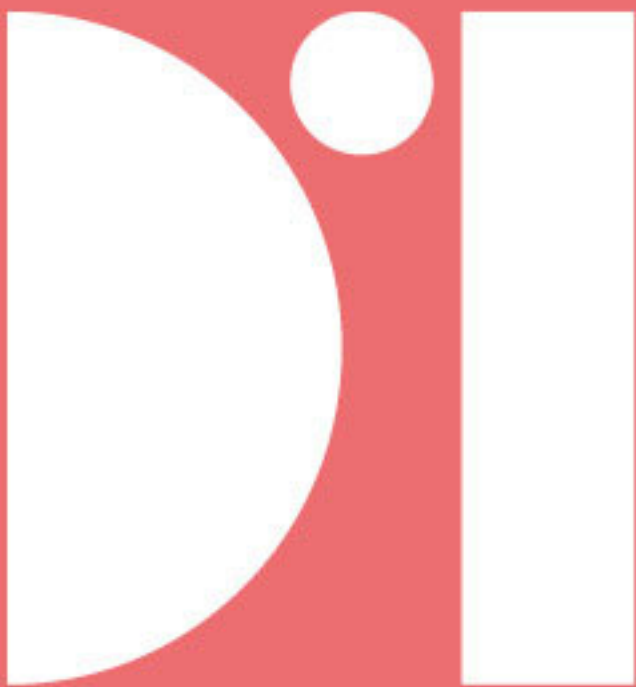




THE DONALDSON TRUST

Together we'll
find your voice.

DONALDSON'S (GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST)

**GOVERNORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

Donaldson's (Governors of the Donaldson Trust) is a registered charity (SC017417)

Our values

**We share what we
know**

We connect people

We remove barriers

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Contents

Report of the Governors of the Donaldson Trust	3
Statement of Governors' Responsibilities in Respect of The Governors' Report and the Financial Statements	16
Independent Auditor's Report to the Governors of the Donaldson Trust	17
Statement of Financial Activities	21
Balance Sheet	22
Cash Flow Statement	23
Notes to the Accounts	24 to 36

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Governors of the Donaldson Trust present their annual report for the year ended 31 March 2024 together with the financial statements for the year and confirm that the latter comply with the requirements of the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990, the Trust Deed and the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our purpose is to effect societal change to value neurodiversity, by encouraging understanding, driving excellent practice related to neurodiversity and amplifying neurodivergent voices.

Our vision is for a society in which neurodivergent people are understood, accepted, treated fairly and valued.

Activities

In the furtherance of our objects and aims we provide:

- specialist education to children and young people with complex additional support needs at the Sensational Learning Centre, a school for children and young people aged 5 to 18.
- wellbeing support to young people aged 12-18 in our Vibe service.
- day opportunities to neurodivergent adults aged 16 and over in our Gate service.
- highly individualised support to young people and adults in our Treehouse services.
- awareness of neurodiversity through our work with employers, individuals and other groups.

Education

We provide specialist education to children and young people with complex additional support needs at our Sensational Learning Centre, a grant aided special school for children and young people aged 5 to 18. In 2023/24 we provided education on a day basis to fifteen children and young people aged between 5 and 18 who have complex additional support needs arising from various factors including neurodivergent conditions, communication, and sensory support needs. The service offers an environment in which all forms of inclusive communication is equally valued.

Wellbeing

Our Vibe service aims to support neurodivergent young people in an environment where they feel safe and secure in order to improve their wellbeing and when ready to re-engage with learning. Through our person-centred planning approach children and young people are supported to achieve a state of mind where they are able to learn and live more fully. Vibe offers a modern alternative approach to balancing wellbeing and skills development to ensure the best possible outcomes for those who engage with the service.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Vibe provides individuals with access to a wellbeing programme, underpinned by our person-centred philosophy. Children and young people learn stress reduction strategies and skills to help them reduce anxiety, develop self-esteem, and build resilience to reach their dreams.

Adult Services

Gate is our Care Inspectorate registered skills development and training service for neurodivergent people aged 16 and above. It enhances the skills of trainees and improves their wellbeing. By building confidence and resilience Gate helps trainees achieve their agreed goals and ambitions through a person-centred approach.

Trainees can learn valuable skills through a range of activities as well as vocational and accredited courses delivered by specialist tutors. Activities and courses include photography, art, animation, IT skills, coding, cybersecurity, horticulture, and cooking. A wellbeing programme is an integral part of the service which aims to develop self-esteem, reduce anxiety, and build resilience. The wellbeing programme includes mindfulness, yoga, and stress reduction strategies.

Treehouse, also registered with the Care Inspectorate is an individualised, person-centred service which provides a bespoke service to adults requiring intensive non-residential support within a 'home-style' setting. Each studio is a bespoke environment, furnished to individual need, and is offered on a one person per studio basis. Three trainees attended Treehouse during 2023/24.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Trust

2023/24 was the fifth year of our Ten-Year Strategy and the Governors focus has been on implementing plans to secure the long-term ambition of being the National Body for Neurodiversity. This included a governance review which modernised our governing document and changes to our purpose that reflect the work of the Trust. The Governors also concluded a strategy refresh and set new goals and objectives for the second half of our ten-year strategy.

The Trust provides quality services, outcomes and destinations for those we support. The Governors are pleased to report that our services continued to grow, with an increase in attendance achieved over our service.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Sensational Learning Centre

In line with our core focus on health and wellbeing we continue to meet the educational, social, emotional and wellbeing needs of the children and young people we support. Our staff team provide health and wellbeing input supported by external partners, and has provided:

- a wide range of physical education experiences including swimming, indoor curling, skiing, judo, indoor lawn bowling and cricket
- Sensory circuits and daily mile challenge
- Sensory breaks including climbing, spinning and jumping
- Yoga
- Emotion Works and Zones of Regulation
- Musical experiences
- Equine Therapy
- Lego Brick by Brick communication groups
- Outdoor Education utilising Duke of Edinburgh and John Muir frameworks
- Sensory cooking
- Gardening
- Enterprise events
- Neurodiversity Celebration Days
- Art Therapy
- Play Therapy in partnership with With Kids
- Work experience and volunteering opportunities
- Support from Skills Development Scotland.

Central to our health and wellbeing focus is the continuing emphasis on the further development of communication which is vital in ensuring our pupils can express their thoughts opinions and feelings and make contributions to their everyday experience within and beyond the school environment. Pupils are actively encouraged to participate in their own individual plans and meetings, and in sharing assemblies and parent events. Our speech and language therapist engages with individuals to provide specific input, and also works with small groups and the wider staff team in ensuring that communication is central within the wider curriculum. All staff have engaged this session with CALL Scotland in learning more about Augmentative and Assistive Communication supports, including the range of apps available via iPad technology that may assist our learners in developing independence in this area.

A number of pupils have achieved Scottish Qualifications Agency (SQA), National Progression Awards (NPA) and Core Skills modules with:

Achievements

SCQF level 1 - 2 courses completed resulting in 2 pupil awards
SCQF level 2 - 2 courses completed resulting in 4 pupil awards
SCQF level 3 - 3 courses completed resulting in 7 pupil awards
SCQF level 4 - 4 courses completed resulting in 8 pupil awards
NPA level 3 - 2 courses completed resulting in 4 pupil awards
NPA level 4 - 4 courses completed resulting in 8 pupil awards
NPA level 5 - 1 course completed resulting in 1 pupil award
National 3 - 5 courses completed resulting in 9 pupil awards

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

National 4 - 4 courses completed resulting in 4 pupil awards

Children and young people have been involved in planning and hosting events for the Donaldson's community throughout the year including Wear it Green - MacMillan, Health and Wellbeing morning, Christmas Market, Hallowe'en Party, Neurodiversity Celebration Week, World Book Day and Burns Day.

Through assemblies and the pupil council, the young people have led on improvements to their environment through sourcing and planning sensory activities, learning about the UNCRC, and working through the SHANARRI indicators together.

Children and young people are encouraged to communicate and engage with the local community including pupils attending car garages, local shops, libraries, and cafes and using ProLoQuo2Go on their devices to express their thoughts, feelings and wishes.

We continue to invest in staff skills, with staff completing training and further reading in trauma informed and trauma responsive approaches, Augmentative and Alternative Communication resources, meta-skills and ongoing learning around risk assessment and safeguarding.

Vibe

During the year twenty-five young people attended Vibe. Our staff team supported by specialist tutors provided wellbeing programmes with learning activities focused on numeracy and literacy. Activities include:

- Range of sporting activities, indoor and outdoor
- Equine Therapy
- Experience of Mountain Biking
- Crochet
- Yoga
- Swimming
- Creative Writing
- Arts and crafts
- Cooking
- Moto learn SCQF Level 5
- Cyber Security Courses
- Menu Planning
- Budgeting Skills
- Support from Skills Development Scotland

During the year we supported four young people to take the National 5 exam for

Mathematics and one young person completed the exam for English National 5. A number of other young people were supported to complete their National 3 and/or 4 assessments in Mathematics. We are supporting two young people who are continuing their studies with a Higher Mathematics course online.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Two young people were accepted for mainstream school courses. We are supporting a further two young people to successfully transition back to mainstream education placements while attending Vibe in a split placement arrangement with their local mainstream school.

Gate

Our day opportunities service for adults has supported thirty-four trainees during the year. Gate provides a variety of workshops designed to match the interests and skills of the trainees. The activities and workshop content are continuously evaluated to ensure they are relevant and new workshops are explored, sourced and added when required. We can evidence that the sessions have helped with the development of skills that reflect individual interest as well as increasing trainees' confidence and resilience.

During the year Gate trainee achievements included:

- Participation in Deaf Awareness Week with one trainee signing the song "This is me" to our joint assembly.
- Organizing and taking part in a talent show where trainees showcased their individual talents: we had gymnastics, a comedian, with one trainee able to tell you the day of the week when presented with any date all the way back to 1988.
- Trainees participated in Neurodivergent celebration week, where we showcased trainees' art as part of an organisation wide display.
- One trainee became a member of The Donaldson Trust Advisory Board and is helping with marketing with a redesign of Donaldsons website.
- Christmas fayre was a great success with trainees selling what they had worked so hard to make, making over £140 in profits.
- Two trainees completed a Cyber security course, and can be seen on social media with their certificates
- One trainee has participated in the interviews and recruitment of new staff. She excels at this as does she does at conducting tours for potential new trainees.

We supported a number of trainees to move onto positive destinations, each trainee developing new skills and increasing in confidence to be able to take their next major step. During the year we opened the new life skills base for the trainee use. This comes with a fully functional kitchen for individuals to learn to cook and replicate at home. The life skills base has space where trainees can work on hobbies including embroidery, jewellery making and creative writing.

Treehouse

In the year we welcomed a further two trainees with three trainees in service at the end of the year. Our trainees were able to experience a wide range of activities and experiences including:

- Family events held within trainees' studios and garden spaces.
- Enjoying the swimming pool with our new swim instructor.
- Completing SQA and achieving qualifications.
- Visits to the library, the all-weather pitch and accessing our grounds.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

- Creating a band with musical instruments.
- Growing flowers, and growing vegetables to make and eat a roast dinner.
- Cutting the grass and maintaining their own garden space.
- Enjoying volunteering activities including cleaning of their studios, valeting cars and painting garden fences.

The Board of Governors would like to express their gratitude to all staff and volunteers who have worked to make our services such welcoming and valued resources to those requiring support.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Our plans are driven by the Governors ten-year strategy covering the period 2019-2029. During the year the Governors undertook a strategy refresh to ensure that the strategy was still relevant and to put in place new goals and objectives for the next three years. The result of this work is our new vision and purpose statements along with three strategic goals being:

- **Services:** improve the quality and outcomes delivered by services while increasing delivery at our campus at Linlithgow and planning for the opening of new service locations nationally.
- **Connect:** develop, launch and grow our workplace training and consultancy service and through new partnerships improve the accessibility to advice and guidance on neurodiversity.
- **Policy:** commission and widely publicise research, contribute to national and local policy and influence practice through leadership relevant to our vision and purpose.

Our strategy refresh Identified five strategic enablers that underpin delivery of achieving our strategic goals:

- **People and culture** – our culture enables our colleagues to thrive and empowers them to support organisational development.
- **Finance and sustainability** - resources are in place and used effectively to enable achievement of strategic and operational objectives.
- **Wellbeing and quality improvement** - a systematic approach to practice and quality to support service outcomes and drive a culture of continuous improvement.
- **Marketing and communications** - increased awareness and understanding of our work, demonstrating our ability to deliver for neurodivergent people, and building trust and confidence in what we do to drive positive societal change.
- **Digital** - harness technology to drive service development, improve outcomes, and deliver efficiency.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Governors are finalising plans for each strategic goal and are investing in a number of new posts to drive implementation of the strategic plans.

Funds have been set aside by the Governors to ensure that we can implement our plans in the most positive way. As we draw down funds, and with the ongoing uncertainty and planning for significant reductions in GASS funding, the Governors recognise that we will see a reduction in reserves as investment in the strategy results in expenditure being higher than income for at least the next three year period. Diversification of income, through growth in services and support from grants and trusts are key elements of the Governor's plans.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

For 2023/24 the Trust is reporting an increase in funds of £750,385 (2022/23: decrease of £433,081). The financial performance at operational level is in line with expectations, being a surplus of £4,420 (2022/23: surplus of £217,126) before investment gains/losses and revaluation. In the year our investments saw gains totalling £745,965 (2022/23: loss of £650,207).

Total income of £3,613,570 is £456,910, 14.5%, higher than that for 2022/23. The main source of funding is the education revenue grant from the Scottish Government of £1,947,616 (2022/23: £1,945,277). Income from fees was £1,232,240, £401,048, 48.2%, higher than 2022/23 reflecting an increase in the number of children, young people and adults accessing our services.

Dividend income from investments of £209,939 is £3,902 higher than 2022/23. Bank interest of £91,660 is £51,921 higher than 2022/23 reflecting an increase in interest rates during the year. Donations at £16,949 were £5,782 higher than 2022/23 with no fundraising activities undertake during the year. Income from trading and other activities is £4,670 higher than 2022/23. There was no income from the sale of fixed assets in the year (2022/23: £10,000).

Expenditure for 2023/24 was £3,609,150, an increase of £669,166, 22.8%, compared to the previous year. Salary costs increased by £390,928 (2022/23: increase of £200,092) due to a planned increase in staff and cost of living awards. Other charitable activity costs increased by £59,627 with property costs increasing by £211,042 compared to 2022/23. Property costs increased because of significantly higher gas and electricity costs along with an increase in essential maintenance expenditure. A total of £24,774 was spent on capital additions (2022/23: £75,096).

Investments

The Trust invests amounts not required for the operation or development of the charity and seeks to achieve a balanced approach to capital growth and investment income. The portfolio of investments is managed on a discretionary basis in line with our long-term objective set out in the investment policy.

As part of their annual review the Governors reviewed their investment objectives set in 2021 and agreed that these would remain our policy for 2023/24.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The policy objective is to generate a total return of UK inflation (CPI) plus 3% per annum over a rolling 5-year period. The return may be generated through a combination of income generation and capital growth.

Investment funds at 31st March 2024 totalled £9,247,296 (2022/23: £8,080,467). The portfolio is managed taking a moderate approach to risk. The Trust's investments produced income of £209,939 (2022/23: £206,037) which were reinvested into the fund. In the year, the investment portfolio increased by 14.4% (2022/23: decrease of 4.7%). Excluding reinvested dividends, the increase in investments was 11.8%. In the year, the Governors invested a further £500,000, contributing 5.4% of the total increase in funds.

The investment policy highlights the Governors commitment to environmental, social, and governance considerations and the Governors seek reassurances from the investment manager that all funds held are suitable for a charitable organisation to hold.

Reports are received on a quarterly basis with performance compared to a composite benchmark index and performance assessed over the long term. Performance is monitored by the Finance and Audit Committee and regular meetings are held with the investment manager, who also attends a minimum of one Board meeting each year, to review performance and discuss suitability of the investment policy in the context of the wider financial circumstances of the Trust.

Donations and Legacies

The Trust undertakes fundraising activities to support the work and development of the Trust. Donations and Legacies received in excess of £500 were as follows:

The Lady Marian Gibson Trust	£10,000
Miss Jean JR Henderson (deceased)	£2,857
The James Inglis Testamentary Trust	£1,800
To the Bridge and Beyond	£1,206

The Governors would like to thank all those who have so generously volunteered their time or provided financial support to the Trust.

Reserves

The Governors ensure that sufficient unrestricted funds are available to meet its short-term financial obligations. The policy agreed by the Board is to hold not less than three months operational costs in reserve, equivalent to £902,000 based on 2023/24 expenditure.

At the 31st March 2024 actual free and available reserves, excluding the reserves represented by the book value of fixed assets, and excluding restricted and endowment reserves, totalled £2,976,000 (2022/23: £3,485,000).

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

The Governors have considered this level of reserves and believe it to be prudent and appropriate considering its ambitious plans and the ongoing uncertainty around the continuation of its core funding, GASS.

As noted below in Plans for the Future and Risk Management, the Governors investment in the strategy will see an annual reduction in reserves over at least the next three years as expenditure outstrips income. This investment is needed to ensure the long term sustainability of the charity.

Risk Management

The Governors have processes in place to assess, monitor and manage the major risks facing the Trust. Each sub-committee of the Board is responsible for identifying the major risks affecting their area of interest and report these to the Board. In addition, the Board of Governors considers all risks and agrees strategies to eliminate, reduce or manage each risk. In the year, the Board considered the following to be the main risks facing the Trust:

- decisions being made by the Scottish Government regarding GASS grant funding and in particular the process of strategically commissioning national services for children and young people with complex additional support needs.
- maintaining a safe environment for children, young people and our staff.

Work continues in reducing the level and impact of risk. The strategy refresh work undertaken by the Governors during the year sets growth targets and the development and launch of new services over the next three year period which minimise the impact of GASS funding being reduced. The Governors recognise the need to diversify our income streams and have approved a new function and post, being Trusts and Grants Fundraiser, to develop a reliable source of income that supports our strategy implementation while planning for a significant reduction GASS funding.

To address safeguarding risk, we continue to invest in the key roles of Designated Safeguarding Leads and the team of deputies that support this key function. The Trust employs a Practice Improvement and Safeguarding Lead, independent of services and in addition to our Designated Safeguarding Leads, to provide an audit and assurance resource to the executive team and Governors.

The Governors are satisfied that the major risks have been identified and that all necessary actions are being taken to reduce the level of risk to the Trust. The Governors will continue to seek improvements in risk management processes as well as acting to continually address risks the organisation faces.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Governors of the Donaldson Trust is a charity registered in Scotland. It originated from a bequest by James Donaldson, who died in 1830. The charity's governing document is the Deed of Trust 2024, copies of which are available on request from its principal office.

The Deed of Trust provides for a maximum number of twelve Governors who form the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors, as the governing body, is responsible for the governance of the Trust, for setting the strategic direction, for managing the finances and overseeing the operational management of its activities.

All Governors and co-opted committee members have Disclosure Scotland checks in line with the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme.

Governors serve a three-year term and are eligible to be re-elected to serve a further three years. In exceptional circumstances a Governor may be re-elected to a third three-year term, subject to a special meeting and two thirds majority vote of the other Governors. Governors can be elected at any time during the year and their term begins on their first day in office.

The Board of Governors meet a minimum of four times each year. Three sub-committees support the Trust's governance and work. In addition, short-life committees are established as required. The three standing committees are:

Quality, People and Innovation (QPIC): provides policy guidance, oversight and scrutiny on all matters relating to the welfare and learning of children and young people, service quality and development and employment and staff development.

Finance and Audit (FAAC): provides policy guidance, oversight and scrutiny on all governance, financial, investment, internal controls, audit and risk management matters.

Nominations and Remuneration (Remco): provides policy guidance, oversight and scrutiny on all matters relating to board membership and structure and pay and reward.

Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The Governors delegate day to day management of the charity to the Chief Executive. The Board of Governors determine and set the pay for the Chief

Executive. The Governors recognise the need to ensure the charity is led by a professional, highly skilled and dedicated individual and sets the Chief Executive's remuneration in line with the specific role and responsibility, taking account of market rates including that paid to others within similar organisations. The Chief Executive makes proposals to the Nominations and Remuneration Committee on pay policy for the whole organisation.

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Details of the Governors, who are also the Trustees of the Trust under Charity Law, who served during the year are listed below, including appointment and resignation dates.

Name/committee membership	Appointment date
Sean Duffy Chair of the Board Remco	August 2021
Jack Rillie Chair of QPIC	August 2017 Resigned November 2023
Micheal Boyle FAAC	August 2016 Resigned July 2023
Richard Caldicott Chair of FAAC Remco	December 2018
Gill Gorman Vice Chair of the Board Chair of Remco QPIC	December 2018
Karen Anderson FAAC	September 2019
Jonathan Lee FAAC	December 2020
Fiona Forrest-Anderson Chair of QPIC Remco	December 2020
Deborah Rodger QPIC	December 2020
Lorraine Gilles QPIC	September 2023
Srishti Bakshi	September 2023
Sobia McGuire FAAC	November 2023

REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Registered Office: The Donaldson Trust
Preston Road
Linlithgow
EH49 6HZ

Delegated Authority

The Governors delegate day to day management of the charity to the Chief Executive who is supported by an Executive Leadership Team. In 2023/24 the following key management staff was in place:

Laura Watkins	Chief Executive
George Finnigan	Chief Operating Officer
Kate Clement	Director of People and Culture
Sarah Van Patten (resigned 6 th June 2023)	Director of Services
Samantha King (appointed 22 nd July 2024)	Director of Services

Details of professional advisors:

Bankers: Virgin Money
1 Bank Street
Falkirk
FK1 1NB

Auditor: BDO LLP
4th Floor
Citypoint
65 Haymarket Terrace
Edinburgh
EH12 5HD

Investment Managers: Brewin Dolphin
144 Morrison Street
Edinburgh
EH3 8BR

Solicitors: Burness Paull LLP
50 Lothian Road
Festival Square
Edinburgh
EH3 9

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

The Governors who were in office at the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware. Each of the Governors have confirmed that he or she has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as Governors in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Report was approved by the Governors on the 18th September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Sean Duffy
Convener

10th December 2024

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RESPECT OF THE GOVERNORS' REPORT AND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Governors are responsible for preparing the Report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the Governors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period.

In preparing these financial statements, the Governors are required to:

- * select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- * make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- * state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- * prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Governors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Financial statements are published on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements, which may vary from legislation in other jurisdictions. The maintenance and integrity of the charity's website is the responsibility of the Governors. The Governors responsibility also extends to the ongoing integrity of the financial statements contained therein.

On behalf of the Board



.....
Sean Duffy
Convener

10th December 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 31 March 2024 and its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and regulation 8 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, as amended.

We have audited the financial statements of Governors of the Donaldson Trust ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cashflow Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remain independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements 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.

Conclusions related to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The Governors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Report of the Governors of the Donaldson Trust, other than the financial statements and our 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. 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 we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST

in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 require us to report to you if, in our opinion;

- the information given in the Governors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- proper accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Governors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities in respect of The Governors' Report and the Financial Statements, the Governors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Governors are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Governors either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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:

Non-compliance with laws and regulations

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Review of minutes of meeting of those charged with governance for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST

- Review of correspondence with regulatory and tax authorities for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Review of financial statement disclosures and agreeing to supporting documentation; and
- Review of legal expenditure accounts to understand the nature of expenditure incurred.

Fraud

We assessed the susceptibility of the financial statements to material misstatement, including fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiry with management and those charged with governance regarding any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Obtaining and understanding of the Charity's policies and procedures relating to:
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
 - Internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud.
- Review of minutes of meeting of those charged with governance for any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Discussion amongst the engagement team as to how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- Determining whether the accounting policies and presentation adopted in the financial statements are in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and Charities SORP.

Based on our risk assessment, we considered the areas most susceptible to fraud to be Management Override and Income Recognition, specifically in relation to Education Income and Service Income.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business;
- Vouching balances and reconciling items in key control account reconciliations to supporting documentation as at 31 March 2024;
- Carrying out detailed testing, on a sample basis, of transactions and balances agreeing to appropriate documentary evidence to verify the completeness, existence and accuracy of the reported financial statements;
- Performing substantive analytical procedures over the educational income in relation to contribution from local authorities. We established an expectation of education income utilising expected rates and attendance of students from attendance registers maintained outside finance; and
- Selecting a sample of income balances recorded one month either side of the financial year end and agreed these to supporting evidence. Due to the threshold chosen, all samples were educational or service income as these streams are most susceptible to fraud.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO GOVERNORS OF THE DONALDSON TRUST

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that 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, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed 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 are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Financial Reporting Council's ("FRC's") website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's Governors, as a body, in accordance with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's Governors those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's Governors as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:
Martin Gill
B6F16A8EF9FD4ED...

For and on behalf of BDO LLP, Statutory Auditor
Edinburgh, UK
12 December 2024

BDO LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

THE DONALDSON TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2024 £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	2023 £
INCOME									
Donations & legacies	3	16,949	-	-	16,949	11,167	-	-	11,167
Other trading activities	3	51,006	-	-	51,006	61,865	-	-	61,865
Investments	3	301,599	-	-	301,599	245,776	-	-	245,776
Charitable activities	3	3,186,077	57,939	-	3,244,016	2,781,752	56,100	-	2,837,852
Total income		3,555,631	57,939	-	3,613,570	3,100,560	56,100	-	3,156,660
EXPENDITURE									
Raising funds	4	37,997	-	-	37,997	33,358	-	-	33,358
Charitable activities	4	3,505,559	65,594	-	3,571,153	2,843,091	63,085	-	2,906,176
Total expenditure		3,543,556	65,594	-	3,609,150	2,876,449	63,085	-	2,939,534
Net gains/(losses) on investments	9	-	-	745,965	745,965	-	-	(650,207)	(650,207)
Net income/(expenditure)		12,075	(7,655)	745,965	750,385	224,111	(6,985)	(650,207)	(433,081)
Transfers between funds	12	(748,717)	-	748,717	-	(198,513)	-	198,513	-
Net movement of funds		(736,642)	(7,655)	1,494,682	750,385	25,598	(6,985)	(451,694)	(433,081)
Reconciliation of funds									
Total Funds brought forward		9,098,597	10,707	8,151,845	17,261,149	9,072,999	17,692	8,603,539	17,694,230
Total Funds carried forward	12	8,361,955	3,052	9,646,527	18,011,534	9,098,597	10,707	8,151,845	17,261,149

**THE DONALDSON TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets	8	5,388,877	5,624,254
Investments	9	9,646,527	8,151,845
		15,035,404	13,776,099
Current assets			
Debtors	10	214,071	196,445
Short term investments		2,000,000	2,540,326
Cash at bank and in hand		1,187,118	1,166,829
		3,401,189	3,903,600
Creditors:			
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(425,059)	(418,550)
Net current assets		2,976,130	3,485,050
Net assets	13	18,011,534	17,261,149
Funds			
Unrestricted funds	12	8,361,955	9,098,597
Restricted funds	12	3,052	10,707
Endowment funds	12	9,646,527	8,151,845
Total Funds		18,011,534	17,261,149

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Governors and authorised for issue on 10th December 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:



.....
Sean Duffy
Convener

**THE DONALDSON TRUST
CASHFLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net cash provided by operating activities	17	(48,145)	294,211
Cash flow from investing activities:			
Dividends and interest from investments		301,599	264,951
Payment for tangible fixed assets		(24,774)	(75,096)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		-	10,000
Payment for investments		(4,373,414)	(1,279,257)
Movement in cash held for investment		(327,853)	51,155
Proceeds from sale of investments		3,952,550	1,029,589
Sale/(Purchase) of fixed term deposits		540,326	(533,501)
Net cash provided by investing activities		<u>68,434</u>	<u>(532,159)</u>
Change in cash, cash equivalents		20,289	(237,948)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,166,829	1,404,777
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u><u>1,187,118</u></u>	<u><u>1,166,829</u></u>
Analysis of cash and cash equivalents:			
Cash and cash equivalents comprise:			
Cash at bank		1,159,247	1,126,619
Cash in hand		954	445
Short term investment deposits		26,917	39,765
		<u><u>1,187,118</u></u>	<u><u>1,166,829</u></u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Donaldson Trust is a charitable trust governed by the Donaldson Trust Scheme 2009 and is a registered charity with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. The charity number, address of the charity's principal office and the nature of its principal activities is set out in the Reference and Administrative section of the Governors' Report.

The presentation currency of these financial statements is GBP. The level of rounding is to the nearest GBP.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of investments, and in accordance with accounting standards, the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006, the terms of the charity's founding deed and the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015). The principal accounting policies, which have been adopted on a consistent basis within that convention, are set out below.

The Donaldson Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

b) Going Concern

The charity's activities and principal risks are described in the Governors Report. In preparing these financial statements, budgets have been examined and the funds of the charity reviewed. In reviewing budget stress testing assumptions, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

Our main income streams relate to GASS and local authority, with GASS being confirmed for 2024/25 and an expectation this will continue in 2025/26. There is no indication that funding from local authorities will be withdrawn. Services continue to show an increase in income with growth planned in the next twelve months.

Expenditure will increase in line with our growth plans over the next twelve months. Our reserves position, which show available funds of £12.8m, being over 3 years of the current budget year expenditure, provides assurance that this will not negatively impact our reserves position, with our reserves policy being maintained throughout 2025/26 and beyond.

The Governors having a reasonable expectation that we have adequate resources to cover our financial commitments for a period of at least twelve months from date of approval of the financial statements and believe that the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Government income and Grants

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Legacies and donations

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate.

Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably, and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Interest and dividends

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Dividends are accrued when the shareholder's right to receive payment is established. Measurement is at the fair value receivable, which will normally be the transaction value.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

Other income

Fees receivable and charges for services and use of premises are accounted for in the period in which the service is provided. Fees receivable are stated after deducting allowances, scholarships and other remissions granted by the Trust.

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity heading:

- Expenditure on charitable activities consist of directly attributable salary costs for teaching and support staff, the supply of teaching resources, boarding costs, training of teaching and support staff and all expenditure relating to the provision of education.

Irrecoverable VAT

The Trust is not registered for VAT and accordingly expenditure includes irrecoverable VAT where appropriate.

Redundancy and termination costs

Redundancy and termination payments are recognised in the year to which they relate.

Termination benefits are measured at the best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligation at the reporting date. If the expected settlement date of the termination payments is 12 months or more after making the provision and the effect would be material, the present value of the obligation must be calculated using an appropriate discount rate.

Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back-office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Trusts charitable activities.

These costs have been allocated between costs of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are set out in note 4a.

Liabilities are recognised as resources expended as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure. All expenditure is accounted for on an accrual basis and is allocated directly to expense headings.

Governance costs comprise the costs of providing strategic development for future planning, the employment costs of the clerk to the Board post, external audit, and any legal advice received for complying with constitutional and statutory requirements training the Governors.

e) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets

Building improvements and extensions costing more than £5,000 and furniture and equipment costing more than £500 are capitalised and carried in the balance sheet at historical cost.

The charity is responsible for keeping all buildings, fixtures and fittings in fit and useful condition. The costs for doing so are written off as and when incurred.

The property encompassing all land and buildings, is carried on a depreciated replacement costs basis, based upon a valuation completed by an independent valuer.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, with the exception of land where no depreciation is charged, at rates calculated to write off the costs less estimated residual value on each asset, by equal annual instalments, over their expected useful lives which are considered to be:

Property	- 30 years
Property Fixtures and Fittings	- 10-15 years
Fixtures and Fittings	- 2-5 years
Information Technology	- 2-5 years
Vehicles	- 3 years

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

The applicability of the assumed lives is reviewed annually, taking into account factors such as physical condition, maintenance and obsolescence.

Tangible fixed assets are also assessed as to whether there are indicators of impairment. This assessment involves consideration of the economic viability of the purpose for which the asset is used.

f) Pensions

Pension contributions are made to approved pension schemes (see note 14). In accordance with FRS 102, these are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the year in which they are incurred.

g) Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the balance sheet date. Realised gains and losses on disposals in the year and unrealised gains and losses on investments at the balance sheet date are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

h) Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities evenly over the period of the lease.

i) Cash and cash equivalents

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

j) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discounts offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid after taking account of any trade discount due.

k) Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

l) Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

m) Funds

Unrestricted funds

Comprise those funds which the Governors are free to use in accordance with the charitable objectives.

Restricted funds

Funds that can only be used for restricted purposes within the objectives of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Restricted funds are created on receipt of capital grants and released over the useful life of the asset. Revenue grants received for a restricted purpose are treated as restricted funds and the income released when the associated costs are incurred.

Endowment fund

Investments are held as fixed assets and are revalued at the balance sheet date and the gain or loss taken to the Statement of Financial Activities. Normally in any one financial year the Governors can expend up to 10% of the Endowment Fund. This can be increased to an amount agreed by the Governors by passing a resolution with a majority of two-thirds.

n) Key judgements and estimates

To be able to prepare financial statements in accordance with FRS 102, the Governors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts. The estimates and judgements are based on historical experiences and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable at the time such estimates and judgements are made. The areas involving a degree of judgement significant to the view given by these statements are:

- Accrued income: dividends (see Interest and dividends sub-section within the Income policy above)
- Accruals and provisions: costs not yet invoiced (see Creditors and provisions policy above)
- Depreciation and impairment (see Tangible fixed assets and depreciation policy above)
- Allocation of support costs (see Allocation of support costs sub-section within the Expenses policy above)

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

3. INCOME	Donations and Legacies	Other trading activities	Investment Income	Income from Charitable Activities	2024	Donations and Legacies	Other trading activities	Investment Income	Income from Charitable Activities	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Dividends	-	-	209,939	-	209,939	-	-	206,037	-	206,037
Donations	16,949	-	-	-	16,949	11,167	-	-	-	11,167
Bank interest	-	-	91,660	-	91,660	-	-	39,739	-	39,739
Fees from Local Authorities	-	-	-	1,069,047	1,069,047	-	-	-	719,470	719,470
Education revenue grant from Scottish Government	-	-	-	1,947,616	1,947,616	-	-	-	1,945,277	1,945,277
Capital and other grants from Scottish Government	-	-	-	48,336	48,336	-	-	-	50,588	50,588
Fees from Private	-	-	-	163,193	163,193	-	-	-	111,722	111,722
Other Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	500	500
Other educational income	-	-	-	15,824	15,824	-	-	-	10,295	10,295
Premises hire	-	40,584	-	-	40,584	-	40,572	-	-	40,572
Other income	-	10,422	-	-	10,422	-	11,293	-	-	11,293
Gain on sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
	16,949	51,006	301,599	3,244,016	3,613,570	11,167	61,865	245,776	2,837,852	3,156,660
Unrestricted funds	16,949	51,006	301,599	3,186,077	3,555,631	11,167	61,865	245,776	2,781,752	3,100,560
Restricted funds	-	-	-	57,939	57,939	-	-	-	56,100	56,100
Total	16,949	51,006	301,599	3,244,016	3,613,570	11,167	61,865	245,776	2,837,852	3,156,660

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

4. EXPENDITURE

	Notes	Activities Undertaken £	Supports Costs (Note 4a) £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities					
Salaries		1,943,968	229,233	2,173,201	1,782,273
Other charitable activities costs		325,204	255,557	580,761	521,134
Premises		750,958	34,848	785,806	574,764
Governance	5	20,780	10,605	31,385	28,005
		3,040,910	530,243	3,571,153	2,906,176
Raising funds					
Investment management fee		37,997	-	37,997	33,358
Total expenditure		3,078,907	530,243	3,609,150	2,939,534

At 31 March 2023

	Activities Undertaken £	Supports Costs (Note 4a) £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Charitable activities				
Salaries	1,584,018	198,255	1,782,273	1,582,181
Other charitable activities costs	277,552	243,582	521,134	574,024
Premises	541,550	33,214	574,764	543,350
Governance	18,310	9,695	28,005	25,395
Total expenditure	2,421,430	484,746	2,906,176	2,724,950
Raising funds				
Investment management fee	33,358	-	33,358	34,754
Total expenditure	2,454,788	484,746	2,939,534	2,759,704

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

4. EXPENDITURE (continued)

4a. SUPPORT COST ALLOCATION

	Salaries	Other Charitable Costs	Premises	Governance	2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Support Costs						
IT	-	110,779	15,106	2,569	128,454	134,534
HR	229,233	-	-	4,678	233,911	202,301
Finance	-	144,778	19,742	3,358	167,878	147,911
	229,233	255,557	34,848	10,605	530,243	484,746

At 31 March 2023

	Salaries	Other Charitable Costs	Premises	Governance	Totals 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Support Costs						
IT	-	116,022	15,821	2,691	134,534	137,427
HR	198,255	-	-	4,046	202,301	279,001
Finance	-	127,560	17,393	2,958	147,911	156,790
	198,255	243,582	33,214	9,695	484,746	573,218

Allocations based on staff numbers for Premises and Governance.

All Management support cost have been allocated to Salaries.

Expenditure on Charitable Activities was £3,571,153 (2023: £2,906,176) of which £3,505,559 was unrestricted (2023: £2,843,091) and £65,594 was restricted (2023: £63,085).

5. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Professional fees	20,780	18,310
Support costs (note 4a)	10,605	9,695
	31,385	28,005

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

6. STAFF COSTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,792,519	1,464,292
Redundancy costs	3,793	-
Social security	152,158	133,134
Pension contributions	224,731	184,847
	<u>2,173,201</u>	<u>1,782,273</u>

The key management personnel are the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, the Director of People and Culture and the Director of Services whose employee benefits totalled £352,740 (2023: £298,260).

The average number of full time equivalent employees in the year was:	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Teaching staff	6	5
Other staff	64	38
	<u>70</u>	<u>43</u>

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000, excluding pension and NI, was:

	2024	2023
£70,000 - £79,999	1	1
£80,000 - £89,999	1	1
£90,000 - £99,999	-	1
£100,000 - £109,999	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Retirement benefits are accruing for one of the members of staff above in a defined benefit scheme (SPPA).

7. AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION

	2024	2023
	£	£
Audit fee	<u>20,000</u>	<u>16,380</u>

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Property £	Property Fixtures and Fittings £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Information Technology £	Vehicles £	Total £
Cost						
Balance at 1 April 2023	19,549,147	1,413,918	408,621	260,642	44,323	21,676,651
Additions	-	8,790	8,449	7,535	-	24,774
Disposals	-	-	-	(714)	-	(714)
Balance at 31 March 2024	19,549,147	1,422,708	417,070	267,463	44,323	21,700,711
Accumulated depreciation						
Balance at 1 April 2023	14,550,309	896,036	384,354	195,283	26,415	16,052,397
Charge for the year	142,300	62,974	8,627	39,087	7,163	260,151
Depreciation on disposals	-	-	-	(714)	-	(714)
Balance at 31 March 2024	14,692,609	959,010	392,981	233,656	33,578	16,311,834
Net book value						
At 31 March 2024	4,856,538	463,698	24,089	33,807	10,745	5,388,877
At 31 March 2023	4,998,838	517,882	24,267	65,359	17,908	5,624,254

Included within property is £1,300,000 (2023: £1,300,000) of land which is not depreciated.

9. INVESTMENTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Market Value at 1 April	8,080,467	8,481,006
Less: Disposals at opening market value	(3,889,802)	(1,080,710)
Add: Acquisitions at cost	4,373,414	1,279,257
Unrealised gains/(losses)	683,217	(599,086)
Market value at 31 March	9,247,296	8,080,467
Cash held for investment	399,231	71,378
Total investments	9,646,527	8,151,845
Historical cost of listed investments as at 31 March	8,486,939	7,772,998
Realised gains/(losses)	62,748	(51,121)

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

10. DEBTORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	113,557	92,332
Prepayments and accrued income	100,514	104,113
	<u>214,071</u>	<u>196,445</u>

11. CREDITORS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	138,123	99,250
Pension creditors	30,444	30,251
Other tax and social security	41,210	49,363
Accruals and deferred income	215,282	239,686
	<u>425,059</u>	<u>418,550</u>

Deferred Income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Opening balance at 1st April	9,528	12,796
Released in year	(9,528)	(12,796)
Deferred in year	7,511	9,528
Closing balance at 31st March	<u>7,511</u>	<u>9,528</u>

Accruals and deferred income includes an amount of £7,511 (2023: £9,528) for Pupil Equity Funding from the Scottish Government received in 2023/24 (2022/23) to be expended in 2024/25 (2023/24).

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

12. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers Between Funds £	Gains and Losses £	Balance at 31 March 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Ordinary	9,098,597	3,555,631	(3,543,556)	(748,717)	-	8,361,955
Restricted funds	10,707	57,939	(65,594)	-	-	3,052
Endowment funds	8,151,845	-	-	748,717	745,965	9,646,527
Total Funds	17,261,149	3,613,570	(3,609,150)	-	745,965	18,011,534

At 31 March 2023

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers Between Funds £	Gains and Losses £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Ordinary	9,072,999	3,100,560	(2,876,449)	(198,513)	-	9,098,597
Restricted funds	17,692	56,100	(63,085)	-	-	10,707
Endowment funds	8,603,539	-	-	198,513	(650,207)	8,151,845
Total Funds	17,694,230	3,156,660	(2,939,534)	-	(650,207)	17,261,149

Restricted funds are £3,052 (2023: £10,707) which represents income received for a number of projects that are ongoing and will be released appropriately and income received for capital expenditure and will be released over the useful life of the assets funded.

The Endowment Fund includes the original endowment from Mr Donaldson plus other amounts transferred into our investments over time.

THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)

12. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN FUNDS (continued)

Restricted fund analysis:

	Capital Grant	Other funds	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 April 2023	10,372	335	10,707
Income	57,939	-	57,939
Expenditure	(65,259)	(335)	(65,594)
Balance at 31 March 2024	3,052	-	3,052

At 31 March 2023

	Capital Grant	Other funds	Total
	£	£	£
Balance at 1 April 2022	17,692	-	17,692
Income	36,600	19,500	56,100
Expenditure	(43,920)	(19,165)	(63,085)
Balance at 31 March 2023	10,372	335	10,707

Total transfers between funds in the year to 31 March 2024 were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Unrestricted general funds	(748,717)	(198,513)
Endowment funds	748,717	198,513

The transfer of funds from endowment funds to unrestricted general funds reflects the investment portfolio valuation with the difference on revaluation taken to unrestricted funds.

13. NET ASSETS BY FUND

At 31 March 2024

	Fixed assets	Investments	Net current assets	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	5,385,825	-	2,976,130	8,361,955
Restricted funds	3,052	-	-	3,052
Endowment funds	-	9,646,527	-	9,646,527
	5,388,877	9,646,527	2,976,130	18,011,534

At 31 March 2023

	Fixed assets	Investments	Net current assets	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	5,613,882	-	3,484,715	9,098,597
Restricted funds	10,372	-	335	10,707
Endowment funds	-	8,151,845	-	8,151,845
	5,624,254	8,151,845	3,485,050	17,261,149

**THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)**

14. PENSIONS

a) The Donaldson Trust participates in the Scottish Teachers' Superannuation Scheme. The scheme is an unfunded statutory public service pension scheme with benefits underwritten by the UK Government. The scheme is financed by payments from employers and from those current employees who are members of the scheme and paying contributions at progressively higher marginal rates based on pensionable pay, as specified in the regulations. The rate of employer contributions is set with reference to a funding valuation undertaken by the scheme actuary. The last four-yearly valuation was undertaken as at 31 March 2016. This valuation informed an increase in the employer contribution rate from 17.2% to 23.0% of pensionable pay from September 2019 and an anticipated yield of 9.4% employees contributions.

b) The Donaldson Trust has no liability for other employers' obligations to the multi-employer scheme.

c) As the scheme is unfunded there can be no deficit or surplus to distribute on the wind-up of the scheme or withdrawal from the scheme.

(d)(i) The scheme is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefit scheme.

(ii) It is accepted that the scheme can be treated for accounting purposes as a defined contribution scheme in circumstances where The Donaldson Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme.

(iii) The employer contribution rate for the period from 1 April 2021 is 23% of pensionable pay. The employee rate applied is variable and is anticipated to provide a yield of 9.4% of pensionable pay.

(iv) While a valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2016, it is not possible to say what deficit or surplus may affect future contributions. Work on the valuation was suspended by the UK Government pending the decision from the Court of Appeal (McCloud (Judiciary scheme)/Sargeant (Firefighters' Scheme) cases) that held that the transitional protections provided as part of the 2015 reforms was unlawfully discriminated on the grounds of age. Following consultation and an announcement in February 2021 on proposals to remedy the discrimination, the UK Government confirmed that the cost control element of the 2016 valuations could be completed. The UK Government has also asked the Government Actuary to review whether, and to what extent, the cost control mechanism is meeting its original objectives. The 2020 actuarial valuations took the report's findings into account. The interim report is complete (restricted) and is currently being finalised with a consultation. Alongside these announcements, the UK Government confirmed that current employer contribution rates would stay in force until 1 April 2024.

(v) The Donaldson Trust's level of participation in the scheme is 0.02% based on the proportion of employer contributions paid in 2021/22 financial year.

**THE DONALDSON TRUST
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024**

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS (continued)

15. TOTAL COMMITMENTS

	2024	2023
	£	£
< 1 Year	8,222	12,287
Within 2 – 5 years	11,161	1,972
	19,383	14,259
Lease payments recognised as an expense	14,302	15,804

16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year Governor Sean Duffy received reimbursed travel expenses of £184 (2023: £72).

No Governors received remuneration in the year (2023: £nil).

The Professional indemnity insurance and Governors' and Officers' liability insurance is included as part of the Trust's insurance cover.

17. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOMING RESOURCES TO THE NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATIONS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	750,385	(433,081)
Dividends and Interest from Investments	(301,599)	(264,951)
Losses/(Gains) on investments	(745,965)	650,207
(Gain) on disposal of fixed asset	(0)	(9,656)
Depreciation	260,151	297,342
(Increase) in debtors	(17,626)	(78,127)
Increase in short term creditors	6,509	132,477
Net cash provided by operations	(48,145)	294,211

18. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The Donaldson Trust is governed by its Trust Deed. Day to day operations are delegated to the Executive Leadership Team.