



ANNUAL REPORT

OF

**THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
METHODIST COLLEGE BELFAST**

SCHOOL YEAR 2016-2017

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Membership of the Board of Governors (September 2016)

Mr M Humphreys ¹(2017) Chairman

Rev JM Unsworth ¹ (2016) Ministerial Secretary

Mrs E Shaw ² (2017) Lay Secretary

Mr E Bell ¹ (2017) Treasurer, Convener of the Finance Committee

Rev JD Alderdice ¹(2017)

Mrs P Arneill ²(2017)

Mrs SP Bret ² (2017)

Mrs B Callaghan MBE ¹ (2018)

Rev DA Campton ¹ (2017)

Mr J Clarke ¹ (2018)

Rev Dr RN Clutterbuck ¹ (2017)

Dr JK Fleming ³ (2017)

Sir J Gillen ⁵

Rev E Hyland ¹(2018)

Mr N Jackson ² (2017)

Ms R Johnston ² (2017)

Mr T Lowry ³ (2017)

Mrs R McCartney ¹ (2017)

Mr M McElhinney ¹ (2019)

Mrs H McHugh ¹ (2019)

Miss O Moore ⁴ (2017)

Mrs G Morrison ⁴ (2017)

Mr W Patterson ¹ (2016)

Mrs J Rainey ¹ (2017)

Professor Sir D Rea ¹ (2018)

Rev Dr J Stephens ¹ (2019) Secretary of Conference

Prof WA Strong ¹ (2017)

The Principal (*ex officio, non-voting*)

¹ Appointed by the Conference of the Methodist Church in Ireland

² Appointed by the Department of Education

³ Elected by parents

⁴ Elected by the teaching staff

⁵ Co-opted member

Dates in brackets indicate the year at the end of which a Governor's period of office is concluded, except for those appointed by the Conference of the Methodist Church in Ireland whose period of office ends in June of the year stated.

ENROLMENTS (2016-2017)

Preparatory Department

(Downey House & Fullerton House)

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total
34	43	39	29	44	39	42	270

Secondary Department

Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Total
246	255	252	254	251	268	249	1775

Overall Total: 2045

SUBJECTS OFFERED AT GCSE, AS AND A LEVEL (2016-2017)

GCSE Level	AS Level	A-Level
Art & Design	Art & Design	Applied Business Studies
Biology	Biology	Archaeology
Business Studies	Business Studies	Art & Design
Chemistry	Chemistry	Biology
Classical Civilisation	Classical Civilisation	Chemistry
Computer Science	Computing	Classical Civilisation
Drama	Digital Technology	Computing
Economics	Drama & Theatre Studies	Drama & Theatre Studies
English & English Literature	Economics	Economics
French	English Literature	English Literature
Further Maths	Environmental Technology	Environmental Technology
Geography	French	French
Geology	Further Mathematics	Further Mathematics
German	Geography	Geography
History	Geology	Geology
Home Economics	German	German
ICT	Government & Politics	Government & Politics
Latin	Health & Social Care	Health & Social Care
Learning for Life & Work	History	History
Mathematics	ICT	Home Economics
Moving Image Arts	Latin	ICT
Music	Latin	Mathematics
Physical Education	Mathematics	Moving Image Arts
Physics	Moving Image Arts	Music
Religious Education	Music	Physical Education
Russian	Nutrition & Food Science	Physics
Science	Physics	Psychology
Spanish	Psychology	Religious Studies
Technology & Design	Religious Studies	Russian
	Russian	Spanish
	Spanish	Technology & Design
	Technology & Design	

Other subjects offered in the Sixth Form (2016-2017)

Arabic	Music
Information Technology	Philosophy
Irish	Speak Your Mind
Mandarin	What's Cooking?

PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS, LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS, AND RATE (2016-2017)

Form 5 (Year 12) – GCSE

GCSE Examinations

Number entered		number achieving (a) male (b) female (c) total										
		Grades A* - C					Grades A* - G					
		7+		5+			5+			1 - 4		
(a)	141	(a)	129	91.5%	(a)	140	99.3%	(a)	141	100%	(a)	0
(b)	108	(b)	104	96.3%	(b)	107	99.1%	(b)	108	100%	(b)	0
(c)	249	(c)	233	93.6%	(c)	247	99.2%	(c)	249	100%	(c)	0

Form L6 (Year 13) - AS Level

AS Level examinations

No. in final year of course		number achieving (a) male (b) female (c) total					
		3+ at Grades A – C			2+ Grades A – E		
(a)	146	(a)	88	60.3%	(a)	142	97.3%
(b)	116	(b)	79	68.1%	(b)	113	97.4%
(c)	262	(c)	167	63.7%	(c)	255	97.3%

Form U6 (Year 14) - AS & A Level

AS Levels			A Level							
			number achieving (a) male (b) female (c) total							
No. of subjects/vocational areas	No. in final year of course	No achieving 1+ Grades at A - E	No. in final year of course		Number achieving					
					3+ Grades A - C		2+ Grades A – E			
28	5	5	(a)	107	(a)	84	78.5%	(a)	106	99.1%
			(b)	139	(b)	120	86.3%	(b)	139	100%
			(c)	246	(c)	204	82.9%	(c)	245	99.6%

Leavers' destinations

(a) male (b) female (c) total

No. of leavers		HE		FE		Another School		Employment		Other/Unknown			
(a)	126	(a)	93	34.07%	(a)	18	6.59%	(a)	2	0.73%	(a)	10	3.66%
(b)	147	(b)	124	45.42%	(b)	2	0.73%	(b)	3	1.10%	(b)	17	6.23%
(c)	273	(c)	217	79.49%	(c)	20	7.33%	(c)	5	1.83%	(c)	27	9.89%

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

No. of possible attendance sessions	No. of sessions attended	% attendance
654002	625163	95.59%

Provisional Distribution of A2 Grades by Subject for 2017

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	entries A*-E
Art & Design	1	2	6	2	0	0	0	11
%	9.1	18.2	54.5	18.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Biology	19	25	24	10	1	1	0	80
%	23.8	31.3	30.0	12.5	1.3	1.3	0.0	100.0
Business Studies	5	9	25	11	0	0	0	50
%	10.0	18.0	50.0	22.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Chemistry	6	21	17	9	1	1	0	55
%	10.9	38.2	30.9	16.4	1.8	1.8	0.0	100.0
Classical Civilisation	0	5	2	2	1	0	0	10
%	0.0	50.0	20.0	20.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Computer Studies	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	4
%	0.0	25.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	100.0
Design and Tech	0	2	10	4	2	0	0	18
%	0.0	11.1	55.6	22.2	11.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Drama	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	11
%	0.0	36.4	63.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Economics	2	9	8	2	2	0	0	23
%	8.7	39.1	34.8	8.7	8.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
English Literature	9	5	12	6	4	0	0	36
%	25.0	13.9	33.3	16.7	11.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Environmental Studies	1	3	9	4	0	0	0	17
%	5.9	17.6	52.9	23.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
French	3	6	3	1	1	0	0	14
%	21.4	42.9	21.4	7.1	7.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Geography	8	8	9	9	3	0	1	38
%	21.1	21.1	23.7	23.7	7.9	0.0	2.6	97.4
German	1	1	4	1	0	0	0	7
%	14.3	14.3	57.1	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Health & Social Care	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	7
%	0.0	14.3	71.4	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
History	8	17	21	4	5	0	0	55
%	14.5	30.9	38.2	7.3	9.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Home Economics	0	7	1	3	2	0	0	13
%	0.0	53.8	7.7	23.1	15.4	0.0	0.0	100.0
Information Tech	1	0	4	4	2	0	0	11
%	9.1	0.0	36.4	36.4	18.2	0.0	0.0	100.0
IT/Art	1	5	2	2	0	0	0	10
%	10.0	50.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Latin	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	4
%	0.0	25.0	75.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Mathematics	29	34	18	10	2	2	0	95
%	30.5	35.8	18.9	10.5	2.1	2.1	0.0	100.0
Mathematics Further	9	0	3	0	0	0	0	12
%	75.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Music	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	7
%	42.9	42.9	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Physics	4	13	8	3	1	0	0	29
%	13.8	44.8	27.6	10.3	3.4	0.0	0.0	100.0
Politics	1	5	6	5	1	0	0	18
%	5.6	27.8	33.3	27.8	5.6	0.0	0.0	100.0
Psychology	1	3	18	15	5	2	1	45
%	2.2	6.7	40.0	33.3	11.1	4.4	2.2	97.8
Religious Studies	4	5	11	8	0	0	1	29
%	13.8	17.2	37.9	27.6	0.0	0.0	3.4	96.6
Science: Geology	1	2	2	5	3	1	0	14
%	7.1	14.3	14.3	35.7	21.4	7.1	0.0	100.0
Spanish	4	9	6	5	3	0	0	27
%	14.8	33.3	22.2	18.5	11.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Total	121	206	245	127	39	9	3	750
%	16.1	27.5	32.7	16.9	5.2	1.2	0.4	99.6

A LEVEL RESULTS 2013-2017

PAPERS AND GRADES OBTAINED

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	TOTAL
2013	175	280	226	107	63	34	8	893
2014	109	221	195	104	43	29	4	705
2015	117	217	226	123	64	24	3	774
2016	77	243	208	138	62	18	5	751
2017	121	206	245	127	39	9	3	750

PERCENTAGE OF GRADES OBTAINED TO TOTAL NUMBER

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
2013	19.6	31.40	25.31	11.98	7.05	3.81	0.90
2014	15.50	31.30	27.70	14.80	6.10	4.10	0.60
2015	15.10	28.00	29.20	15.90	8.30	3.10	0.40
2016	10.25	32.36	27.70	18.38	8.26	2.40	0.67
2017	16.17	27.47	32.67	16.93	5.20	1.20	0.40

CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF GRADES OBTAINED TO TOTAL NUMBER

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
2013	19.60	50.95	76.26	88.24	95.30	99.10	0.90
2014	15.50	46.80	74.50	89.30	95.40	99.50	0.60
2015	15.10	43.20	72.40	88.20	96.50	99.60	0.40
2016	10.25	42.61	70.31	88.68	96.94	99.33	0.67
2017	16.17	43.60	76.27	93.20	98.40	99.60	0.40

NUMBER OF PUPILS WITH THREE OR MORE A*/A'GRADES

2013	97
2014	60
2015	64
2016	55
2017	61

Provisional Distribution of AS Grades by Subject for 2017

	A	B	C	D	E	U	entries A-E
Art & Design	7	2	2	0	0	0	11
%	63.6	18.2	18.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Biology	31	21	22	11	9	3	97
%	32.0	21.6	22.7	11.3	9.3	3.1	96.9
Business Studies	21	25	10	6	1	1	64
%	32.8	39.1	15.6	9.4	1.6	1.6	98.4
Chemistry	29	25	10	16	9	4	93
%	31.2	26.9	10.8	17.2	9.7	4.3	95.7
Class. Civilisation	5	2	4	1	0	1	13
%	38.5	15.4	30.8	7.7	0.0	7.7	92.3
Computer Science	1	3	3	0	2	1	10
%	10.0	30.0	30.0	0.0	20.0	10.0	90.0
Design and Tech	2	4	3	5	0	0	14
%	14.3	28.6	21.4	35.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
Economics	8	10	8	1	2	2	31
%	25.8	32.3	25.8	3.2	6.5	6.5	93.5
English Literature	18	13	10	3	1	0	45
%	40.0	28.9	22.2	6.7	2.2	0.0	100.0
Environmental Studies	5	7	6	2	0	0	20
%	25.0	35.0	30.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
French	6	0	5	1	0	0	12
%	50.0	0.0	41.7	8.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Geography	13	10	20	13	3	2	61
%	21.3	16.4	32.8	21.3	4.9	3.3	96.7
Geology	4	2	3	2	2	0	13
%	30.8	15.4	23.1	15.4	15.4	0.0	100.0
German	4	2	0	1	0	0	7
%	57.1	28.6	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Health & Social Care	1	10	1	1	0	0	13
%	7.7	76.9	7.7	7.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
History	22	17	7	5	4	0	55
%	40.0	30.9	12.7	9.1	7.3	0.0	100.0
Home Economics	6	2	2	0	0	0	10
%	60.0	20.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Information Tech	1	5	5	1	1	2	15
%	6.7	33.3	33.3	6.7	6.7	13.3	86.7
Latin	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
%	66.7	33.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Mathematics	55	22	27	13	9	3	129
%	42.6	17.1	20.9	10.1	7.0	2.3	97.7
Media Film and TV Studies	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
%	71.4	28.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Music	5	2	0	0	0	0	7
%	71.4	28.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Physics	21	8	15	9	7	9	69
%	30.4	11.6	21.7	13.0	10.1	13.0	87.0
Politics	2	8	5	4	0	0	19
%	10.5	42.1	26.3	21.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Psychology	9	8	13	12	10	4	56
%	16.1	14.3	23.2	21.4	17.9	7.1	92.9
Religious Studies	11	11	3	3	0	0	28
%	39.3	39.3	10.7	10.7	0.0	0.0	100.0
Russian	4	2	0	1	0	0	7
%	57.1	28.6	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0	100.0
Spanish	13	7	3	1	0	0	24
%	54.2	29.2	12.5	4.2	0.0	0.0	100.0
Total	311	231	187	112	60	32	933
%	33.3	24.8	20.0	12.0	6.4	3.4	96.6

AS LEVEL RESULTS 2013 - 2017

PAPERS AND GRADES OBTAINED

	A	B	C	D	E	U	TOTAL
2013	361	201	153	104	60	47	926
2014	398	246	173	127	71	50	1065
2015	357	247	204	113	70	41	1032
2016	356	271	189	86	40	24	966
2017	311	231	187	112	60	32	933

PERCENTAGE OF GRADES OBTAINED TO TOTAL NUMBER

	A	B	C	D	E	U
2013	38.98	21.71	16.52	11.23	6.48	5.08
2014	37.40	23.10	16.20	11.90	6.70	4.70
2015	34.60	23.93	19.80	10.95	6.80	3.97
2016	36.85	28.05	19.57	8.90	4.14	2.48
2017	33.33	24.76	20.04	12.00	6.43	3.43

CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF GRADES OBTAINED TO TOTAL NUMBER

	A	AB	ABC	ABCD	ABCDE	U
2013	38.98	60.65	77.21	88.44	94.92	5.08
2014	37.40	60.50	76.70	88.60	95.30	4.70
2015	34.60	58.53	78.20	89.24	96.03	3.97
2016	36.85	64.91	84.47	93.37	97.52	2.48
2017	33.33	58.09	78.14	90.14	96.57	3.43

NUMBER OF PUPILS WITH THREE OR MORE 'A' GRADES

2013	67
2014	64
2015	59
2016	65
2017	50

Provisional Distribution of Form 5 GCSE Grades by Subject for 2017

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	entriesA*-C
Art & Design	6	12	6	3	1	0	0	0	0	28
%	21.4	42.9	21.4	10.7	3.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	96.4
Biology	44	61	54	40	4	0	2	0	0	205
%	21.5	29.8	26.3	19.5	2.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	97.1
Business Studies	8	17	19	15	4	1	0	1	0	65
%	12.3	26.2	29.2	23.1	6.2	1.5	0.0	1.5	0.0	90.8
Chemistry	42	74	40	23	7	5	0	0	0	191
%	22.0	38.7	20.9	12.0	3.7	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	93.7
Class. Civilisation	2	4	5	6	4	1	0	0	0	22
%	9.1	18.2	22.7	27.3	18.2	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	77.3
Computer Science	3	0	5	1	0	3	1	0	0	13
%	23.1	0.0	38.5	7.7	0.0	23.1	7.7	0.0	0.0	69.2
Design and Tech	7	12	17	8	8	0	0	0	0	52
%	13.5	23.1	32.7	15.4	15.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	84.6
Economics	7	8	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	23
%	30.4	34.8	30.4	4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
English Language	45	108	65	28	3	0	0	0	0	249
%	18.1	43.4	26.1	11.2	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.8
English Literature	66	93	66	20	3	0	0	0	0	248
%	26.6	37.5	26.6	8.1	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.8
French	21	16	16	26	8	2	0	0	0	89
%	23.6	18.0	18.0	29.2	9.0	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	88.8
Geography	12	29	30	8	3	0	0	0	0	82
%	14.6	35.4	36.6	9.8	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	96.3
German	6	5	11	4	3	2	0	0	0	31
%	19.4	16.1	35.5	12.9	9.7	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	83.9
History	45	33	28	7	1	0	0	0	0	114
%	39.5	28.9	24.6	6.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.1
Home Economics	2	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	18
%	11.1	44.4	33.3	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Information Tech	2	6	6	1	3	1	0	1	0	20
%	10.0	30.0	30.0	5.0	15.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	75.0
Latin	15	9	8	6	3	0	0	0	0	41
%	36.6	22.0	19.5	14.6	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.7
Mathematics	100	61	48	35	3	2	0	0	0	249
%	40.2	24.5	19.3	14.1	1.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	98.0
Mathematics Further	60	22	11	2	0	0	1	0	0	96
%	62.5	22.9	11.5	2.1	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	99.0
Media Film and TV Studies	2	5	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	13
%	15.4	38.5	30.8	7.7	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	92.3
Music	11	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
%	50.0	40.9	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Performing Arts	11	13	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	31
%	35.5	41.9	16.1	6.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Physics	33	61	54	27	5	2	0	0	0	182
%	18.1	33.5	29.7	14.8	2.7	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	96.2
Religious Studies	60	83	55	37	7	4	1	0	0	247
%	24.3	33.6	22.3	15.0	2.8	1.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	95.1
Russian	7	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
%	50.0	42.9	7.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Spanish	17	20	20	14	12	4	1	0	0	88
%	19.3	22.7	22.7	15.9	13.6	4.5	1.1	0.0	0.0	80.7
Sports Studies	3	12	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	20
%	15.0	60.0	20.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Total	637	787	593	318	83	27	6	2	0	2453
%	26.0	32.1	24.2	13.0	3.4	1.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	95.2

GCSE LEVEL RESULTS 2013 - 2017

PAPERS AND GRADES OBTAINED

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	TOTAL
2013	653	878	692	271	45	8	4	2	1	2554
2014	509	802	682	345	86	17	3	0	2	2446
2015	605	780	671	314	67	24	2	1	0	2464
2016	565	842	708	299	73	10	1	2	0	2500
2017	637	787	593	318	83	27	6	2	0	2453

PERCENTAGE OF GRADES OBTAINED TO TOTAL NUMBER

	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
2013	25.57	34.38	27.09	10.61	1.76	0.31	0.16	0.08	0.04
2014	20.80	32.80	27.90	14.10	3.50	0.70	0.10	0.00	0.10
2015	24.60	31.70	27.20	12.70	2.70	1.00	0.10	0.00	0.00
2016	22.60	33.68	28.32	11.96	2.92	0.40	0.04	0.08	0.00
2017	25.97	32.08	24.17	12.96	3.38	1.10	0.24	0.08	0.00

CUMULATIVE PERCENTAGE OF GRADES OBTAINED TO TOTAL NUMBER

	A*	A*A	A*AB	A*ABC	D	DE	DEF	DEFG	DEFGU
2013	25.57	59.95	87.04	97.65	1.76	2.08	2.23	2.31	2.35
2014	20.80	53.60	81.50	95.60	99.10	99.80	99.90	99.90	0.10
2015	24.60	56.20	83.40	96.20	2.70	3.70	3.80	3.80	3.80
2016	22.60	56.28	84.60	96.56	2.92	3.32	3.36	3.44	3.44
2017	25.97	58.05	82.23	95.19	3.38	4.48	4.73	4.81	4.81

NUMBER OF PUPILS WITH SEVEN OR MORE A AND A* GRADES

2013	128
2014	104
2015	116
2016	112
2017	123

ANALYSIS OF EXAMINATION RESULTS 2017– KEY STAGES 1, 2 AND 3

Key Stage 1

% of pupils achieving	Teacher Assessment
English Level 2 or above	88.89%
English Level 3 or above	29.63%
Mathematics Level 2 or above	85.18%
Mathematics Level 3 or above	22.22%

Key Stage 2

% of pupils achieving	Teacher Assessment
English Level 4 or above	93.02%
English Level 5 or above	25.58%
Mathematics Level 4 or above	95.35%
Mathematics Level 5 or above	34.88%

Key Stage 3

% of pupils achieving	Teacher Assessment
English Level 5 or above	Results not entered
English Level 6 or above	Results not entered
Mathematics Level 5 or above	Results not entered
Mathematics Level 6 or above	Results not entered

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The following sporting activities are offered in the College:

Athletics Club (Boys' and Girls')	Hockey Club (Boys' and Girls')	Squash Club
Basketball Club (Girls')	Netball Club (Form 1, Jnr & Snr)	Swimming Club
Cricket Club	Rowing Club (Boys' and Girls')	Tennis Club (Boys' and Girls')
Football Club (L6th & U6th)	Rugby Club	Water Polo (Boys' and Girls')
Golf Team		

The following Clubs and Societies meet regularly:

Art Club (Junior)	Cookery Club (F1-F3)	Model United Nations
Astronomy Club	Debating Society (Junior & Senior)	Modelling Club
Band	Design Club	Moneybox
Bar Mock Trial (L6th & U6th)	Drama (Junior & Senior)	Music Society
Bayanihan Society (10 Foundations)	Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	Natural History Film Club
Biology Society	Earthquake Club	News Team
Book Group (L6th & U6th)	Entertainments Group	Orchestra (Junior & Senior)
Chess Club	Equestrian Club	Psychology Society (L6th & U6th)
Choir (Chapel) (Forms 4-U6th)	Form Councils	Romania Society (Form 4 – U6th)
Choir (Girls')	Geography Society	Russian Club
Choir (Junior & Senior)	Geological Society	School Council
Choir (Junior Singers)	Hewitt Society (L6th & U6th)	Science Club (Junior)
Christian Union (Junior & Senior)	India Society	Sew Lovely
Christians in Sport	Jazz Band	Traditional Group
Classics Society (Junior)	Knitting Club (5th & 6th Form)	Young Enterprise (L6th)
Computer Club		

MAJOR SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS (TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL)

<p>Hockey (Girls)</p>	<p>Although last year was a very successful year on the hockey pitch, this year was very successful off the pitch. The hockey team of 2015-2016 won the Belfast Telegraph's Young Team of the Year and the team got to meet Carl Frampton, Pat Jennings and Michael O'Neill at the awards ceremony. This was a huge achievement as no other hockey team from Methody had ever been nominated. The team also won Belfast City Council's Young Team of the Year. It was a very successful year in terms of awards.</p> <p>On an individual level Olivia Savage had great success by becoming the Ulster Interpro champion with U16s and the Irish U16s.</p>
<p>Cricket Girls</p>	<p>Girls' cricket was reintroduced into the college this year and this was highly successful season. The U13 girls' tournament, organised by Cricket Ireland was for a second successive year won by MCB. The girls beat Strathearn, Regent, Wallace, Friends and Banbridge Academy on their way to reclaiming the title.</p> <p>Freya Watson and Lois Lyttle both represented the Northern Knights U15XI in the summer's inter-pro series. Amy Hunter was selected for all the junior Knights teams but also made her debut for the full Northern Knights ladies' team as well as playing for the Irish ladies' U17 side.</p>
<p>Athletics</p>	<p>The College was once again crowned the top athletics school in Ulster by winning both the Girls' and Boys' overall competitions with the girls collecting the Junior and Intermediate Cups and the boys retaining the Minor and Intermediate age groups.</p>
<p>Netball</p>	<p>Methodist College Minor Netball Team made history by winning two major titles in 2017. Winning the local Belfast League the Minor Team, made up of girls from Form Two, proceeded to the quarter final of the Northern Ireland League and after some very tough matches in between won the NI League for the first time in the sporting history of MCB. To accompany this the Minors had a very successful run in the NI Cup from the first round to winning the grand final displaying skill and team work throughout all their games. A truly fantastic success story for the Minor Netball Team and for girls' netball at the College.</p>
<p>Basketball</p>	<p>This year we had three pupils representing Northern Ireland; Charley McGrath (Northern Irish and Irish U17), Georgie McGrath (NI U16) and Laura McCann (NI U16). This was a fantastic achievement</p>
<p>Water Polo</p>	<p>Among Methody's senior players, Caleb Bowden and Owen Murphy, both achieved caps for both the Ulster and Irish Junior National Teams with Adam Cushley achieving caps for the Ulster Junior water polo team. On top of the successes two of our senior boys' team, Adam Cushley and Justin Bajoraitis, got selected to join the Ulster schools' water polo team touring around Scotland and playing against many of the top university teams. This campaign was highly successful earning the boys a lot of medals and trophies.</p>
<p>Cycling</p>	<p>Xeno Young won a Silver medal in the Individual Pursuit at the recent Junior Track Cycling World Championships in Italy, setting a new Irish record in the process; this followed up on his Silver European Track championships. Xeno is the only Irish Junior cyclist to be selected to ride in the Track and Road events at both the European and World Championships. He is currently ranked number one in the UCI Junior Rankings in the Individual Pursuit and ranked Number 2 in the Ominium event.</p>
<p>Boxing</p>	<p>Colm Murphy represented Northern Ireland at the Commonwealth Youth Games in July 2017 in the Bahamas. He was not originally picked to go but was added as a late replacement due to someone changing weight class. He proceeded throughout the rounds and had the opportunity to compete for the Silver medal. Unfortunately, this was not to be, this time!</p>

OTHER EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS (GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS)

Art	<p>In January, Mr Naismith, Dr Moore and Mrs Braband attended the launch of CCEA's True Colours showcase in the Ulster Museum. This year, two of our students had work chosen for exhibition - Ramesh Wilson of L6 had his GCSE examination coursework selected and Naomi Clarke, of last year's U6, had her A2 Personal Investigation coursework selected.</p> <p>In February we learnt that Sophie Rourke of Form 3 had been successful in getting through to the Regional Finals of the Bank of Ireland Junk Kouture competition, where secondary age pupils from all over Ireland and Scotland design outfits from recycled materials. As there were over 1,300 entries, Sophie did very well to get this far.</p>
Bar Mock Trial	<p>A team of Senior school pupils took part in the Bar Mock Trial competition at the Royal Courts of Justice in Belfast in November. The team of 16 pupils from Form Four – Upper Sixth took on the roles of Advocates, Witnesses and court officials. They won two of out of three cases on judgement but faced stiff competition from Coleraine Grammar School in one of their heats. They were ably assisted in their preparation by Moira Smyth QC and former pupils Keith McGarry, David McDowell and Lauren Cheshire. Whilst they were disappointed to not make it to the final, each one commented on how much they had learnt through the experience and how determined they were to succeed next year!</p>
History	<p>The year started well with news that Daniel Heraghty was placed second overall in GCSE History in the Summer 2016 series and Kirsten Webb first at A2 level in the CCEA Boards. These are both fantastic achievements considering the numbers of pupils entered for this exams.</p> <p>Likewise, we were honoured that two L6 pupils, Emilie McConnell and Rachael Mclvor, were chosen to represent the school in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme in which they worked with pupils from other schools in Holocaust awareness activities culminating in a trip to Auschwitz in March. They found this trip harrowing and emotional yet came back determined to spread awareness of the Holocaust and its impact.</p>
Computing	<p>James Matchett (U6) continues to develop his interest and experience in the Computing industry. He gave a speech at Queen's University this week at the Sentinus Celebration Day. Out of 75 Sentinus placements across NI, James and one other student were picked to do a speech about their experience. Through his placement with Intelligent Environments during the summer he came up with a solution to add a new tool to their testing framework. James is hoping to submit his mobile GIS app, which alerts the public to potential terror threats on a live basis, to the Sentinus Young Innovators Award. This follows on from James's award at a previous Kainos CodeCamp. He is also hoping to develop a communication app for the College as part of his A Level course.</p>
Drama	<p>The junior school play was the Disney musical "Beauty and the Beast" telling a love story between the beast and a young woman who offers herself in place of her imprisoned father. She is unaware that her captor is actually a prince, physically altered by a magic spell. Everyone in the cast and crew were very committed to the show, giving 100% in each practice and during the performances. The show was performed 3 times, once for the local primary school children and twice for friends and family in the Whitla Hall. There was a great turnout at every single performance.</p> <p>The senior school production was Frank Loesser's musical masterpiece "Guys and Dolls". This contemporary classic tells the tale of star crossed lovers Sergeant Sarah Brown of the</p>

	<p>Salvation Army and inveterate gambler and man about town Sky Masterton. Mirroring their story is the romance between Nathan and Adelaide a couple who have been engaged for 14 years. In the end both couples make it to the altar.</p> <p>It is a timeless story that has the ability to have the audience laughing and singing along. The main cast was joined by a show-stopping chorus, who dedicated many hours of rehearsal to achieve a brilliant production. The dancing, singing and acting throughout was of an impressive standard, which really worked to bring the whole show to life.</p>
English	<p>In March 2017, the English Department were delighted to welcome to the College renowned Irish Poet and Critic Dr Alan Gillis. Dr Gillis was presenting the annual Sheila Smyth Lecture to our Sixth Form English Literature students. He chose as his topic 'Contemporary Poetry and Satire', and engaged fiercely with the role and function of satirical poetry in 21-Century society. Following the lecture, our Upper Sixth students were invited to the College Library, where Dr Gillis and invited guests continued discussion and shared ideas.</p> <p>The News Team interviewed Baroness May Blood about integrated education for BBC News School Report.</p> <p>In October, Jack O'Dwyer-Henry (U6) and Benjamin O'Kane (U6) faced a team from Dalriada in the qualifying round of Debating Matters, organised by the Institute of Ideas and held in Queen's University. The challenge, on this occasion, was to propose the motion that 'Medical Data Sharing is a Threat to Our Privacy'.</p> <p>In February, a team of four girls: Jasmijn Hofman (4X), Audree Hassan (4T), Zara Watson (4T) and Julia Fitzpatrick (4V) participated in the Literific Schools' Debating Competition at Queen's University.</p> <p>Stormont played host to the annual Edgar Graham Memorial Public Speaking Competition, organised by the Ulster Unionist Party. Sofina Ali (L6W) delivered a five-minute speech entitled 'The NHS should give free access to abortions for Northern Irish women', whereas Jacques Picton (5V) argued that 'In Northern Ireland we should do more to welcome refugees and asylum seekers into our communities'.</p> <p>A great number of Form One and Form two pupils had 100 word prose pieces published in Young Writers 'Welcome to Wonderland' anthology.</p>
German	<p>In the summer of 2016 Olivia Copeland won a place on a German Language course organised by the UK German Connection.</p> <p>Methody won the German Debating Competition and Calum Macrae was awarded the prize for the best speaker.</p>
Moving Image Arts	<p>In October, one of our Form 5 Moving Image Arts pupils, Mercer Macwilliam Hughes, had his short film 'Dirty Money' shortlisted as one of 12 finalists from over 200 entries in the Young Film-Maker section of RODE Reel, an international film-making competition. He then entered the same film into Cinemagic, a local film-making competition, and it was shortlisted for the next round of judging and a screening at QFT later in October.</p> <p>Yet again, this year a number of Methody students gained places in the BFI Academy. This highly competitive scheme offers young, talented film makers the opportunity to work</p>

	<p>alongside industry professionals on a collaborative film project that will be screened in the QFT in Belfast in February</p> <p>In April, GCSE Moving Image Arts pupils, along with Mrs Davidson, had the chance to visit the Ulster University for a presentation on the opportunities in animation and film available for young people with a passion for the arts. They were given an engaging and informative talk, led by University Chancellor and actor, James Nesbitt, and lecturer Conann Fitzpatrick, about the influence of recent innovations in VR technology on film-making and the merits of taking a course at the university. The students managed to take full advantage of their new relationship with James Nesbitt by asking him to sponsor a screening of their work in the Queens Film Theatre later that term. He agreed to fund the show which took place in June, but sadly wasn't available to officially open the event.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>The Chapel Choir enjoyed a residency in Westminster Abbey in mid-July whilst the Abbey Choir was on holiday. They performed Evensongs to large crowds each day and also travelled to Windsor to sing Evensong in the beautiful setting of St George's Chapel, which is situated in the grounds of Windsor Castle.</p> <p>Also in September a Choral Scholarships' Seminar, led by ex-MCB pupil David Martin, now a lay clerk in the Choir of Westminster Abbey and Director of Ensemble Plus Ultra, was held in the Chapel. Three MCB pupils, Caroline McCartney, Thomas Copeland and Michael Hong took part and were each given mock choral trials. In St Anne's Cathedral the following day, Caroline McCartney was presented with a Church of Ireland Organ Scholarship, which she will hold for two years.</p> <p>In October many of the choral and instrumental groups took part in the Autumn Concert. The Senior Choir performed <i>Eternal Light Requiem</i> by Howard Goodall. At the composer's invitation, 37 members of the Chapel Choir travelled to New York to sing in the NY première of his <i>Eternal Light Requiem</i> in November in Carnegie Hall. The composer was present as the Chapel Choir joined with other choirs from around the world. The Choir also sang at the offices of the Consulate General of Ireland at a reception to announce Mr Michael Dowling as the Grand Marshall of the New York St Patrick Day parade 2017.</p> <p>On St Patrick's Day Radio 4 morning service came live from the Chapel of Unity and the year ended with the Leavers' Service and Junior Prize day in June. Many of our pupils took part in summer courses organised by the Ulster Youth Orchestra, the Ulster Youth Choir and the Charles Wood Summer School.</p>
<p>Science</p>	<p>The Sentinus Team R&D Programme aims to increase the number of young people choosing science and engineering as a career by giving them an insight into STEM research and development working with local industries. Dariush Abehlekoob, Jackson Cordner, Sean Terek, Jamie Wilson and Rahul Yellavarjula in L6 have been awarded CREST Gold Awards through the Sentinus R&D Scheme.</p> <p>Congratulations also to all the Methody Physics students on their successes in the 2017 UK GCSE and AS Challenges, and the A2 Olympiad competition. Pride of place goes to Form 5 pupils Aditya Kashyap and Igor Silin who both received Gold Awards in the GCSE</p>

Challenge. Over 3500 entries were received and the Gold Award was given to only the top 5% of the candidates.

In the same event Two Silver awards (top 15%) and Eight Bronze awards were given to MCB students. Excellent results were also achieved in the AS event where Methody students were successful in gaining Four Silver awards (top 15%) and Five Bronze awards. In the A2 Olympiad Paul Storrs(Head Boy) and Charlie White were both successful in gaining Bronze Awards. 85% of the MCB entries received Awards. More than 50% of the entries nationally do not reach the Award standard. All tests are extremely demanding and are based on problem solving scenarios. These tests give our pupils the chance to participate in additional ,super-curricular opportunities and test themselves against the best Physicists in the UK.

GCSE PHYSICS Challenge

Gold Aditya Kashyap & Igor Silin

Silver James Pratt & David Walmsley

Bronze 1 Gregory Conway, Ram Pentlaveli, Holly Hewitt, Lauren Calvert, Biliana Todorova & Ali Basraa

Bronze 2 Andy Zhou & Kaiwen Liu

AS PHYSICS Challenge

Silver Mohammed Ali, Jonathan Forsythe, Jack Martin & Aaron Sommerville

Bronze 1 Adam Smylie

Bronze 2 Ross Gilmore, William Lyons, Josh Marsden & Sean Terek

A2 PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

Bronze II Paul Storrs & Charlotte White

Civilisation Belfast is an annual event that has been hosted by Civil Engineering at Queen's University Belfast for the last three years. It gives young people a flavour of the many different ways civil engineers help our city to function through a series of site visits hosted by many of the civil engineering employers in Northern Ireland who were eager to inspire the civil engineering graduates of the future. This year Charlie White (U6), Zoe Hagan (L6) & James Kelly (L6) secured places on the event and found the experience very enjoyable and informative

During the year several Lower 6 pupils secured places on Villiers Park courses on Science topics.

Rahul Yellavarjula How the Universe Lives and Dies

Adam Smylie The Quantum Universe

Jonathan Forsythe Computer Science

Ross Gilmore Exploration of Space

Sean Terek Exploration of Space

Congratulations to Louis Burnett who won the Form 3 Chemistry Design a Blast Furnace competition and to Josh Marsden, Rhianna Cooper, Callum Nelson and Cesar Fernandez Llamera who were each awarded a Copper Award in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge 2017. Over 7000 students from around 500 schools in the UK participated in the challenge.

Pride of place goes to Michael Hong who won a Bronze Medal in the 49th International Chemistry Olympiad, which was held in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, in July 2017. Michael Hong represented the Republic of Ireland in a team of four, selected from across the island.

College Ambassador Awards	Peter Gilmore and Caleb Bowden were presented with Ambassador Awards. Peter was recognised for his contribution to sailing and Caleb for Water Polo.
Rank Foundation	Congratulations to Darragh Tibbs who is the first pupil in Northern Ireland to receive a Rank Foundation Leadership Award. Darragh will attend a Leadership Day in London during L6 and U6. He will also experience a Community Action Placement each summer, spending two weeks with inspirational projects within the Rank network.

SPECIAL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

In the 2017 A Level, AS Level and GCSE examinations, many top places were taken by our pupils:

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

CCEA A Level

(Northern Ireland placings)

First in Further Mathematics	Michael Hong
Third in Business Studies	Patrick Loughridge
Third in Environmental Technology	Flora Weir
Third in Spanish	Tanvi Roberts
Joint Second in History	Nicola Eames
Joint Third in English Literature	Tanvi Roberts

CCEA GCSE

(Northern Ireland placings)

Second in Economic	Hannah Cameron
Second in Mathematics	Aaron Rodgers
Third in Chemistry	James Pratt
Joint First in French	Olivia Copeland
Joint First in Further Mathematics	Teddy Hopkins
Joint First in Further Mathematics	James Pratt
Joint First in Mathematics	James Pratt
Joint Second in French	Louis Cannet

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

The following former members of the College have obtained places at Cambridge and Oxford Universities:

CAMBRIDGE	
Nicola Eames	History
Luke Gilbert	Economics
Michael Hong	Natural Sciences
Calum MacRae	Modern and Medieval Languages
Isobel Riley	Natural Sciences
Tanvi Roberts	Classics
James Wilson	Medicine
Caitlin Woods	English
OXFORD	
Hannah Wilson	Psychology

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHARITIES

MONEYBOX	
Macmillan Cancer Support	£1,615.20
Children In Need	£669.55
Skyway Club	£313.25
Toys for Thorndale	£800.00
Cancer fund for children	£1,351.10
Stand By Me	£4,096.71
Ten Foundations	£1,000.00
Tools for Solidarity	£749.19
Muscular Dystrophy	£2,455.00
British Heart Foundation	£684.00
Chest, Heart & Stroke	£291.63
Romania Society	£1,250.00
Total	£15,275.63

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT – FULLERTON HOUSE & DOWNEY HOUSE, 2016-2017

ANALYSIS OF EXAMINATION RESULTS 2016 – KEYS STAGES 1 & 2

Key Stage 1

% of pupils achieving	Teacher Assessment
English Level 2 or above	88.89%
English Level 3 or above	29.63%
Mathematics Level 2 or above	85.18%
Mathematics Level 3 or above	22.22%

Key Stage 2

% of pupils achieving	Teacher Assessment
English Level 4 or above	93.02%
English Level 5 or above	25.58%
Mathematics Level 4 or above	95.35%
Mathematics Level 5 or above	34.88%

ATTENDANCE

97.67%

LEAVERS' DESTINATIONS

No of Leavers(P7)	Grammar School	Secondary School
42	41 97.7%	1 2.3%

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES AVAILABLE

Sporting Activities

Cricket	Football	Hockey	Netball	Rugby	Swimming
	Clubs				
	All		P1 – P3		P4 – P7
	Art & Craft		Scripture Union Puzzle Club		Chess
	Drama		Sing – a – long club		Journalism
	Choir		Tufty Club		Orchestra
					Recorder Group
					Table Tennis

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHARITIES - £4577.70

- NSPCC
- Syria Appeal
- Comic Relief
- Belfast Central Mission
- Jeans for Genes
- Poppy Appeal

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		£	£
(Deficit) Surplus from Educational Activities:			
Secondary Department	1	(214,426)	9,552
Preparatory Department	2	(25,752)	12,152
		(240,178)	21,704
Other Operating Income		846,595	690,973
Less Other Operating Expenditure		(750,610)	(615,262)
(Deficit) on General Reserve		95,985	75,711
Total College (Deficit)		(144,193)	97,415

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 March 2017

	2017	2016
	£	£
Fixed Assets	7,277,944	5,912,629
Endowment Asset Investments	1,374,731	1,369,872
Development Fund Investments	1,123,863	1,123,022
Preparatory Department Development Fund Investments	20,566	20,566
Synthetic Hockey Pitch Fund Investments	60,252	48,155
Current Assets	4,298,632	3,731,230
Creditors Falling Due In One Year	(1,958,691)	(1,290,768)
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	12,197,297	10,914,676
TOTAL NET ASSETS	12,197,297	10,914,676
Represented by		
Deferred Capital Grants and Donations	4,906,770	3,752,009
Deferred Income	497,596	474,549
Endowment Funds	1,374,731	1,369,842
Development Fund	1,123,863	1,123,022
Preparatory Department Development Fund	20,566	20,566
Synthetic Hockey Pitch Sinking Fund	60,252	48,155
Reserves	4,213,519	4,126,533
TOTAL FUNDS	12,197,297	10,914,676

The summary financial statements set out above were approved by the Board of Governors on 21 June 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr M Humphreys Chairman
 Mr E Bell, Treasurer
 M S Naismith, Principal

METHODIST COLLEGE BELFAST

1. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - SECONDARY DEPARTMENT

	2017	2016
	£	£
INCOME		
Tuition Fees	13,640	5,512
Grants	8,363,888	8,297,013
College Fund	381,907	341,235
Other Income	111,650	106,604
	<u>8,871,085</u>	<u>8,750,364</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Teaching Costs	6,744,690	6,555,505
Premises Costs	568,424	586,848
Support Costs	1,772,397	1,598,459
	<u>9,085,511</u>	<u>8,740,812</u>
(Deficit) Surplus	<u>(214,426)</u>	<u>9,552</u>

2. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT - PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT

	2017	2016
	£	£
INCOME		
Tuition Fees	1,174,019	1,182,420
Grants	179,571	179,861
Other Income	206,157	211,946
	<u>1,559,747</u>	<u>1,574,227</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Teaching Costs	1,042,006	1,050,755
Premises Costs	117,513	126,229
Support Costs	425,980	385,091
	<u>1,585,499</u>	<u>1,562,075</u>
(Deficit)	<u>(25,752)</u>	<u>(12,152)</u>

A full set of accounts and audit report are available from the Administration Centre at the College.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Founded in 1865 and opened in 1868 by the Conference of the Methodist Church in Ireland, Methodist College is one of Northern Ireland's leading co-educational grammar schools. It is a non-denominational, co-educational grammar school where pupils of all faith and none are welcomed into a safe, supportive and inclusive environment which offers equal opportunities to all. The College's main campus is situated in the university area of Belfast where the College's Secondary department is located together with Fullerton House, one of the College's preparatory schools. Downey House, the College's other preparatory school, is located at Pirrie Park Belfast where there are extensive games and sports facilities. The College also has a modern and well-equipped boat house located on the River Lagan and an artificial turf hockey pitch at Deramore Park. The College's Secondary Department is attended by 1777 pupils and the Preparatory Department by 273 pupils.

The College has an outstanding reputation for academic excellence and achievement in music, drama, sport and many other extra-curricular activities. The wide range of academic subjects and activities offered allows our pupils to express themselves and develop their talents wherever their interests lie. The College's aim is to encourage all its pupils to develop into enthusiastic, confident and tolerant young people who have respect for themselves and for others and who will be able to contribute fully to the world in which they will live and work. In October 2015 the Principal addressed the Senior School as follows: 'At Methody you are encouraged to be the best version of yourself that you can be, so that you can make the most of the opportunities that College life and life in general can provide. You are also reminded of your civic duty; to use your skills and abilities to benefit and improve the world around us'.

The College strives to deliver excellence in all that it does against a very difficult financial environment. This has been well publicised in the past year with continual and sustained pressure on funding to schools in Northern Ireland. The College is not immune from this pressure and it is a major challenge to balance the College's increasing expenditure, which is due to factors largely outside its control, against continually reducing funding. For the financial year 2016-17 the College unfortunately recorded a deficit of £144,193 compared to a surplus of £97,415 for the previous year.

A summary of the results for the year is as follows:

	Total	Secondary Dept.	Preparatory Dept.	Other Operating
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Income				
Grants Received	8543.5	8363.9	179.6	
Tuition Fees	1187.6	13.6	1174.0	
College Fund	381.9	381.9		
Others	1164.4	111.7	206.1	846.6
Total Income	11277.4	8871.1	1559.7	846.6
Expenditure				
Teachers' Salaries	7144.4	6141.0	1003.4	
Other Salaries	1960.4	1571.7	388.7	
Other Costs	2316.8	1372.8	193.4	750.6
Total Expenditure	11421.6	9085.5	1585.5	750.6
Surplus/(Deficit)	(144.2)	(214.4)	(25.8)	96.0

This deficit was not unexpected and is somewhat better than was forecast this time last year.

The main reasons for the deterioration in the financial well-being of the school is the further reduction of government funding together with additional costs which are largely outside the College's control. This included increases to national insurance, pension and salary costs. A major continuing issue for the College, in common with other schools, is the level of grant aid received from the Department of Education. This makes up 94% of the income for the Secondary Department and 11.5% of the income for the Preparatory Department. Any reduction or failure of this funding to keep pace with increases in costs and inflation has a very significant effect especially on the Secondary Department's finances. Such reductions to real income has been a recurrent theme over the last number of years and, given government policy, one which is unfortunately likely to continue into the future. These continuous reductions to funding in real terms puts stress on the College to be able to deliver the breadth and quality of service it has historically provided for the children and young people who attend the school. To cope with this the College has had to take some difficult and challenging decisions over the last number of years and with the level of grant aid available for the incoming financial year the Board of Governors and the management of the College face further difficult challenges to maintain the excellent breadth and quality of educational service which the College provides. The forecast financial outcome for 2017-18 with a forecast deficit is also disappointing and challenging but manageable in the short term. In this environment, the College will have to rely heavily on increased parental support to maintain the current level of service. Parents' contributions to the College Fund are no longer funds used for services that are nice to have; they are essential to maintain the offer currently provided.

The Secondary Department offers a very wide range of subjects and activities to all our pupils and has an outstanding reputation for academic excellence and record of achievement in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. The deficit for 2016-17 compared to the small surplus for the previous year is disappointing but not surprising. This is due to the level of funding over the past year reducing coupled with the significant increases to costs which are largely outside the control of the school. These include the removal of the contracted out National Insurance rate and nationally agreed

increases to salary levels. Even by making continuous reductions to costs, it is impossible for the College to balance this increased tension between income and costs. Given this situation, the College relies ever more heavily on parental support, through contributions to the College Fund, to maintain its current level and breadth of offering to all its pupils. The Board of Governors would like to take this opportunity to express its thanks and appreciation to all those parents who have contributed to this Fund which is absolutely essential for the running of the College. To those parents who have not contributed to the Fund in the past year I would ask you to consider very seriously making a contribution to assist the school in its work. The College simply cannot provide the range and quality of education and extra-curricular activities it currently provides without these contributions and that is why it is so important that as many parents as are able make a contribution.

The Preparatory Department is an integral part of the College offering parents an excellent standard of education for their children and a very wide range of extra-curricular activities. The Department's two schools, Downey House and Fullerton House provide co-educational learning, excellent standards and outcomes, specialist teaching, convenient locations, a broad curriculum, excellent pastoral care, after school and pre-school services. There is music and drama together with a wide range of sports available to the children who attend. There is little government aid available to this Department and so it relies almost entirely on parents paying fees towards the education of their children. The Department recorded a deficit for the year of £25,752 compared to a surplus of £12,152 for the previous year. This is quite a good outcome given that the cost pressures on this Department were the same as for the Secondary Department. The future for this Department will inevitably be challenging but it is believed that the work carried out in recent years to restructure will stand the schools in good stead for the future.

Against this backdrop of very challenging day to day to funding it is pleasing that, after some false dawns, major work has now started on the development of the College's facilities. Some time ago, a successful application was made to the Department of Education for a major grant of £3.4 million under the 'Schools Enhancement Programme' for the refurbishment and development of McArthur Hall. This £5million project is now well underway with major construction work taking place. The work should be completed and the building occupied around March 2018. This will give an excellent new library for the College and other teaching spaces. In June 2014 an announcement was made by the Department of Education that grant aid of just over £7 million was to be provided for the refurbishment and development of School House. Preparation work on this project is now well underway with the design team making excellent progress and a planning application made. It is hoped that construction work will begin on this project following completion of McArthur Hall and this will also provide some excellent accommodation for the College for years to come. The College has also appointed design consultants for the development of two artificial turf hockey pitches together with the preparation of an overall development plan for Pirrie Park. Again the planning work for two new hockey pitches is well advanced. This development work to the College's facilities is very significant and demonstrates the commitment of the Board of Governors to create a school which will continue to be at the forefront of education in Northern Ireland. This development, which will be of major benefit to all our pupils, has a significant cost involved beyond that borne by the Department of Education. This will be the responsibility of the College and to fund this cost there will be a 'Fund Raising Campaign' which will be launched during this year. It is very pleasing that some major donations have already been received towards this work.

This is a major organisation and given the financial challenges being faced by the school it is essential to have good financial management and control. An annual internal audit is carried out by external auditors where systems and controls are examined and reported upon. As a result of this year's audit the College again recorded the highest level of assurance possible. These financial statements have also been audited by external auditors and you will see from the audit report that they have been prepared to a high standard.

The life and work of the College depends on the expertise, commitment and goodwill of all our staff. The level of service provided and the outcomes achieved are a great credit to all the staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts which are greatly appreciated. The College is a significant employer with around 231 part time and full time staff. This is made up of 131 teaching staff and 100 support staff.

Finally, the Board of Governors of the College would like to thank parents and pupils for their very significant contribution to the school community and trust that you will continue to support the school in its work in the future.

Signed:
Mr E Bell, Treasurer
May 2017

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