ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996





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A member of Horwath International



ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

COMPANY NUMBER

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 311062

DIRECTORS D K Baker
Miss A Jacob

N A Robertson Mrs M E Marsh B G Goodall Mrs A Priestley

535836

COMPANY SECRETARY Mrs P Murray-Jones

BUSINESS ADDRESS Barrington Road

Letchworth Hertfordshire SG6 3JZ

REGISTERED OFFICE Barrington Road

Letchworth Hertfordshire SG6 3JZ

AUDITORS Clark Whitehill

25 New Street Square

London EC4A 3LN

PRINCIPAL BANKERS Barclays Bank plc

Station Place Letchworth Hertfordshire

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

The Directors present their report, together with the audited financial statements of St Christopher School (Letchworth) Limited for the year ended 31 August 1996.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY, BUSINESS REVIEW AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The School is a registered charity and its object is the education of girls, boys and adult students of either sex.

The results are set out on page 6.

The Directors consider the excess of income over expenditure to be satisfactory. The review of the year is in the Chairman's report on page 4.

ORGANISATION

The Directors determine the general policy of the School. The day to day management is delegated to the Headmaster and the Bursar.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Directors are required to:

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

The Directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

MARKET VALUE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS

The leasehold properties were revalued by the Directors on 31 August 1979 and additions since that date are included at cost.

Due to the specialised nature of the buildings, the market value of the company's properties is difficult to ascertain. However the Directors consider that such value would be greater than the written down value at which they are included in the annexed balance sheet.

ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

FIXED ASSETS

The movements in fixed assets during the year are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

RESOURCES

Note 12 splits the funds between those restricted as to their use, those designated for specific purposes and those available for the day to day requirements of the School. The Directors consider that the assets held in these funds are available and adequate to fulfil the obligations of the School.

DIRECTORS

The Directors during the year under review and the shares in the company in which they were interested at the beginning and end of the year were:

Ordinary shares of £1 each
At 1 September 1995 31 August 1996

D K Baker	4	4
Miss A Jacob	4	4
N A Robertson	4	4
Mrs M E Marsh	4	4
B G Goodall	•	4
Mrs A Priestley	-	-

AUDITORS

Secretary

Haines Watts resigned as auditors during the year and were replaced by Clark Whitehill. A resolution to re-appoint Clark Whitehill will be made in accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985.

This report was approved by the board on: 9/2/97.

Signed on behalf of the board of Directors

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ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

The Governors consider the results for the year to be satisfactory given the difficult market for independent schools in 1995/96. The demand for boarding places was weak, especially in the middle years, and the shortfall was only partially covered by an increase in day pupils. The resulting fall in fee income, and an increase in expenses in line with inflation, produced an inevitable reduction in our operating surplus.

On the positive side, demand for places in the Montessori, the Junior School and in the Sixth Form has improved considerably, and the Governors have authorised a new marketing initiative for younger day pupils, including the provision of a school bus service for those living in North London.

There were a number of significant developments during the year:

- excellent results were obtained in public examinations with GCSE grades achieved reaching a new record for the School,
- the magnificent new Craft, Design and Technology wing was completed on time and opened for business at the start of the Autumn Term,
- after extremely protracted and time consuming negotiations, the School finally acquired the lease on the adjacent property, Ladybarn. Some refurbishment of the building is required to provide new classrooms and a Sixth Form Centre ready for September 1997,
- the Governors authorised the formation of a trading company St. Christopher School Guilds Limited - to enable the most tax effective use of the School's assets for purposes other than education.

The School is developing plans for the future to take account of an increased proportion of day pupils and these will affect decisions in respect of staffing, buildings and capital expenditure.

Neil Robertson Chairman

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AUDITORS REPORT
TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF
ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED

25 New Street Square London EC4A 3LN Telephone 0171-353 1577 Facsimile 0171-583 1720 DX 0014 London Chancery Lane

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We have audited the financial statements on pages 6 to 16 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 9.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

As described on page 2 the company's Directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those financial statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of the information in the financial statements.

Unqualified Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs at 31 August 1996 and of the surplus for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor

CLA Whitchill

how. 8 February 1997

ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

		Unrestricted			
	Notes	School	Restricted	1006	***
	Notes	Fund £	Funds £	1996	1995
INCOMING RESOURCES		æ	at .	£	£
Fees receivable	2	3,216,034	_	3,216,034	3,269,830
Donations and other income	_	17,148	51,412	68,560	111,706
Bank and other interest		80,204	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	80,204	66,971
					
Total Incoming Resources		3,313,386	51,412	3,364,798	3,448,507
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct Charitable Expenditure:				_	
Teaching costs		1,527,964	-	1,527,964	1,464,208
Welfare Premises		601,273	-	601,273	609,354
Administration of the School		565,251 461,713	1114	565,251	549,045
Administration of the School		401,/15	1,114	462,827	<u>396,847</u>
		3,156,201	1,114	3,157,315	3,019,454
Other Expenditure:					
Interest		8,502	-	8,502	12,800
Management and administration					
of the Charity		8,137		<u>8,137</u>	
		16 620		16620	40.000
		16,639	-	16,639	12,800
Total Resources Expended	5	3,172,840	1,114	3,173,954	3,032,254
Net Incoming Resources		140,546	50,298	190,844	416,253
Unrealised gain on investment assets			42	42	
assets		<u>-</u> _	43	43	
Net Movement in funds		140,546	50,341	190,887	416,253
			30,311		110,200
Balances brought forward at					
1 September 1995		4,744,424	45,825	4,790,249	4,313,996
Restatement of fixed assets		283,030		283,030	343,030
As restated		5,027,454	45,825	5,073,279	4,657,026
Balances carried forward at					
31 August 1996		5,168,000	96,166	5,264,166	5 072 270
		2,100,000	70,100	7,204,100	<i>5,073,279</i>

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these accounts.

BALANCE SHEET

For The Year Ended 31 August 1996

	Notes	1996 \$	1995 £
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		20	æ
School building and equipment	6	5,093,248	<i>4,498,967</i>
INVESTMENTS	7	243	200
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	133,001	192,893
Cash		858,727	1,134,385
		991,728	1,327,278
CREDITORS: amounts due within one year	9	(475,982)	(454,026)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		515,746	873,252
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,609,237	5,372,419
CREDITORS: amounts due after more than one year			
Bank loan	10	(44,137)	(59,606)
Other loan Final term deposits		(300,906)	(3,208) (236,298)
That term deposits		(300,900)	(230,298)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		5,264,194	5,073,307
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Called up share capital	11	28	28
RESTRICTED FUNDS	12a	96,166	45,825
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
Designated	12b	4,939,637	4,380,663
General	12c	228,363	646,791
		5,264,194	5,073,307

Approved by the Directors on 8 Kbay 1997. and signed on its behalf by

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these accounts.

ST CHRISTOPHER SCHOOL (LETCHWORTH) LIMITED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

	Notes	£	1996 £	1995 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities	15		466,588	<u>336,967</u>
Returns on investments and servicing of finance Interest received Interest paid		80,204 (8,502)		66,971 (12,800)
Net cash inflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance			71,702	54,171
Investing activities Payments to acquire tangible assets Receipts from sale of tangible fixed assets		(796,337) <u>859</u>		(217,380)
Net cash outflow from investing activities			(795,478)	(216,980)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow before financing			(257,188)	174,158
Financing Loan repayments		(18,470)		(17,790)
Net cash outflow from financing			(18,470)	(17,790)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	17		(275,658)	156,368

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain asset and in accordance with applicable standards and the principals of the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting by Charities".

On 17 July 1996 the Company formed a subsidiary undertaking in which it holds a 100% interest, St. Christopher School Guilds Limited. The first accounts for this undertaking will be drawn to 31 August 1997. Consolidated accounts have not been prepared as at 31 August 1996. In the period 17 July 1996 to 31 August 1996 St. Christopher School Guilds Limited earned income of \$37,394 and incurred expenses of \$730, and had an issued share capital of \$2.

b) Tangible Fixed Assets

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets in use, other than freehold land, at rates and bases calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings - over 50 years

Long leasehold property, acquired prior to 1979 - over the term of the lease

Long leasehold property - other - over 50 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment - over 5 years
Motor vehicles - over 5 years
Computer equipment - over 3 years
Temporary classrooms - over 10 years

Long leasehold property acquired prior to 1979 represents historic buildings for which the School makes adequate provision in respect of upkeep and maintenance. The Directors consider it to be appropriate to depreciate these buildings over the life of the lease which at 31 August 1996 had 118 years to run.

c) Fees

Fees consist of charges for the School year ending 31 August 1996, less bursaries and allowances.

d) Expenditure

Expenditure is allocated to expense headings either on a direct cost basis, or apportioned according to time spent.

e) Teaching costs

Supplies of games equipment, books, stationery and sundry materials are written off to the General Revenue account when the expenditure is incurred.

f) Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 1996

FEES RECEIVABLE	1996	1995
	æ	£
Fees receivable consists of:		
Gross fees	3,496,463	<i>3,507,553</i>
Less: Bursaries	(109,743)	(82,607)
Allowances	(170,686)	(155,116)
	3,216,034	3,269,830
Expenditure		
Direct charitable expenditure includes:		
	17,442	-
	,	(400)
, ,		(200)
Other expenditure includes:		
Auditor's remuneration:		
for audit	7,344	6,463
for other services		-
STAFF COSTS		
Wages and salaries	1,886,799	1,851,953
Social security costs		149,452
Pension contributions	105,326	96,225
	2,143,949	2,097,630
staff. Neither the Directors nor persons connected with ther other benefits from the School or any connected organisation	n received any i	8 were teaching remuneration or No.
	Fees receivable consists of: Gross fees Less: Bursaries Allowances EXPENDITURE Direct charitable expenditure includes: Ex-Gratia and redundancy costs Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets Other expenditure includes: Auditor's remuneration: for audit for other services STAFF COSTS Wages and salaries Social security costs Pension contributions The average number of employers in the year was 114 (1995 - staff. Neither the Directors nor persons connected with ther other benefits from the School or any connected organisation The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £40,00	Fees receivable consists of: Gross fees 3,496,463 Less: Bursaries (109,743) Allowances (170,686) EXPENDITURE Direct charitable expenditure includes: Ex-Gratia and redundancy costs 17,442 Loss/(profit) on disposal of fixed assets - Other expenditure includes: Auditor's remuneration: for audit 7,344 for other services - STAFF COSTS Wages and salaries 1,886,799 Social security costs 151,824 Pension contributions 105,326 2,143,949 The average number of employers in the year was 114 (1995 - 118) of which 4 staff. Neither the Directors nor persons connected with them received any rother benefits from the School or any connected organisation The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded \$40,000 were:

5.	ANALYSIS OF TOTAL RESOURCES EXPE	NDED			
		Staff costs	Other	Depreciation	n Total
		£	£	•	£ £
	Direct Charitable Expenditure:				
	Education	1,330,319	156,029	41,61	6 1,527,964
	Housekeeping	415,257	167,024	18,99	
	Premises	183,240	250,628	131,38	
	Administration of the School	215,133	238,488	9,20	
	Other Expenditure:	2,143,949	812,169	201,19	7 3,157,315
	Interest Management and Administration of the	•	8,502		- 8,502
	Charity	-	8,137		<u>-</u> 8,137
		2,143,949	828,808	201,19	7 3,173,954
6.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			Long	
			Freehold	Leasehold	Total
			property	property	Property
			Froperty &	froperty £	Froperty £
	Cost/valuation		<i>a</i> 0	alu	æ
	1 September 1995		162,050	5,058,793	5,220,843
	Additions		102,000	655,204	655,204
	Disposals		-	-	
	31 August 1996	,	162,050	5,713,997	5,876,047
	Depreciation 1005				
	1 September 1995		14,205	1,125,392	1,139,597
	Prior year adjustment		<u>-</u>	(283,030)	(283,030)
	Charge for year		2,841	103,220	106,061
	Disposals	•			
	31 August 1996		17,046	945,582	962,628
	Net book values				
	31 August 1996	•	145,004	4,768,415	4,913,419
	31 August 1995	•	147,845	4,216,431	4,364,276

The historical cost of leasehold land and buildings included above at a valuation of £1,116,000 was £400,319. The leasehold land and buildings were revalued by the directors on 31 August 1979.

6.	TANGIBLE FIXED Ass	sets (Contin	UED)			
		Total Property &	Motor vehicles	Fixtures fittings and equipment \$	Computer equipment	Total &
	Cost/valuation					
	1 September 1995 Additions Disposals	5,220,843 655,204	50,784 - -	523,462 118,182 (859)	131,635 22,951	5,926,724 796,337 (859)
	31 August 1996	5,876,047	50,784	640,785	154,586	6,722,202
	Depreciation 1 September 1995	1,139,597	40,429	442,522	88,239	1,710,787
	Prior year adjustment Charge for year Disposals	(283,030) 106,061	7,926 -	52,755	34,455	(283,030) 201,197
	31 August 1996	962,628	48,355	495,277	122,694	1,628,954
	Net book values 31 August 1996	4,913,419	2,429	145,508	31,892	5,093,248
	31 August 1995	4,364,276	10,355	80,940	43,396	4,498,967
7.	Investments				1996 £	1995 £
	At mid-market value Balance at 1 Septembe Revaluations	r 1995			200 43	200
	Balance at 31 August 1	996			243	200
8.	DEBTORS					
	Fees				84,072	102,279
	Other debtors				6,212	47,701
	Prepayments				42,717	42,913
					133,001	192,893

9.	CREDITORS: Due within one year	1996	1995
	·	2	£
	Bank loan and overdrafts	15,189	14,690
	Other loan	3,208	3,500
	Fees in Advance	321,721	<i>302,357</i>
	Trade creditors	32,714	<i>55,568</i>
	Other taxes and social security	47,158	45,500
	Accruals and deferred income	46,041	19,821
	Other creditors	9,951	12,590
		475,982	454,026
10.	LOAN CREDITOR		
	The bank loan is repayable by instalments		
	after five years	-	3,647
	Due within two to five years	30,348	40,770
	Due within one to two years	13,789	15,189
	Due after more than one year	44,137	59,606
	Due within one year (See Note 9)	15,189	14,690
		59,326	74,296

The mortgage is repayable by monthly instalments over 25 years from June 1990 and interest is charged at 2% above the Midland Banks base rate. The loan is secured on the company's freehold property.

11.	SHARE CAPITAL Authorised Ordinary shares of £1 each	No. 1996 50	Value 1996 50	No. 1995 50	Value 1995 50
	Allotted and fully paid: Ordinary shares of £1 each	28	28	28	28

The ordinary shareholders have no rights to receive any dividend or bonus out of profits and no rights to surplus assets on a winding up.

12. ALLOCATION OF THE CHARITY NET ASSETS

The net assets are held for the various funds as follows:

		Fixed		Net current	Long term	
		assets £	Investments £	assets &	liabilities £	Total
		æ	æ	æ	æ.	£
	Restricted funds General funds:	94,285	243	1,638	-	96,166
	Designated funds	4,998,963	-	(15,189)		,939,637
	Unrestricted Share capital	<u> </u>		529,269 28	(300,906)	228,363 28
		5,093,248	243	515,746	(345,043) 5	,264,194
12a	RESTRICTED FUNDS					
		Balance 1 September	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Transfers Investment	31 August
		1995 £	£	£	Gains/(losses)	
	Scholarships and bursaries	1,817	21		43	1,881
	2,000 Development appeal fund	44,008	51,391	(1,114)	-	94,285
		45,825	51,412	(1,114)	43	96,166
12b	DESIGNATED FUNDS					
	Fixed assets in use	3,183,773	•	•	1,214,178	4,397,951
	Revaluation reserve Building reserve	446,890 750,000		-	(655,204	446,890) 94,796
	v	4,380,663			558,974	
	The designated fund reproperty.	presents the Sc	hool's investm	ent in fixed a	ssets less loans	secured on
12c.	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	3				
	General	646,791	140,546	 .	(558,974)	228,363
	The unrestricted funds are retained as necessary to cover working capital requirements.					ents.

13. CONTRACTS AND COMMITMENTS

As at 31 August 1996, the School had contracted for building work amounting to £38,820. There were also amounts totalling £283,790 that were authorised but had not been contracted for at that date.

14. Pension Costs

The teaching staff are members of the DFE Teachers' Pension Agency Teachers' Superannuation Scheme which is a defined contribution scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the school in an independently administered fund. The school also contributes to the personal pension plans of those non-teaching staff who are eligible and wish to avail themselves of the facility. The pension costs charge represents contributions payable by the school and amounted to £105,326 (1995: £96,225).

15. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATIONS

	FROM OPERATIONS		
		1996	1995
		£	£
	Net incoming resources	190,844	476,253
	Depreciation and amortisation charges	201,197	129,550
	Profit on sale of fixed assets	-	(400)
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	59,892	10,497
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors	86,357	(224,762)
	Net interest received	<u>(71,702)</u>	<u>(54,171)</u>
		466,588	336,967
16.	Analysis Of Changes In Cash And Cash Equivalents In The Year		
	Balance at 1 September 1995	1,134,385	978,017
	Net cash inflow/(outflow)	(275,658)	156,368
		858,727	1,134,385

17. Analysis Of The Balance Of Cash And Cash Equivalent As Shown In The Balance Sheet

		Change	
	1995	in year	1996
	£	£	\$
Bank account - development fund	100	-	100
Deposit account - bursary	1,134	5	1,139
Bank business premium account	74,393	990,727	1,065,120
Money market account	1,059,379	(1,059,379)	-
Bank account - special donation fund	2,837	28	2,865
Bank account	(4,658)	(207,039)	(211,697)
Cash floats	1,200		1,200
	1,134,385	(275,658)	858,727