Registered number 07081179 Charity number. 1138593

## STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED

(A company limited by guarantee)

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

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# STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED (A company limited by guarantee)

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#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

#### **Trustees**

S L Edwards R A J Smith L D Dodsworth

# Company registered number

07081179

## Charity registered number

1138593

#### Registered office

Fourth Floor 89 New Bond Street London **W1S 1DA** 

#### **Company secretary**

S L Edwards

#### **Auditors**

Rawlinson & Hunter Statutory Auditor **Chartered Accountants** Eighth Floor 6 New Street Square New Fetter Lane London EC4A 3AQ

#### **Bankers**

HSBC Private Bank (UK) Limited 78 St James's Street London SW1A 1JB

#### Solicitors

**Macfarlanes Solicitors** 10 Norwich Street London EC4A 1BD

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# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

The Trustees (who are also directors of the company for the purposes of company law) present their report together with the audited financial statements of Student Information Services Limited ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2012. The comparatives present information on the period from the Charity's incorporation, 19 November 2009, to 31 March 2011. The Trustees confirm that the report and financial statements of the Charity comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005.

#### Structure, governance and management

#### a CONSTITUTION

The Charity is registered as a company limited by guarantee and established by Memorandum of Association on 19 November 2009

The Charity is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission (charity number 1138593)

The principal object of the Charity is to provide information for the education and training of young people

#### **b. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES**

The management of the Charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association

#### **c. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES**

As part of their training, Trustees are given an information pack which includes the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association and Charity Commission guidance on Trustees' Reponsibilities. All Trustees are kept informed at meetings of their duties and obligations under the law in addition to their proper conduct

The Trustees are aware of their obligations to ensure new Trustees are properly versed in their role. A similar induction process will be undertaken for new Trustees as the Charity develops and will include providing the Trustees with additional documentation such as recent annual reports, grant making policy and relevant minutes. The training of Trustees will be kept under review.

#### d. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The Trustees meet regularly and decisions are made at Trustees' meetings. The day to day administration of the Charity is managed by the trustees.

#### e. RISK MANAGEMENT

A risk assessment has been undertaken which comprises

- An annual review of the risks the charity may face
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks, and
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Charity should those risks materialise

This continuing process will identify risk areas to which the Chanty is vulnerable and highlight any necessary safeguards that will need to be put in place. No major risks were identified at the date of these accounts

# STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED (A company limited by guarantee)

#### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

#### **Objectives and Activities**

#### a. POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing Student Information Services Limited's aims and objectives and in planning future activities and providing help in the form of gifts or grants or any combination of these

#### **b. STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES**

#### 1) Aims & Objectives

The principal objects of the Charity are to advance the education of the public, in particular (but not exclusively) young persons, with a view to improving their employment prospects and their conditions of life and enabling them to fulfil their potential. This will be done by the provision of information via the development, management and publicising of databases in relation to further education and careers.

The primary activity during the year was the continued funding, development and delivery of the website bestCourse4me com

The aim of bestCourse4me com is to enable and encourage students from all backgrounds to get the best and most appropriate level of education for their needs and ablilities. We believe that this will lead to significant benefits both for individuals and for society as a whole

#### ii) Significant activities for achieving objectives

The Charity has developed the website which provides information to students, and those who affect them, about the outcomes from education (currently higher education) so that they can see the benefits or possible disadvantages of subjects, institutions, courses and careers. By making this information available easily, this will support more equal access to higher education and therefore improve social mobility.

#### c. ACTIVITIES FOR ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES

The Trustees have a number of powers which are detailed in the Memorandum of Association and which may be exercised in promoting the objects

The Charity has obtained funding to support the development of the website which first went live in February 2010. There has been significant further investment in the website and version two was launched during the year, which now includes the addition of entry qualification data and an improved user interface.

The marketing of the bestCourse4me com website to the primary target market has resulted in over 134,000 visits to the site since it's launch

The project team has continued to familianse themselves with the education sector, building relationships and maximizing collaboration opportunities with potential stakeholders, in order to increase profile, raise awareness and further deliver on the Chanty's objects

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#### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

#### Achievements and performance

#### a. GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

#### **b. REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES**

i) Incoming Resources

Incoming resources totalled £300,100 for the year to 31 March 2012 (period to 31 March 2011 £410,000)

ii) Charitable activities

Charitable activities include direct charitable expenditure for the year of £291,596 (period to 31 March 2011 £387,114)

#### Financial review

#### a. RESERVES POLICY

During the year grants received by the Charity have exceeded those paid out or accrued by the Trustees. It is anticipated that the excess will be invested in further development of the website in the next financial year.

The Trustees have no outstanding commitments or cash demands which are not adequately covered by existing resources. All the Charity's reserves are regarded as free reserves. At this stage the Trustees feel that it would be inappropriate to adopt a specific reserves policy. The Trustees will keep this under constant review in future years, a specific reserves policy may be required.

#### Plans for the future

The Charity's main objectives for the next financial year are

- To implement additional improvements and functionality to the site
- To continue to market the site and increase visitor numbers
- To identify additional income streams for the project

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#### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

#### **Internal Controls**

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the Charity has appropriate systems of internal controls. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements follow best practice. They are also responsible for the Charity safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The system of internal controls is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance against material misstatement or loss

#### TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also directors of Student Information Services Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice)

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- make judgments 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,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

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#### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

#### **PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR**

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Annual report of the Trustees is approved have confirmed that

- so far as each Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- each Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of
  any information needed by the charitable company's auditor in connection with preparing its report and to
  establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information

#### **AUDITOR**

The auditors, Rawlinson & Hunter, will be proposed for reappointment in accordance with Section 485 of the Companies Act 2006

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006

This report was approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf, by

W) adsworth Vovember 2012

L D Dodsworth

Date: 0

(A company limited by guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements of Student Information Services Limited ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2012 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities)

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members 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 its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed

#### RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND AUDITOR

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Charity for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors

#### SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Trustees, and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### **OPINION ON 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 2012 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended,
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006

#### **OPINION ON OTHER MATTER PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006**

In our opinion the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial period for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements

(A company limited by guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED

#### MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made, or

19 November 2012

- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Report of the Trustees

**David Davies (Senior Statutory Auditor)** 

for and on behalf of Rawlinson & Hunter

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor Eighth Floor 6 New Street Square New Fetter Lane London

EC4A 3AQ Date

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# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

	Note	Unrestricted funds Year ended 31 March 2012	Pen	restricted funds od ended 31 March 2011 £
INCOMING RESOURCES	HOLE	~		2
Incoming resources from generated funds Voluntary income	2	300,100		410,000
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		300,100		410,000
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable activities Governance costs	3	291,596 7,740		387,114 4,500
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	4	299,336	_	391,614
MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR - NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR		764		18,386
Total funds at 1 April 2011		18,386		-
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 MARCH 2012		£ 19,150	£	18,386

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements

(A company limited by guarantee) **REGISTERED NUMBER: 07081179** 

#### **BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2012**

	Note	£		2012 £	£		2011 £
FIXED ASSETS							
Investments in subsidiary	6			1			-
CURRENT ASSETS							
Debtors	7	12,000			-		
Cash in hand		22,837			34,752		
		34,837			34,752		
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	8	(15,688)			(16,366)		
NET CURRENT ASSETS				19,149			18,386
NET ASSETS			£	19,150		£	18,386
CHARITY FUNDS							
Unrestricted funds	9			19,150			18,386
			£	19,150		£	18,386

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on  $9^{th}$  November 2012 and signed on their behalf, by

L D Dodsworth

The notes on pages 11 to 14 form part of these financial statements

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#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of investments which are included at market value, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" published in March 2005

#### 1.2 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Charity.

#### 1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes

#### 1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of financial activities when the Charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy

Donated services or facilities, which comprise donated services, are included in income at a valuation which is an estimate of the financial cost borne by the donor where such a cost is quantifiable and measurable. No income is recognised where there is no financial cost borne by a third party.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable

#### 1.5 Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of the resources.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management carried out. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity, and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

#### 1.6 Investment in subsidiaries

Investment in subsidiaries are stated at costs less provision for any permanent impairment in value

# STUDENT INFORMATION SERVICES LIMITED (A company limited by guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

2.	VOLUNTARY INCOME					
			Unr	estricted	Uı	nrestricted
			٧.	funds ar ended	Ω	funds rod ended
				ar ended 31 March	Per	31 March
			•	2012 £		2011 £
	Donations received		£	300,100	£	410,000
3.	DIRECT COSTS					
				Chantable		
		Basis of Allocation		Activities £		Total 2012
	Marketing costs	100%		99,715		99,715
	Website costs	100%		188,878		188,878
			£	288,593	£	288,593
			=		=	
4.	ANALYSIS OF RESOURCES EXPENDED BY EXPENDITUR	RE TYPE				
				her costs		Total
				ar ended 31 March	Pei	nod ended 31 March
			,	2012 £		2011 £
	Charitable activities - direct costs			288,593		386,370
	Charitable activities - support costs			3,003		744
	Charitable activities			291,596		387,114
	Governance			7,740		4,500
			£	299,336	£	391,614
			=		=	

(A company limited by guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

5.	NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR/ PERIOD		
	This is stated after charging		
		Year ended 31 March 2012 £	Period ended 31 March 2011 £
	Auditors' remuneration	6,240	4,500
	During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2011 - £NIL)		
6.	FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS		
			Shares in group undertakıngs £
	Market value		~
	At 1 April 2011 Additions		1
	At 31 March 2012		£ 1
	Subsidiary undertakings		
	Fixed asset investments represent an investment in a subsidiary, Stude company incorporated on 14 February 2012 in England & Wales throughout the year		
	Name Hol	ding	
	Student Information Projects Limited 1	00%	
	The aggregate of the share capital and reserves as at 31 March 201 year ended on that date for the subsidiary undertakings were as follows:		ofit or loss for the
	Name	Aggregate of share capital and reserves	Profit/(loss)
		£	£

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#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2012

7.	DEBTORS					
					2012	2011
	Prepayments and accrued income			£	£ 12,000	£ £ -
	Prepayments and accided income				12,000	
_						
8.	CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year					
					2012	2011
					£	£
	Amounts owed to group undertakings Accruals and deferred income				1 15,687	- 16,366
				£	 15,688	£ 16,366
				<u> </u>	<del></del>	
9	STATEMENT OF FUNDS					
			Brought	Incoming	Resources	Carried
			Forward £	resources £	Expended	Forward
	Unrestricted funds		Ł	£	I	£
	General funds		40 200	200 400	(200.226	\ 40.450
	General lunds	_	18,386 ———	300,100	(299,336	) 19,150
	SUMMARY OF FUNDS					
			Brought	Incoming	Resources	Carried
			Forward £	resources	Expended	Forward
	General funds					
	General lunus	£	18,386	£ 300,100	£ (299,336	) £ 19,150

#### 10 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The three Trustees are also Trustees of The Lancaster-Taylor Charitable Trust (registered charity no 1106035), which donated £300,000 (period to 31 March 2011 - £410,000) to the Charity during the year

R A J Smith and S L Edwards, Trustees of the charity, donated £50 each (penod to 31 March 2011 - £Nil) to the charity during the year

#### 11 CONTROLLING PARTY

The Trustees consider that the Charity is jointly controlled by the Trustees and that there is no ultimate controlling party