



**PKF**

Chartered Accountants  
& Business Advisors

PKF LIMITED

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**



**PKF**

Chartered Accountants  
& Business Advisors

PKF LIMITED

## NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED

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## NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED

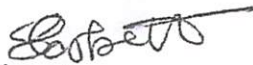
Management is responsible for the following:


- preparing and fairly presenting the accompanying financial statements of National Schools Dietary Services Limited, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 September, 2024, the statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information;
- ensuring that the company keeps proper accounting records;
- selecting appropriate accounting policies and applying them in a consistent manner;
- implementing, monitoring and evaluating the system of internal control that assures security of the company's assets, detection/prevention of fraud, and the achievement of company operational efficiencies;
- ensuring that the system of internal control operated effectively during the reporting period;
- producing reliable financial reporting that comply with laws and regulations, including the Companies Act; and
- using reasonable and prudent judgement in the determination of estimates.

In preparing these audited financial statements, management utilised the International Financial Reporting Standards, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad and Tobago. Where International Financial Reporting Standards presented alternative accounting treatments, management chose those considered most appropriate in the circumstances.

Nothing has come to the attention of management to indicate that the company will not remain a going concern for the next twelve months from the reporting date; or up to the date the accompanying financial statements have been authorised for issue, if later.

Management affirms that it has carried out its responsibilities as outlined above.

  
Signed  
27 December, 2024

  
Signed  
27 December, 2024





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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

**The Shareholder**  
**National Schools Dietary Services Limited**

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of National Schools Dietary Services Limited, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2024, the statements of comprehensive income, changes in shareholder's equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of material accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of National Schools Dietary Services Limited as at 30 September 2024 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ("ISAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of The National Schools Dietary Services Limited in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants ("IESBA Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Responsibilities of Management and the Board of Directors for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern; disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern; and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

PKF Limited is a member of PKF Global, the network of member firms of PKF International Limited, each of which is a separate and independent legal entity and does not accept any responsibility or liability for the actions or inactions of any individual member or correspondent firm(s).

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Directors: Renée-Lisa Philip Mark K. Superville Jenine Felician-Romain Darcel Corbin



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Chartered Accountants  
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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT (Cont'd)

### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting, and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

*PKF*

Barataria

TRINIDAD

27 December 2024

## NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

|                                     |              | 30 September             |                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     | <u>Notes</u> | <u>2024</u>              | <u>2023</u>              |
|                                     |              | (\$)                     | (\$)                     |
| <b>Current Assets:</b>              |              |                          |                          |
| Cash resources                      | 5            | 32,486,566               | 19,274,721               |
| Accounts receivable and prepayments | 6            | 73,535                   | 4,749,597                |
| Government subvention receivable    | 7            | —                        | <u>4,673,787</u>         |
| Total Current Assets                |              | 32,560,101               | 28,698,105               |
| <b>Non-Current Assets:</b>          |              |                          |                          |
| Fixed assets                        | 8            | <u>121,918</u>           | <u>89,679</u>            |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                 |              | <b><u>32,682,019</u></b> | <b><u>28,787,784</u></b> |
| <b>Liabilities:</b>                 |              |                          |                          |
| Accounts payable and accruals       | 9            | 30,946,090               | 28,144,139               |
| Deferred Income                     | 7            | <u>1,092,284</u>         | —                        |
| Total Liabilities                   |              | <u>32,038,374</u>        | <u>28,144,139</u>        |
| <b>Equity:</b>                      |              |                          |                          |
| Stated capital                      |              | 2                        | 2                        |
| Revaluation Reserve                 |              | 204,604                  | 204,604                  |
| Capital grants                      | 10           | <u>439,039</u>           | <u>439,039</u>           |
| Total Equity                        | 11           | 643,645                  | 643,645                  |
| <b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b> | 12           | <b><u>32,682,019</u></b> | <b><u>28,787,784</u></b> |

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 27 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

  
Director

  
Director

(The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements)

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

|   | <u>Notes</u> | <b>For the year ended</b><br><b>30 September</b> |                      |
|---|--------------|--|----------------------|
|   |              | <u>2024</u><br>(\$)                              | <u>2023</u><br>(\$)  |
| <b>Income:</b>  |              |  |                      |
| Revenue Grants from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago |              | 262,780,061                                      | 250,730,599          |
| Direct expenses   | 16           | <u>(248,386,602)</u>                             | <u>(236,530,696)</u> |
| Gross profit  |              | 14,393,459                                       | 14,199,903           |
| Other income  | 17           | -  | 4,144,890            |
| Administrative expenses                                   | 18           | <u>(14,383,135)</u>                              | <u>(18,298,209)</u>  |
| Profit from operations                                    |              | 10,324   | 46,584               |
| Finance costs   | 19           | <u>(12,262)</u>                                  | <u>(9,279)</u>       |
| Net (loss)/profit before taxation                         |              | (1,938)  | 37,305               |
| Taxation  | 20           | <u>1,938</u>                                     | <u>(37,305)</u>      |
| <b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year</b>            |              | <u><u>-</u></u>                                  | <u><u>-</u></u>      |

(The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements)

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

|   | <b><u>Stated<br/>Capital</u></b><br>(\$) | <b><u>Revaluation<br/>Reserve</u></b><br>(\$) | <b><u>Capital<br/>Grants</u></b><br>(\$) | <b><u>Equity</u></b><br>(\$) |
|---|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| Balance, 1 October 2022                 | 2  | 204,604                                       | 439,039                                  | 643,645                      |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | —  | —   | —  | —                            |
| Balance, 30 September 2023              | <b><u>2</u></b>                          | <b><u>204,604</u></b>                         | <b><u>439,039</u></b>                    | <b><u>643,645</u></b>        |
| Balance, 1 October 2023                 | 2  | 204,604                                       | 439,039                                  | 643,645                      |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | —  | —   | —  | —                            |
| Balance, 30 September 2024              | <b><u>2</u></b>                          | <b><u>204,604</u></b>                         | <b><u>439,039</u></b>                    | <b><u>643,645</u></b>        |

(The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements)



**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

|   | <b>For the year ended</b> |                          |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|
|   | <b>30 September</b>       |                          |
|   | <b><u>2024</u></b>        | <b><u>2023</u></b>       |
|   | (\$)                      | (\$)                     |
| <b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>                      |                           |                          |
| Net (loss)/profit before taxation                 | (1,938)                   | 37,305                   |
| Adjustments for:                                  |                           |                          |
| Depreciation                                      | 28,101                    | 65,498                   |
| Allowance for impairment                          | <u>-</u>                  | <u>1,681,435</u>         |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities       | 26,163                    | 1,784,238                |
| Taxes paid net of refunds                         | 1,938                     | (37,305)                 |
| Net change in accounts receivable and prepayments | 4,676,062                 | (4,618,764)              |
| Net change in accounts payable and accruals       | 2,801,951                 | (538,449)                |
| Net change in Government subventions receivable   | 4,673,787                 | 20,016,201               |
| Net change in deferred income                     | <u>1,092,284</u>          | <u>-</u>                 |
| Cash provided by Operating Activities             | <u>13,272,185</u>         | <u>16,605,921</u>        |
| <b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>                      |                           |                          |
| Fixed asset purchases                             | <u>(60,340)</u>           | <u>(83,995)</u>          |
| Cash used in Investing Activities                 | <u>(60,340)</u>           | <u>(83,995)</u>          |
| Net change in cash and cash equivalents           | 13,211,845                | 16,521,926               |
| Cash and cash equivalents - at beginning of year  | <u>19,274,721</u>         | <u>2,752,795</u>         |
| - at end of year                                  | <u><u>32,486,566</u></u>  | <u><u>19,274,721</u></u> |
| <b>Represented by:</b>                            |                           |                          |
| Cash resources                                    | <u><u>32,486,566</u></u>  | <u><u>19,274,721</u></u> |

(The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements)

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****30 SEPTEMBER 2024****1. Incorporation and Principal Business Activity:**

The National Schools Dietary Services Limited is a limited liability company established by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago by Cabinet Minute No. 943 dated 16 May 2002 and incorporated on 3 July 2002. It was set up to assume the following responsibilities:

1. The development of a strategic direction for the School Nutrition Programme and oversee its implementation.
2. The development of policy guidelines for the management and operation of the Programme in respect of the meals to be served, to ensure that the meals cater for the nutritional needs and dietary differences of students.
3. The establishment of criteria for the selection of caterers for the Programme.
4. The development of quality control mechanism aimed at ensuring that the highest standards are maintained and monitoring their enforcement.
5. Planning of new initiatives.

**2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies:****(a) Basis of financial statements preparation -**

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board and are stated in Trinidad and Tobago dollars. The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention.

**(b) Use of estimates -**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the IFRS Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the company's accounting policies. It also requires the use of assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions, actual results may ultimately differ from those estimates.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (Cont'd):**

**(c) New Accounting Standards and Interpretations -**

The company has not applied the following standards, revised standards and interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective as they either do not apply to the activities of the company or have no material impact on its financial statements:

IFRS 7      Amendments Supplier Finance Arrangements Disclosures effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024).

IFRS 16      *Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback* (effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024).

IFRS S1      *General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information*

IFRS S2      *Climate-related Disclosures*

IAS 1      Presentation of Financial Statements - Amendments regarding non-current liabilities with covenants (effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024).

IAS 1      Presentation of Financial Statements - Amendments regards the classification of Liabilities and Current or Non-Current (effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024).

IAS 7      Statement of Cash Flows - Amendments Supplier Finance Arrangements Disclosures effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024).

\* The application of these Sustainability Standards is not yet mandatory in our jurisdiction.

“IFRS” above refers to IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the IFRS Accounting Standards Board.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (Cont'd):**

**(d) Comparative information -**

Where necessary, comparative amounts have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

**(e) Depreciation -**

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis at annual rates designed to write-off the cost of the assets over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:-

|                                 |   |       |
|---------------------------------|---|-------|
| Leasehold improvements          | - | 20%   |
| Furniture and fixtures          | - | 12.5% |
| Office equipment                | - | 20%   |
| Computer software and equipment | - | 20%   |
| Motor vehicles                  | - | 25%   |

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**(f) Government grant -**

Grants from the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago are recognised at their fair values, where there is a reasonable assurance that the grant will be received, and the company will comply with all conditions attached.

Grants relating to operating expenses are deferred and included in non-current liabilities. They are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the period necessary to match them with net expenses they are intended to compensate.

**(g) Income recognition -**

Income from investments is accounted for on the accruals basis.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****30 SEPTEMBER 2024****2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (Cont'd):****(h) Financial instruments -**

All recognised financial assets that are within the scope of IFRS Accounting Standard 9 are required to be subsequently measured at amortised cost or fair value on the basis of:

- (i) the entity's business model for managing the financial assets; and
- (ii) the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets.

The company reassess its business models each reporting period to determine whether they have changed. No such changes have been identified for the current year.

Principal is the fair value of the financial asset at initial recognition. Interest is consideration for the time value of money and for credit and other risks associated with the principal outstanding. Interest also has a profit margin element.

**Initial measurement**

All financial instruments are initially measured at the fair value of consideration given or received.

The company measures fair values in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standard 13, which defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The company uses a fair value hierarchy that categorises valuation techniques into three levels:

- (i) Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Assets and liabilities are classified as Level 1 if their value is observable in an active market. The use of observable market prices and model inputs, when available, reduces the need for management judgement and estimation, as well as the uncertainty related with the estimated fair value.
- (ii) Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; and inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability.
- (iii) Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs. Assets and liabilities are classified as Level 3 if their valuation incorporates significant inputs that are not based on observable market data.

## NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 SEPTEMBER 2024

**2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (Cont'd):****(h) Financial instruments (cont'd) -****Subsequent measurement**

Those financial assets which are held within a business model with the sole objective of collecting contractual cash flows which comprise principal and interest only, are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains/losses arising on remeasurement of such financial assets are recognised in profit or loss as movements in Expected Credit Loss (ECL). When a financial asset measured at amortised cost is derecognised, the gain/loss is reflected in profit or loss.

Those financial assets which are held within a business model with the objectives of (i) collecting contractual cash flows which comprise principal and interest only, as well as (ii) selling the financial assets, are subsequently measured at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVTOCI). Gains/losses arising on remeasurement of such financial assets are recognised in OCI as *'Items that may be reclassified subsequently to P&L'* and are called *'Net FV gain/(loss) on financial assets classified as at FVOCI'*.

All other financial assets are subsequently measured at Fair Value Through Profit and Loss (FVTPL), except for equity investments, which the company has opted, irrevocably, to measure at FVTOCI. Gains/losses arising on remeasurement of such financial assets are recognised in profit or loss as *'Net FV gain/(loss) on financial assets classified at FVTPL'*. When a financial asset measured at FVTOCI is derecognised, the cumulative gain/loss previously recognised in OCI is reclassified from equity to profit or loss.

**Reclassification**

If the business model under which the company holds financial assets changes, the financial assets affected are reclassified accordingly from the first day of the first reporting period following the change in business model

**Write-off**

Financial assets are written off when the company has no reasonable expectations of recovery, for example, when the company determines that the borrower does not have assets or sources of income that could generate sufficient cash flows to repay. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event. Subsequent recoveries resulting from the company's enforcement activities will result in gains.

**Financial liabilities**

Since the company does not trade in financial liabilities, and since there are no measurement or recognition inconsistencies, all financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs and subsequently, at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments through the expected life of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (Cont'd):**

**(h) Financial instruments (cont'd) -**

**Financial liabilities (cont'd)**

Financial liabilities recognised at amortised cost are not reclassified.

**(i) Provisions -**

Provisions are recognised when the company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

**3. Financial Risk Management:**

**Financial risk factors**

The company is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk, currency risk, operational risk, compliance risk and reputation risk arising from the financial instruments that it holds. The risk management policies employed by the company to manage these risks are discussed below:

The following table summarizes the carrying amounts and fair values of the company's financial assets and liabilities:

|                                     | <b>2024</b>            |                     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
|                                     | <b><u>Carrying</u></b> | <b><u>Fair</u></b>  |
|                                     | <b><u>Value</u></b>    | <b><u>Value</u></b> |
|                                     | <b>(\$)</b>            | <b>(\$)</b>         |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>             |                        |                     |
| Cash resources                      | 32,486,566             | 32,486,566          |
| Accounts receivable and prepayments | 73,535                 | 73,535              |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>        |                        |                     |
| Accounts payable and accruals       | 30,946,090             | 30,946,090          |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**3. Financial Risk Management (Cont'd):**

**Financial risk factors (cont'd)**

|                                     | <b>2023</b>            |                     |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
|                                     | <b><u>Carrying</u></b> | <b><u>Fair</u></b>  |
|                                     | <b><u>Value</u></b>    | <b><u>Value</u></b> |
|                                     | <b>(\$)</b>            | <b>(\$)</b>         |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>             |                        |                     |
| Cash resources                      | 19,274,721             | 19,274,721          |
| Accounts receivable and prepayments | 4,749,597              | 4,749,597           |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>        |                        |                     |
| Accounts payable and accruals       | 28,144,139             | 28,144,139          |

**(a) Credit risk -**

Credit risk arises when a failure by counter parties to discharge their obligations could reduce the amount of future cash inflows from financial assets on hand at the reporting date. The company relies heavily on its written Policies and Procedures Manuals, which sets out in detail the current policies governing the granting of credit function and provides a comprehensive framework for prudent risk management of the credit function. Adherence to these guidelines is expected to communicate the company's credit philosophy; provide policy guidelines to team members; establish minimum standards for credit analysis, documentation, decision making and post-disbursement administration; as well as create the foundation for a sound credit portfolio.

Cash balances are held with high credit quality financial institutions and the company has policies to limit the amount of exposure to any single financial institution.

The company also actively monitors global economic developments and government policies that may affect the growth rate of the local economy.

**(b) Liquidity risk -**

Liquidity risk is the risk that arises when the maturity dates of assets and liabilities do not match. An unmatched position potentially enhances profitability, but can also increase the risk of losses. The company has procedures with the object of minimising such losses such as maintaining sufficient cash and other highly liquid current assets. The company is able to make daily calls on its available cash resources to settle financial and other liabilities.



**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**3. Financial Risk Management (Cont'd):**

**(b) Liquidity risk (cont'd) -**

i. Risk management

The matching and controlled mismatching of the maturities and interest rates of assets and liabilities are fundamental to the management of the company. The company employs various asset/liability techniques to manage liquidity gaps. Liquidity gaps are mitigated by the marketable nature of a substantial segment of the company's assets as well as generating sufficient cash from government grants and loan repayments.

To manage and reduce liquidity risk the company's management actively seeks to match cash inflows with liability requirements.

ii. Liquidity gap

|                                     | 2024                                  |                                       |                                       | <u>Total</u><br>(\$)     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     | <u>Up to</u><br><u>1 year</u><br>(\$) | <u>1 to</u><br><u>5 years</u><br>(\$) | <u>Over</u><br><u>5 years</u><br>(\$) |                          |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>             |                                       |                                       |                                       |                          |
| Cash resources                      | 32,486,566                            | -                                     | -                                     | 32,486,566               |
| Accounts receivable and prepayments | <u>73,535</u>                         | <u>-</u>                              | <u>-</u>                              | <u>73,535</u>            |
|                                     | <u><b>32,560,101</b></u>              | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>32,560,101</b></u> |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>        |                                       |                                       |                                       |                          |
| Accounts payable and accruals       | <u><b>30,946,090</b></u>              | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>30,946,090</b></u> |

|                                     | 2023                                  |                                       |                                       | <u>Total</u><br>(\$)     |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     | <u>Up to</u><br><u>1 year</u><br>(\$) | <u>1 to</u><br><u>5 years</u><br>(\$) | <u>Over</u><br><u>5 years</u><br>(\$) |                          |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>             |                                       |                                       |                                       |                          |
| Cash resources                      | 19,274,721                            | -                                     | -                                     | 19,274,721               |
| Accounts receivable and prepayments | <u>4,749,597</u>                      | <u>-</u>                              | <u>-</u>                              | <u>4,749,597</u>         |
|                                     | <u><b>24,024,318</b></u>              | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>24,024,318</b></u> |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>        |                                       |                                       |                                       |                          |
| Accounts payable and accruals       | <u><b>28,144,139</b></u>              | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>-</b></u>                       | <u><b>28,144,139</b></u> |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****30 SEPTEMBER 2024****3. Financial Risk Management (Cont'd):****(c) Currency risk -**

Currency risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Currency risk arises when future commercial transactions and recognised assets and liabilities are denominated in a currency that is not the company's measurement currency. The company is exposed to minimal foreign exchange risk. The company's management monitors the exchange rate fluctuations on a continuous basis and acts accordingly.

**(d) Operational risk -**

Operational risk is the risk derived from deficiencies relating to the company's information technology and control systems, as well as the risk of human error and natural disasters. The company's systems are evaluated, maintained and upgraded continuously.

**(e) Compliance risk -**

Compliance risk is the risk of financial loss, including fines and other penalties, which arise from non-compliance with laws and regulations of the state. The risk is limited to a significant extent due to the monitoring controls applied by the company.

**(f) Reputation risk -**

The risk of loss of reputation arising from the negative publicity relating to the company's operations (whether true or false) may result in a reduction of its clientele, reduction in revenue and legal cases against the company. The company applies procedures to minimize this risk.

**4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments:**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions in the process of applying the company's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events, that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. However, actual results could differ from those estimates as the resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements (Cont'd):**

Changes in accounting estimates are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which the estimate is changed, if the change affects that period only, or in the period of the change and future periods if the change affects both current and future periods.

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date (requiring management's most difficult, subjective or complex judgements) that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

i) Significant increase of credit risk

The company computes twelve-month ECL for Stage 1 assets and lifetime ECL for Stage 2 or Stage 3 assets. An asset moves to stage 2 when its credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. Assessing whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk required judgement takes into account reasonable and supportable forward-looking information.

ii) Fair value measurement and valuation process

In estimating the fair value of a financial asset or a liability, the company uses market-observable data to the extent it is available. Where such Level 1 inputs are not available, the company uses valuation models to determine the fair value of its financial instruments.

iii) Fixed assets

Management exercises judgement in determining whether future economic benefits can be derived from expenditures to be capitalised and in estimating the useful lives and residual values of these assets. Judgement is also used in determining which depreciation method for fixed assets is used.

**5. Cash Resources:**

|                       | 30 September      |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                       | <u>2024</u>       | <u>2023</u>       |
|                       | (\$)              | (\$)              |
| Cash in hand          | 5,000             | 5,000             |
| Republic Bank Limited | 32,481,566        | 19,269,721        |
|                       | <u>32,486,566</u> | <u>19,274,721</u> |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**6. Accounts Receivable and Prepayments:**

|     |                            | <b>30 September</b> |                    |
|-----|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
|     |                            | <b><u>2024</u></b>  | <b><u>2023</u></b> |
|     |                            | (\$)                | (\$)               |
| (a) | Trade receivables          | 1,681,435           | 6,336,601          |
|     | Prepayments                | 73,535              | 85,246             |
|     | Vat refundable             | -                   | 9,185              |
|     |                            | 1,754,970           | 6,431,032          |
|     | Allowance for impairment   | (1,681,435)         | (1,681,435)        |
|     |                            | <b>73,535</b>       | <b>4,749,597</b>   |
| (b) | Allowance for impairment   |                     |                    |
|     | Balance, beginning of year | 1,681,435           | -                  |
|     | Bad debts expensed         | -                   | 1,681,435          |
|     |                            | <b>1,681,435</b>    | <b>1,681,435</b>   |

**7. Government Subventions Receivable/(Deferred Income):**

|  |  | <b>30 September</b> |                    |
|--|--|---------------------|--------------------|
|  |  | <b><u>2024</u></b>  | <b><u>2023</u></b> |
|  |  | (\$)                | (\$)               |
|  | Balance at beginning of the year         | 4,673,787           | 24,689,988         |
|  | Subventions received                     | (268,546,132)       | (270,746,800)      |
|  | Subventions utilised                     | 262,780,061         | 250,730,599        |
|  | (Deferred income)/subventions receivable | <b>(1,092,284)</b>  | <b>4,673,787</b>   |

Deferred income relates to the portion of government subventions received from the Ministry of Education, for which the related expenditure has not yet been incurred. The portion of subventions utilised during the year is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**8. Fixed Assets:**

| <b>Cost</b>                     | <b><u>Leasehold<br/>Improvement</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Furniture<br/>and<br/>Fixtures</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Office<br/>Equipment</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Computer<br/>Software and<br/>Equipment</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Motor<br/>Vehicles</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Total</u><br/>(\$)</b> |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| Balance, 1 October 2023         | 2,183,468  | 1,083,928   | 260,068                                     | 434,506  | 204,604                                   | 4,166,574                    |
| Additions                       | <u>-</u>   | <u>-</u>  | <u>9,900</u>                                | <u>50,440</u>  | <u>-</u>                                  | <u>60,340</u>                |
| Balance, 30 September 2024      | <u>2,183,468</u>                                 | <u>1,083,928</u>                                      | <u>269,968</u>                              | <u>484,946</u>   | <u>204,604</u>                            | <u>4,226,914</u>             |
| <b>Accumulated Depreciation</b> |  |   |   |  |   |                              |
| Balance, 1 October 2023         | 2,183,468  | 1,036,370   | 258,869                                     | 393,584  | 204,604                                   | 4,076,895                    |
| Charge for the year             | <u>-</u>   | <u>8,575</u>  | <u>405</u>                                  | <u>19,121</u>  | <u>-</u>                                  | <u>28,101</u>                |
| Balance, 30 September 2024      | <u>2,183,468</u>                                 | <u>1,044,945</u>                                      | <u>259,274</u>                              | <u>412,705</u>   | <u>204,604</u>                            | <u>4,104,996</u>             |
| <b>Net Book Value</b>           |  |   |   |  |   |                              |
| Balance, 30 September 2024      | <u>-</u>   | <u>38,983</u>   | <u>10,694</u>                               | <u>72,241</u>  | <u>-</u>                                  | <u>121,918</u>               |
| Balance, 30 September 2023      | <u>-</u>   | <u>47,558</u>   | <u>1,199</u>                                | <u>40,922</u>  | <u>-</u>                                  | <u>89,679</u>                |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**8. Fixed Assets Cont'd):**

| <b>Cost</b>                     | <b><u>Leasehold<br/>Improvement</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Furniture<br/>and<br/>Fixtures</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Office<br/>Equipment</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Computer<br/>Software and<br/>Equipment</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Motor<br/>Vehicles</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Storage<br/>Equipment</u><br/>(\$)</b> | <b><u>Total</u><br/>(\$)</b> |
|---------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| Balance, 1 October 2022         | 2,183,468  | 1,038,127   | 258,869                                     | 397,511  | 204,604                                   | 44,691                                       | 4,127,270                    |
| Additions                       | -  | 45,801  | 1,199                                       | 36,995   | -   | -  | 83,995                       |
| Disposals                       | -  | -   | -   | -  | -   | (44,691)                                     | (44,691)                     |
| Balance, 30 September 2023      | <u>2,183,468</u>                                 | <u>1,083,928</u>                                      | <u>260,068</u>                              | <u>434,506</u>   | <u>204,604</u>                            | <u>-</u>                                     | <u>4,166,574</u>             |
| <b>Accumulated Depreciation</b> |  |   |   |  |   |  |                              |
| Balance, 1 October 2022         | 2,183,468  | 1,035,705   | 258,645                                     | 380,126  | 153,453                                   | 44,691                                       | 4,056,088                    |
| Charge for the year             | -  | 665   | 224   | 13,458   | 51,151                                    | -  | 65,498                       |
| Eliminated on Disposal          | -  | -   | -   | -  | -   | (44,691)                                     | (44,691)                     |
| Balance, 30 September 2023      | <u>2,183,468</u>                                 | <u>1,036,370</u>                                      | <u>258,869</u>                              | <u>393,584</u>   | <u>204,604</u>                            | <u>-</u>                                     | <u>4,076,895</u>             |
| <b>Net Book Value</b>           |  |   |   |  |   |  |                              |
| Balance, 30 September 2023      | <u>-</u>   | <u>47,558</u>   | <u>1,199</u>                                | <u>40,922</u>  | <u>-</u>                                  | <u>-</u>                                     | <u>89,679</u>                |
| Balance, 30 September 2022      | <u>-</u>   | <u>2,422</u>  | <u>224</u>                                  | <u>17,385</u>  | <u>51,151</u>                             | <u>-</u>                                     | <u>71,182</u>                |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**9. Accounts Payable and Accruals:**

|  | 30 September             |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | <u>2024</u>              | <u>2023</u>              |
|  | (\$)                     | (\$)                     |
| Audit fees   | 79,510                   | 79,510                   |
| Accounting fees  | 15,000                   | 15,000                   |
| Trade payable  | 29,802,044               | 27,106,520               |
| Accruals   | 1,046,848                | 931,190                  |
| International Development Research<br>Council of Canada (IDRC) Project | -                        | 7,509                    |
| Retirees medical   | <u>2,688</u>             | <u>4,410</u>             |
|  | <u><u>30,946,090</u></u> | <u><u>28,144,139</u></u> |

**10. Stated Capital:**

|   | 30 September    |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | <u>2024</u>     | <u>2023</u>     |
|   | (\$)            | (\$)            |
| Authorised:   |                 |                 |
| An unlimited number of ordinary<br>shares of no par value |                 |                 |
| Issued and fully paid:                                    |                 |                 |
| 2 ordinary shares of no par value                         | <u><u>2</u></u> | <u><u>2</u></u> |

**11. Revaluation Reserve:**

This reserve represents an adjustment made to the motor vehicle classification of fixed assets, to bring the book value in line with the insurable value, as the asset continues to be utilised in the normal business of the company.

**12. Capital Grants:**

Capital grants comprise the capitalised value of fixed assets transferred by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the company.

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**13. Related Party Transactions:**

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial decisions.

Key management personnel are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company.

A number of transactions are entered into with related parties in the normal course of business. These transactions were carried out on commercial terms at market rates.

Balances and transaction with related parties and key management personnel during the year were as follows:

|                                    | 30 September |           |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                                    | 2024         | 2023      |
|                                    | (\$)         | (\$)      |
| <b>Key management compensation</b> |              |           |
| Short-term benefits                | 3,060,914    | 2,538,112 |

**14. Fair Values:**

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. The existence of published price quotation in an active market is the best evidence of fair value. See **Note 2 (b)**. Where market prices are not available, fair values are estimated using various valuation techniques, including using recent arm's length market transactions between knowledgeable, willing parties, if available, current fair value of another financial instrument that is substantially the same and discounted cash flow analysis. The following methods have been used to estimate the fair values of various classes of financial assets and liabilities:

**(a) Current assets and liabilities -**

The carrying amounts of current assets and liabilities are a reasonable approximation of the fair values because of their short-term nature.

**(b) Investments -**

The fair values of investments are determined on the basis of quoted market prices available at 30 September 2024.



**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**15. Capital Risk Management:**

The company manages its capital to ensure that it will be able to continue as a going concern while maximising the return to its shareholders and providing value to the clients. The company's overall strategy remains unchanged from previous years.

The capital structure of the company consists of equity attributable to its shareholders, a Revaluation Reserve and capital grants.

**16. Direct Expenses:**

|                               | <b>30 September</b>       |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|                               | <b><u>2024</u></b>        | <b><u>2023</u></b>        |
|                               | (\$)                      | (\$)                      |
| Catering services             | 229,020,322               | 217,790,219               |
| Disposable supplies           | 19,060,847                | 18,470,722                |
| Samples testing               | 301,203                   | 267,786                   |
| Personal protective equipment | <u>4,230</u>              | <u>1,969</u>              |
|                               | <b><u>248,386,602</u></b> | <b><u>236,530,696</u></b> |

**17. Other Income:**

|                                     | <b>30 September</b> |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
|                                     | <b><u>2024</u></b>  | <b><u>2023</u></b>      |
|                                     | (\$)                | (\$)                    |
| Gain on disposal of Fixed Assets    | -                   | 1,969                   |
| Income from miscellaneous functions | <u>-</u>            | <u>4,142,921</u>        |
|                                     | <b><u>-</u></b>     | <b><u>4,144,890</u></b> |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**18. Administrative Expenses:**

|  | 30 September             |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|  | <u>2024</u>              | <u>2023</u>              |
|  | (\$)                     | (\$)                     |
| Accounting fees                              | 15,000                   | 15,000                   |
| Audit fees                                   | 121,025                  | 117,248                  |
| Bad debts                                    | -                        | 1,681,435                |
| Consulting                                   | 197,750                  | 202,625                  |
| Depreciation                                 | 28,101                   | 65,498                   |
| Directors' fees                              | 400,990                  | 400,800                  |
| Directors' expense                           | 74,002                   | 29,664                   |
| Insurance                                    | 44,460                   | 42,444                   |
| Medical – Employer's contribution            | 327,555                  | 244,580                  |
| National Insurance – Employer's contribution | 822,829                  | 695,519                  |
| Office supplies and stationery               | 137,566                  | 192,460                  |
| Penalties and interest                       | -                        | 38,600                   |
| Pension – Employer's contribution            | 616,525                  | 495,033                  |
| Rentals                                      | 749,181                  | 726,489                  |
| Repairs and Maintenance – Equipment          | 74,350                   | 17,840                   |
| Repairs and Maintenance – Building           | 83,515                   | 98,238                   |
| Repairs and Maintenance – Vehicles           | 101,620                  | 48,693                   |
| Salaries                                     | 9,746,795                | 8,298,798                |
| Security                                     | 277,140                  | 219,000                  |
| Special events                               | 102,011                  | 54                       |
| Special projects                             | -                        | 4,262,227                |
| Subscriptions                                | 33,756                   | 45,414                   |
| Training                                     | 81,912                   | -                        |
| Utilities                                    | <u>347,052</u>           | <u>360,550</u>           |
|  | <u><b>14,383,135</b></u> | <u><b>18,298,209</b></u> |

**19. Finance Costs:**

|                           | 30 September         |                     |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|                           | <u>2024</u>          | <u>2023</u>         |
|                           | (\$)                 | (\$)                |
| Bank charges and interest | <u><b>12,262</b></u> | <u><b>9,279</b></u> |

**NATIONAL SCHOOLS DIETARY SERVICES LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**30 SEPTEMBER 2024**

**20. Taxation:**

|                               | <b>30 September</b>   |                      |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|                               | <b><u>2024</u></b>    | <b><u>2023</u></b>   |
|                               | (\$)                  | (\$)                 |
| Corporation Tax/Business Levy | (1,438)               | 24,870               |
| Green Fund Levy               | <u>(500)</u>          | <u>12,435</u>        |
|                               | <b><u>(1,938)</u></b> | <b><u>37,305</u></b> |

**21. Impact of COVID-19:**

Since the latter part of February 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the closure of schools. As a result, the school feeding program was terminated for a while. As at the reporting date, COVID-19 had no material effects on events and transactions, as the company continued to receive funding from the Ministry of Education.

**22. Events after the Reporting Date:**

Management continues to evaluate the potential impact of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19). This disease was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation on 11 March 2020. The extent of the impact on the financial position and performance of the company depends on the following future developments, all of which are highly uncertain and cannot be predicted:

- Duration and spread of the outbreak;
- Extent of the restrictions and advisories; and
- Effect on the total and global financial and economic markets.