



GEORGE
WATSON'S
— COLLEGE —

ANNUAL REPORT
SESSION 2018/19



INTRODUCTION

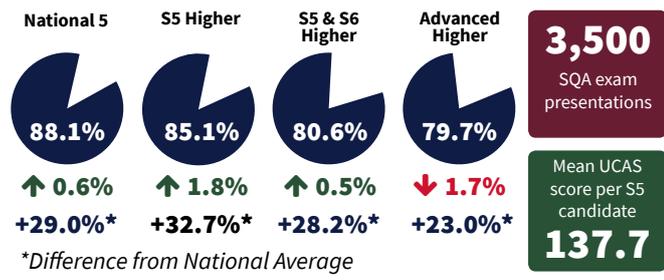
This year we have built on our past successes in impressive new ways. The first phase of our Campus Masterplan neared completion and we addressed cost pressures caused by a variety of external factors. Above all, our pupils continued to flourish in the environment of challenge and care that characterises life at Watson's.

Roddy Maclennan Chair of Governing Council

EDUCATIONAL VISION

Exam Results for Session 2018/19

SQA Pass rates A-B (including year-on-year comparison)



Top 10 University

Destinations (including numbers with firm acceptance)

1. Glasgow (33)
2. Dundee (31)
3. Aberdeen (24)
4. Edinburgh (20)
5. St Andrews (17)
6. Robert Gordon's (13)
7. Heriot-Watt (9)
8. Strathclyde (7)
9. Napier (3)
10. Leeds (3)

Top 10 Subjects applied for

- Mathematics
- Computing Science
- Economics
- History
- Medicine
- Business Management
- Economics & Business Studies
- Scots Law
- Mechanical Engineering

International Baccalaureate

1
IB candidate scored full marks (45 points)
Top **0.3%** internationally

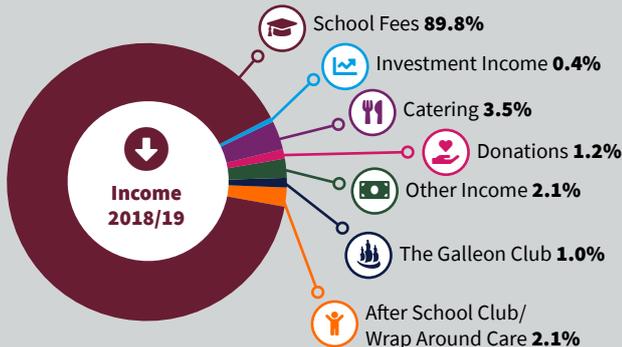
100%
Pass Rate
↑ **5%**

Average Points per candidate
38.8 ↑ **2.6%**

9.2 points above World Average

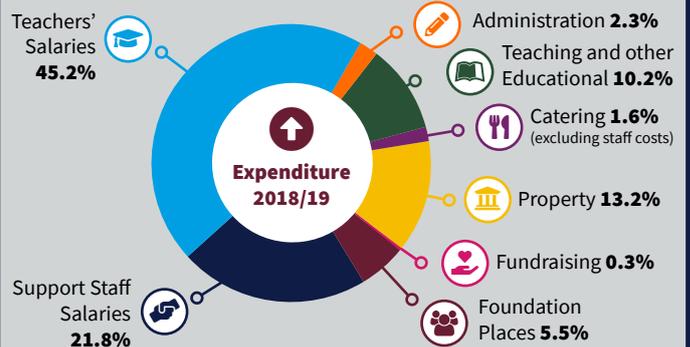
Income

Gross income for the academic session 2018/19 of **£30.2m** (2017/18: £28.1m) was made up as follows:



Expenditure

Total expenditure for the academic session 2018/19 of **£29.3m** (2017/18: £27.9m) was made up as follows:



Operating surplus in the year to 31 July 2019 of **£793,258** which is 2.6% of gross income.



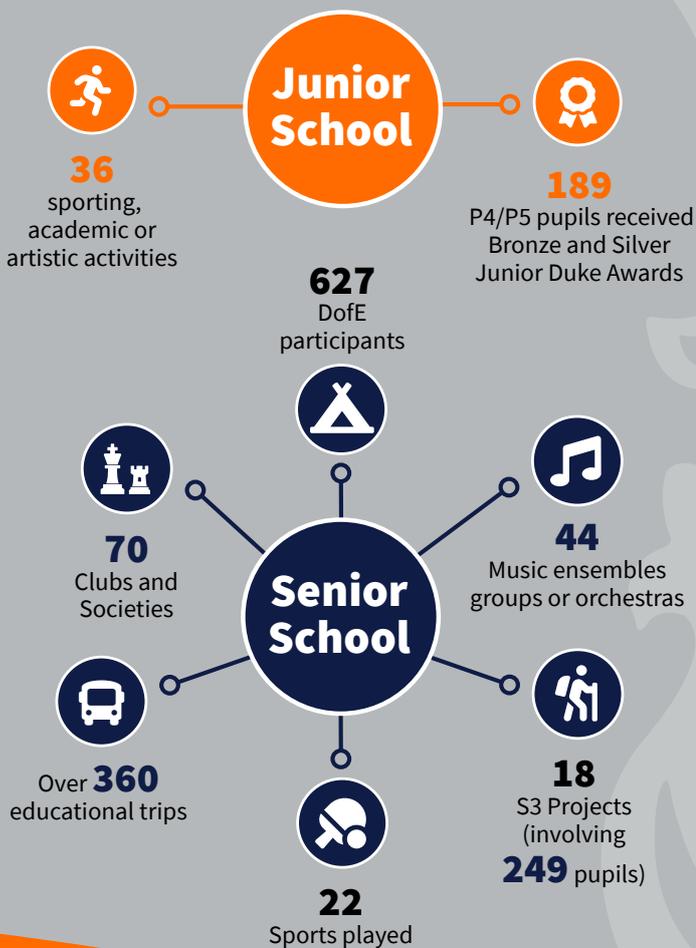
Venue hire generated **£36,000** of income to support the school budget and provided **£3,200** of benefit in free or reduced rate hire to our charity and community partners.



Facilities and Infrastructure

The extension to the Lower Primary Building, which will provide new Preschool and pupil wellbeing facilities, will be completed by November 2019. Improvements to the pick up and drop off facilities to the south of the grandstand pitch will be completed during the summer break 2020.

Extra Curricular Participation



Sporting Highlights

- Rugby** Colt Conference, Sevens Series, U16 Scottish Schools' Cup
- Hockey** 1st XI: East District 1st XI tournament, Countesswells Cup, 2nd XI: 2nd XI Tournament and League
- Rowing** Victor Ludorum at the Scottish Rowing Championships (beating all other Scottish schools, clubs and universities)
- Swimming** 90+ strong team won 65 medals at Edinburgh and Midlothian School Championships
- Cricket** Cricket Scotland Mixed P6 National Cup
- Skiing** Both boys' and girls' teams are British Schools' Dry Slope Champions.

Music and Drama Highlights



S6 Drama
The Long Road



S3 Production
Oliver!



Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



P2 Show
Little Red Riding Hood



Senior School Spring Concert
Dido and Aeneas



Summer Production
Chicago High School Edition

Technology

Software – Our IT Team have worked with new catering provider 'Inspire' to implement a cashless till system and online payment solution designed to deliver an improved technology service for pupils and staff.



Hardware – GWC invested in **200** new iPads and refreshed a further **800** for the start of term. **35** Promethean 'ActivPanels' are now in place across the school along with new Wi-Fi, Macs, telephony and several new LCDs.



Consumption of Energy



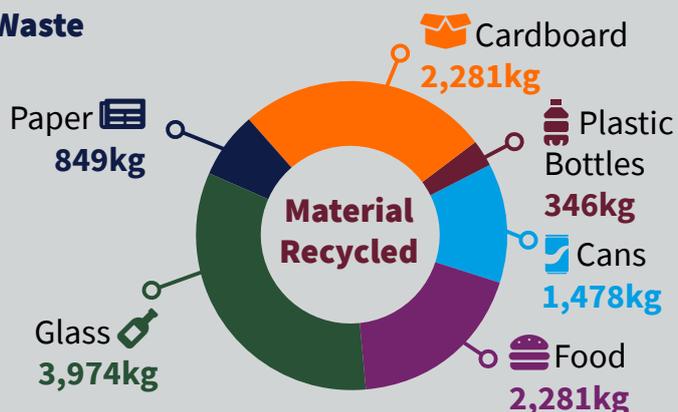
2,437,456 kWh
(equivalent to 786.3 average UK households per annum)



8,043,878 kWh
(equivalent to 670.3 average UK households per annum)

A key driver for 2020 will be to reduce the consumption of utilities and to improve the carbon footprint of the school.

Waste



LGBT Youth Scotland Gold Charter Award

In April we were delighted to be awarded the LGBT Youth Scotland Gold Charter Award.



Caritas Lecture 2018

This year's Caritas Lecture was delivered by James Naughtie, former host of BBC Radio 4's *Today* and the resident America-expert on the BBC's radio roster.



Watson's Remembers

Our remembrance activities took on extra significance in the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Pupils in our Junior School created a unique gown featuring 1,000 handcrafted poppies and a new Wall of Remembrance was unveiled in the Senior School featuring photographs of many of the 598 Watsonians who died. Preceding the Remembrance service which was streamed live for the first time, pupils from Nursery to Senior 6 as well as staff, Governors and the Watsonian President took turns reading the Roll of Honour.

Following the service, an oak tree was planted in front of the Senior School with Watsonians across the world encouraged to plant a 'Forest of Remembrance' to commemorate the Watsonians who fell, and as a sign of hope for the future (visit www.gwc.org.uk/forestofremembrance).

On Armistice Day our Symphony Orchestra led a global event marking the cessation of hostilities one hundred years ago playing a piece called *Armistice*, written by Scottish fiddler and composer Thoren Ferguson. The concert was broadcast live, allowing other groups to play along across the world.

Later in November, our Pipe Band led a procession up the Royal Mile from St Giles' Cathedral to Makar's Court where Senior Office Bearers and the Lord Provost Frank Ross (Class of 1976) unveiled a permanent memorial to the Scottish Great War Poets.

Watch our videos at www.gwc.org.uk/remembrance2019 and bit.ly/remembrance2019



Pupil Support and Wellbeing

As part of our Optimistic October activities, we invited Rookie Rockstars to promote positive mental health to all our pupils from Primary 1 to Primary 7.

Rookie Rockstars is a Scottish charity dedicated to improving children and young persons' mental health and wellbeing. During the four day programme, our children learned positive messages about self-esteem, anti-bullying, perseverance, determination and positive friendship values. They were taught original songs, recorded a CD and performed live in concert for parents and friends.

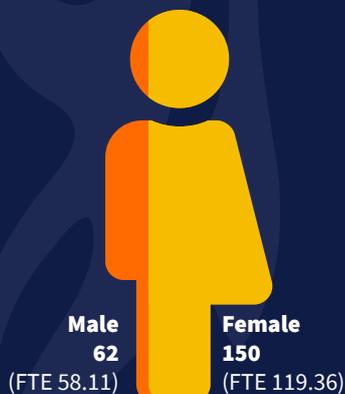
Watch our video at www.gwc.org.uk/rookierockstars



Pupils and Staff Numbers



Support Staff



212

(FTE 177.47)

Teaching Staff



238

(FTE 224.56)

Gender Pay Gap

GWC Median gender pay gap

4.1%

UK Median gender pay gap

11.9%

OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS

Charity Fundraising and Community Partnerships

Fundraising is embedded in the ethos at Watson's and true to our motto *Ex Corde Caritas* – love from the heart, we encourage our pupils, staff and parents to work together to support school fundraising projects, local charities, community partners and international charities.

In 2019 we took a more formalised approach to pupil fundraising by establishing a Charity Committee and Charities Policy. As well as supporting our chosen annual charities, we continue to work with and raise funds for key community partners: Sporting Start, The Eric Liddell Centre, Scottish Love in Action, Feed the Minds and UNICEF; whilst internationally, funds are raised for projects in Malawi through the George Watson's Malawi Partnership.

Community Outreach

Our ever-growing outreach programme is developed in collaboration with partner schools and community organisations. Whether it be hockey coaching at Gracemount Primary School, Coding Club at Broomhouse Primary School, or providing facilities for local clubs and schools to use, we are committed to utilising the capacity we have in resources, facilities and expertise for the benefit of others. We greatly value these community and school partnerships which provide significant mutual benefit for all involved. We believe that our pupils also benefit from being part of these projects and indeed all the other many social action activities they are involved in.



Fundraising Highlights

Junior School pupils raised **£1,800** for Drum Riding School



90 trees planted on campus thanks to *Trees For All* from the Woodland Trust



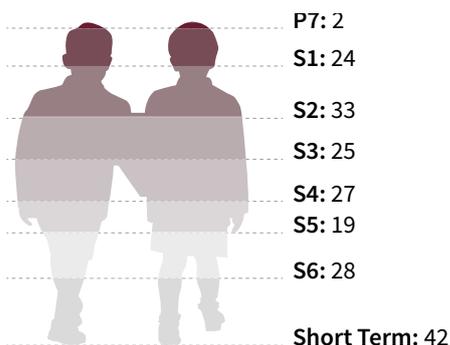
S6 Macmillan Coffee Morning raised **£600.44**

Foundation Places Programme



Thanks to the support of our fee-paying parents and our donors, in 2018/19 over **£1.5million** in annual bursaries and short-term support was provided to **200** pupils.

Pupils Receiving Financial Support 2018/19



FUNDED: Blair Library



FUNDED: John Martin Building

Swire Chinese Language Centre Edinburgh

Our joint venture with Boroughmuir High School and James Gillespie's High School to increase Chinese language and cultural learning. Our Centre also secured funding for pupils from Castlebrae High School and Tynecastle High School to go to Beijing.



2,300
pupils



太古中文教育基金
SWIRE CHINESE LANGUAGE CENTRE EDINBURGH



7

Chinese Teachers



24 state schools in Edinburgh East and Lothian



International Schools

Our aim to see more connection with schools overseas brought new relationships with schools in India and Malaysia during 2018/19.

Watson's Community Liaison Group

The CLG meets every term and is chaired by Daniel Johnson MSP. It comprises representatives from local Community Councils and other residents' groups who discuss items of common interest to our neighbourhood.



Watson's Malawi Partnership

Women in a region of Malawi are now benefiting from new life-saving equipment for the preventative treatment of cervical cancer, thanks to funding from our pupils and the Watson's Malawi Partnership (WMP).

Launched in June 2017, the WMP aims to facilitate work between our pupils, staff, parents, former parents and other friends of the school and members of the wider community to build sustainable and mutually beneficial partnerships with organisations and individuals in Malawi.

Achikondi Community is one such clinic where the George Watson's College funded thermal ablation device will be used. Nkhoma Mission Hospital has become a centre of excellence in cervical screening and treatment, including the development of new screening tests under the guidance of Professor Heather Cubie and her team, with funding provided by the Scottish Government.



NO LIMITS

We continue to prepare to launch **NO LIMITS**, our major fundraising campaign with an ambitious target to raise **£25million** by 2030. In doing so, we are building on the success of recent years which has seen the school benefit from over **£8Million** of philanthropic giving since 2015. This has included a legacy of over **£2million**, the bulk of which has helped to pay for the new John Martin Building in the Junior School. Over **£120,000** was raised to upgrade the Junior School playground – of which **£80,000** was raised by the Junior School pupils and staff and the Parents' Association. A further legacy and other fundraising has provided **£52,000** to purchase a new organ for the Senior School Assembly Hall which will be installed in October 2019. An appeal in memory of former Principal, Sir Roger Young raised **£25,000** to upgrade the Blair Library and a donation of **£15,000** will kick start our Computing Science outreach project.

TARGET £25M by 2030

INCLUDING
£10m
Endowment Trust for Foundation Places



£15m
Capital Projects



£1m
Sport, Music and other School priorities



NO LIMITS
A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN FOR GEORGE WATSON'S COLLEGE

£8,146,355
raised by September 2019
(funded since quiet phase 2015)

INCLUDING
£2m towards John Martin Junior School Building



£52,000
New Assembly Hall Organ



£120,000
Junior School Playground



£15,000
Computing Science Outreach Project



In 2018/19, the school raised over **£542,000** in cash donations and **£1.1million** in new pledges.