topping up the remainder of the project from its' reserves. This project is well underway with an estimated completion date of May 2025.

The College was awarded £448k towards the replacement of the Maryland roof. The total cost of the work being £670k.

The College is installing solar panels to 3 buildings. Work to be completed in early August 2024.

18 Balance Sheet Events after the period end

None noted.

19 Defined benefit obligations

The College's employees belong to two principal post-employment benefit plans the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). Both are multi-employer defined-benefit plans.

Total pension cost for the year		**2024**		**2023**
		£		£
Teachers' Pension Scheme: contributions paid		1,497,747		1,230,259
Local Government Pension Scheme:				
Contributions paid	328,933		292,041	
LGPS Pension Charge	(23,000)		145,000	
Enhanced pension charge	1,180		1,180	
Charge to the Statement of Comprehensive Income		307,113		438,221
Total Pension Cost for year within staff costs		**1,804,860**		**1,668,480**

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest formal actuarial valuation of the TPS was 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022. There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at the beginning or the end of the financial year.

Teachers' Pensions Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Scheme Regulations 2014. These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales that are maintained by local authorities. In addition, teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools and teachers and lecturers in some establishments of further and higher education may be eligible for membership. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic too for teachers and lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Act. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102 (28.11), the TPS is a multi-employer pension plan. The college is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan.

Accordingly, the college has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined-contribution plan. The college has set out above the information available on the plan and the implications for the college in terms of the anticipated contribution rates.

The valuation of the TPS is carried out in line with regulations made under the Public Service Pension Act 2013. Valuations credit the teachers' pension account with a real rate of return assuming funds are invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

The latest actuarial review of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education (the Department) in October 2023. The valuation reported total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service at the effective date of £262 billion, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222 billion giving a notional past service deficit of £40 billion (compared to £22 billion in the 2016 valuation)

As a result of the valuation, new employer contribution rates will rise to 28.68% from April 2024 (compared to 23.68% during 2018/9). A full copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation can be found on the Teacher's Pension Scheme website.

The employer's payment of pension costs to TPS in the period amounted to £2,051,553 (2023: £1,724,335)

FRS 102 (28)

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102 (28.11), the TPS is a multi-employer pension plan. The College is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan.

Accordingly, the College has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined-contribution plan. The College has set out above the information available on the plan and the implications for the College in terms of the anticipated contribution rates.

19 Defined benefit obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

Greater Manchester Pension Fund

The scheme available to support staff is the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit plan, with the assets held in separate funds administered by the Greater Manchester Pension Fund through Tameside Borough Council.

The agreed employer contribution rate was 19%. The agreed contribution rates for employees range from 5.5% to 9.9%, depending on salary. The expected, employer's contributions for the period to 31 July 2025 will be approximately £382k.

Principal Actuarial Assumptions

The pension cost is assessed in accordance with the advice of an independent, qualified actuary. The latest actuarial valuation of the scheme was at 31 March 2022. The following information is based upon a full actuarial valuation of the fund at 31 March 2022 by a qualified independent actuary, updated to 31 July 2024 by a qualified, independent actuary.

	At 31 July 2024	At 31 July 2023
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6% p.a.	3.8% p.a.
Future pensions Increases	2.8% p.a.	3.0% p.a.
Consumer Price Inflation	2.8% p.a.	3.0% p.a.
Discount Rate for Scheme Liabilities	5.0% p.a.	5.1% p.a.

The Discount Rate has decreased from 5.1% to 5.0%. The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	At 31 July 2024 years	**At 31 July 2023** Years
Retiring today		
Males	19.3	19.3
Females	22.3	22.3
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	20.6	20.7
Females	24.5	24.6

The College's share of the assets in the plan at the balance sheet date were:

	% share of the assets 31 July 2024	**Fair Value at 31 July 2024**	**% share of the assets 31 July 2023**	**Fair Value at 31 July 2023**
		£'000		**£'000**
Equities	69%	7,600	71%	7,009
Bonds	15%	1,652	14%	1,382
Property	8%	881	8%	790
Cash	8%	881	7%	691
Total Fair Value of plan assets	100%	**11,014**	100%	**9,872**

19 Defined benefit obligations (continued)

The amount included in the balance sheet in respect of the defined benefit pension plan is as follows:

	2024	2023
	£'000s	£'000s
Fair Value of plan assets	11,014	9,872
Present Value of plan liabilities	(8,264)	(7,809)
Present Value of unfunded liabilities	(20)	(22)
Asset Ceiling Restriction	(2,730)	-
Net LGPS Pensions Asset / Liability	**0**	**2,041**

Amounts Recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in respect of the plan are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£'000s	£'000s
Amounts included in staff costs		
Current Service Cost	(311)	(438)
Past Service Costs	(0)	(0)
Total	**(311)**	**(438)**

	2024	2023
	£'000s	£'000s
Amounts included in interest and other finance costs		
Net Finance Cost	103	14

	2024	2023
	£'000s	£'000s
Amounts recognised in Other Comprehensive Income		
Return on pension plan assets	443	(100)
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of plan liabilities	120	1,798
Asset Ceiling Restriction	(2,730)	-
Amount recognised in Other Comprehensive Income	**(2,167)**	**1,698**

The College has applied the results of the actuaries' asset ceiling report which restricts the pension asset to nil.

19 Defined benefit obligations (continued)

Movement in defined benefit liability in period 1 August 2023 to 31 July 2024	**2024**	**2023**
	£'000s	**£'000s**
Net defined asset / (liability) at 1 August	**2,041**	**474**
Movement in Year:		
Current Service Cost	(311)	(438)
Employers Contribution	334	293
Past Service Cost	(0)	(0)
Net Interest on defined liability	103	14
Actuarial Gain / (Loss)	563	1,698
Asset Celing Restriction	(2,730)	0
Net defined asset / (liability) at 31 July	**0**	**2,041**

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	**2024**	**2023**
	£'000s	**£'000s**
Defined benefit obligations at 1 August	**7,831**	**8,974**
Movement in Year:		
Current Service Cost	311	438
Interest Cost	400	320
Contributions by scheme participants	108	95
Changes in Demographic Assumptions	(17)	(300)
Changes in Other Financial Assumptions	(103)	(1,498)
Estimated benefits paid	(246)	(198)
Past Service cost	0	0
Defined benefit obligations as at 31 July	**8,284**	**7,831**

Changes in the fair value of plan assets	**2024**	**2023**
	£'000s	**£'000s**
Fair Value of plan assets as at 1 August	**9,872**	**9,448**
Movement in Year:		
Interest on plan assets	503	334
Return on plan assets less interest on plan assets	443	(100)
Employer contributions	334	293
Contributions by scheme participants	108	95
Estimated benefits paid	(246)	(198)
Fair Value of plan assets as at 31 July	**11,014**	**9,872**

20 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the College's operations and the composition of the board of governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the board of governors may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the College's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

In 2023/24, there were no transactions with related parties.

Governors have not been reimbursed for any expenses during the year.

21 Amounts disbursed as agent – Learner Support Funds

	2024	2023
	£	£
Balance Brought Forward	106,941	31,246
Funding body grants – bursary support	572,706	508,910
	679,647	540,156
Disbursed to students	(548,030)	(410,988)
Administration costs	(27,222)	(22,227)
	104,395	106,941