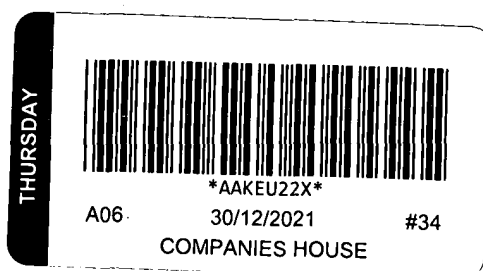


Westside Academy Trust

Consolidated annual Report and Financial Statements

31 August 2021

Company Limited by Guarantee Registration Number
05888220
(England and Wales)



Contents

Reports

Reference and administrative information	1
Trustees' report	2
Governance statement	27
Statement of Regularity, propriety and compliance	32
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	33
Independent auditor's report	34
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	39

Financial Statements

Consolidated statement of financial activities	41
Balance sheets	42
Consolidated statement of cash flows	43
Principal accounting policies	44
Notes to the consolidated financial statements	49

Reference and administrative information Year to 31 August 2021

Members

Caroline Clark (*ex officio* as Chair of the Board of Trustees)
Julian Critchlow
Robert Devereux
Sarah Evans (also a Trustee)
Mike Milner

Trustees

Dominic Bolton (Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee)
Nicholas Basden
Caroline Clark (Chair)
Sarah Evans
Patricia Hanley
Grazia Rapisarda (appointed 4 October 2021)
Deborah Rhodes
Christina Lyons

Senior Leadership Team

Headteacher
Deputy Head
Assistant Head Safeguarding Lead
Assistant Head Teaching & Learning

Patricia Hanley (Headteacher from 1 September 2020)
Kevin Browne
Nick Prempeh
Keighley McNeish

Registered address

Westside Academy Trust
Galena House
8-30 Galena Road
London
W6 0LT

Company registration number

05888220 (England and Wales)

Independent auditor

Buzzacott LLP
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill, West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

Trustees' Report Year to 31 August 2021

INTRODUCTION

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the Westside Academy Trust and Group for the year ended 31 August 2021. The Group consists of Westside Academy Trust and Westside Community Enterprises Limited. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 44 to 48 of the attached financial statements and comply with the Academy Trust's memorandum and articles of association, applicable laws and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)."

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of Westside Academy Trust ("the Academy Trust"), also known as Westside School) is the operation of Westside School to provide aspirational education with a personalised curriculum for students of different abilities needing alternative provision. The objective of the school is to meet the needs of 11- to 16-year-olds. The referred students have come off track in mainstream education and are at risk of exclusion. The school's focus is to provide them with a route back into education. The school provides individual learning programmes, with a great deal of individual attention for each student. A high number of students have educational and health care plans (EHCPs), and most have educational and/or behavioural needs.

The Academy Trust operates a subsidiary company: Westside Community Enterprises Limited (Company Registration Number 08743961). The principal activity of the company was that of operating some of the commercial activities of the Academy (see note 9).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Westside Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee (Company Registration Number 05888220) and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Articles of Association are the primary governing document of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of the Academy Trust are also the directors for the purposes of company law and are described as Trustees in its Articles of Association. The Academy Trust currently has five members, two of whom are also Trustees. A majority of the Trust's members are independent of the Board of Trustees.

Details of the members and trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

Method of recruiting and appointment or election Trustees

Trustees are sought using free services provided by the DfE (e.g., Inspiring Governance) and through networks. Trustees are initially co-opted and then formally appointed by the Members of the Academy Trust. Parents and Carers are invited to put themselves forward for the role of Parent Trustee.

On 31 August 2021, the Academy Trust had seven Trustees in total, which included the Head teacher. No parents/carers applied for the role of Parent Trustee. However, three Trustees have children of compulsory school age.

The term of office for any Trustee except the Head teacher is four years, at the end of which the Trustee may put themselves forward for re-election or re-appointment if they remain eligible.

Over the year, we assessed Trustees' skills and experience, and as a result, we have appointed one new Trustee and identified another potential Trustee.

The former is Grazia Rapisarda. Grazia has twenty years' experience of working in finance. She is Head of Governance & Controls, Risk Model Control Office at Barclays. The Board recognises the long service of Dominic Bolton, the Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, and Grazia's appointment is part of good succession planning for this role.

The latter is the co-founder and head teacher of an all-through free school in London, who has agreed to join the Board in September 2022. In the meantime, this potential Trustee has agreed to serve as an educational adviser to the Board. This will meet the need for a non-executive adviser with similar level of educational knowledge to the current Head, so that the Board can offer more challenge to the executive team.

The trustees who served in the year were as follows:

Trustee	Term of office
Patricia Hanley (Headteacher)	N/A
Dominic Bolton (Chair of Finance and General Purposes Committee)	Four years
Nicholas Basden	Four years
Caroline Clark (Chair)	Four years
Sarah Evans	Four years
Christina Lyons	Four years
Deborah Rhodes	Four years

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

All new Trustees meet the Head teacher and the Chair of Trustees. They also receive a one-to-one induction with the governance professional, who is a Fellow of the Governance Institute. All Trustees have access to a dedicated area of the Trust's website, where policies, the Academy Development Plan, the SEF, the SDP and past committee papers are held. Trustees have opportunities, and are encouraged, to visit the school, observe lessons and join staff INSET days. They are also invited to attend various training sessions, or to engage in online training. Trustees, especially the Chair of the Finance Committee, partner key staff who lead finance and business management of the school.

All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, risk management information, safeguarding reports, capital expenditure plans, and other documents that they will need to discharge their responsibilities as Trustee.

Organisational structure and management

The Trustees are responsible for strategy, performance, and financial management. To discharge their responsibilities, they delegate to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, and to the school's senior leadership team. The Members of the Trust provide an extra layer of accountability. These relationships are described in more detail below.

Members of the Trust

The DfE states that Members have a general duty to exercise their powers to further the academy trust's charitable object. Our Members have rich and deep experience in business and education and are committed to Westside's ethos. Their role is to:

1. Appoint and remove Trustees;
2. Appoint and remove Members to/from the Members;
3. Receive the Trust's annual report and accounts;
4. Appoint the Trust's auditors;
5. Agree to changes in the Trust's Articles of Associations or name; and
6. Require Trustees to hold a Members' meeting or circulate a written resolution.

Our Members receive information about the Trust's performance and consider whether Trustees are discharging their responsibilities successfully. If they decide that this is not the case, they can raise their concerns with Trustees and/or the DfE. They have the power to remove Trustees and appoint new ones if insufficient reassurance is offered.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Organisational structure and management (continued)

Members of the Trust (continued)

Our Members are unusually active for an Academy Trust. We have five Members, all of whom have been committed to Westside for many years. They are responsive to communications throughout the year, and attendance levels at the AGM are excellent. Within the confines of their role (i.e. they do not make decisions on strategic issues, nor do they manage the Trust) they provide challenge and hold Trustees to account through analysing and then questioning performance data. Two members are Trustees and of the remaining three, one is a secondary head teacher, one is an Advisory Partner with Bain & Company, and one is an entrepreneur and art collector.

However, Members do not manage the business of the Trust. This is what the Trustees do.

Trustees

Westside benefits from talented and experienced Trustees. Our Trustee Board is highly diverse, which enables creativity and eliminates "group-think". The Head teacher is an ex officio member of the Board. Of the remaining Trustees, two have portfolio charity NED careers, two run their own successful businesses, one has a senior role at Barclays, and two are self-employed professionals (a barrister and a psychologist).

The ages of our Trustees range from early 40s to early 60s, and we have excellent representation from the BAME community, which is very important to the Trust. The very high attendance statistics for Trustee and Committee meetings demonstrate a high level of commitment. Our Trustees' skills and experience includes finance, law, psychology, retail, management, consulting and education.

As stated earlier, the Board of Trustees has three main responsibilities:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

It discharges the first by requiring advice on how the Trust's vision, ethos and strategic might be shaped, from the Head teacher and the Senior Leadership Group (SLG). The Board of Trustees then considers the advice and make final decisions. It then requires the Head teacher and SLG to implement the strategy.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Organisational structure and management (continued)

Trustees (continued)

The Board discharges the second responsibility by requiring Head teacher and SLG to report to the Board of Trustees on progress and performance. The Board of Trustees also triangulate this information with other data received from school visits and externally confirmed information, such as GCSE and other public exam results. They challenge the executive when they feel that the data is not as good as it should be and will require action.

It discharges the third responsibility by delegating various authorities to the Finance and General Purposes (F&GP) Committee. The Committee takes decisions within that authority (aligned to the Academies Financial Handbook and the Trust's Finance Policy) and reports to the Board. It monitors the Trust's financial performance, escalating concerns and requiring action where necessary. It leads on the audit process. The Committee approves the draft budget for the Trust and submits it to the Board for approval. The same is true for the accounts.

During the period under review the Trustees held four full Trustee meetings (including a Strategy Review Day) and three Finance and General Purposes Committee meetings.

Due to the constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic, the AGM cycle was disrupted. The 2019/20 AGM took place on 23 November 2020. The 2020/21 AGM is due to take place in March 2022.

Executive team

The Head teacher (who is the Accounting Officer) and Senior Leadership Group implement the Board's strategy and advise and report to the Board. The Senior Leadership Group of the Academy Trust for the period August 2020 to September 2021 comprised the Head teacher, one Deputy Head, two Assistant Heads and a Business Manager.

These leaders manage and control the operations of the Academy at an executive level, implementing the strategy and policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them. Executive decisions made by the Senior Leadership Group have to be approved by the Trustees in relation to permanent exclusions, admission policies, staffing complement, staff discipline and grievance and staffing structure.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The School pay panel (consisting of three Trustees, the finance manager, and the Head teacher) meets every year to discuss staff pay and conditions. Staff pay is set with due regard to staff performance over the year, competitive market rates including London teacher pay scales, and fairness for all staff. Reference is made as appropriate to the current School Teachers' Pay and Condition Document (STPCD) rates for teachers and local authority rates for support staff.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Westside Academy Trust works with a number of feeder schools both within the Tri-borough, and other surrounding London Boroughs. It also works with a number of Special Educational Needs and Looked After Children agencies in these boroughs. The Academy Trust is in close communication with a number of different Social Services providers, and Youth Offending Teams, as well as a number of charities that provide mentoring, employment, or other opportunities for our students.

AP Challenge Trust, previously Westside Education Trust, was established in December 2016 in order to support the association of alternative provider schools across the country. An Annual Report and Financial Statements were submitted to the Charity Commission within the reporting period.

At each full Trustee meeting Trustees are required to update any possible conflict of interests.

Trade union facility time

There were no union arrangements in the Academy Trust in the year to 31 August 2021 (2020 – none).

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Objects, aims and objectives

The Academy Trust's object is laid out in the Articles of Association, and is specifically restricted to the following:

"...to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing an educational institution which is principally concerned with providing full-time or part-time education for children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless alternative provision is made for them."

Our vision and values are clear to all our stakeholders and our strap line "A small school model offering aspirational and personalised education" serves as a constant reminder to all of what we aim to achieve at Westside.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Review of activities

Background

Westside School has always aimed to provide for students who need additional support to keep them in learning. Our provision is based on providing an environment that raises expectations, re-engages learning, and provides a personalised curriculum that allows students to go forward in education or employment. Our evaluation demonstrates ambitious, aspirational practice for continual improvement. We have a clear framework of rigorous and robust Monitoring, Evaluation and Review (MER) which supports learning and teaching, builds expertise and capacity, and results in very positive outcomes for our students. The staff team is focused on supporting the individual needs of vulnerable and challenging students and helping them to find successful ways to manage their behaviour and improve their learning opportunities. The unwavering support for those young people at risk of not achieving their best outcomes ensures at least good progress for all our young people. Literacy intervention (Words First) Speech and Language Therapy, Counselling Support in support from an onsite SENDCo all ensure that there is focused attention on improving outcomes. The role of Progress Leaders is now fully embedded in the school and has ensured that those students requiring specialised support receive consistent intervention strategies across the curriculum.

The School focuses on students in Years 7 to 11, providing a broad-based GCSE curriculum with vocational options.

The School building is set up for these vocational options. Although the school has no outside space, it has sports facilities, an Art Wing, an ICT suite, hair and beauty facilities, and vocational training areas.

The School started as an independent charitable school in October 2006 under the name Westside Independent School. With effect from the start of the year ending August 2014, the School converted to an Academy Trust and became a free school. Westside has the lease on a building provided by the DfE (Galena House in Hammersmith).

The Trust complies with regulations issued by the Department for Education (DfE) and its agencies. The Trust's governance professional provides updates on any regulation or guidance changes to the Trustees. In addition, the Chair, Head, and Governance Lead attend AP and/or Governance conferences regularly.

Local schools and academies, Looked After Children (LAC), and Special Educational Needs (SEN) agencies are in constant communication with the School as they refer students who find it difficult to work in the larger scale mainstream environment. The School makes a priority of working with parents and has always worked with other charities in the area where it is based.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Review of activities (continued)

Background (continued)

Ofsted described the school as follows "Pupils in Westside get a great deal. Many have a history of non-attendance or persistent absence when they join the school. Some have been excluded from other settings and things have just not worked out for them. Many find learning hard. However, when they join Westside, a dramatic shift starts to happen. Most

rediscover their love for learning and find their own identity. This shift is possible because staff have a thorough understanding of pupils' needs, and what makes them tick. The curriculum is based firmly on the needs of the individual child. "

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22

Ofsted does not set targets for outstanding schools. However, we are not resting on our laurels. We want to repair the damage that Covid has caused to our students and remain Outstanding. To this end, we have set ourselves challenging objectives for 2021/22, as follows.

A summary of our targets (i.e., success criteria) is provided after the list of objectives.

Priority 1: Quality of Education

1. Students to remain in education/employment/training after leaving Westside;
2. 100% of students engage with PE curriculum;
3. Science curriculum is delivered effectively;
4. Level 2 in vocational Hair qualification achieved;
5. Vocational qualifications administration completed in a timely manner;
6. Gaps closed in students' learning;
7. Staff are increasingly confident in meeting needs of all students;
8. New curriculum areas successfully integrated (Construction; Business and Employability; E-Sport);
9. Quality of spoken language improved across the school;
10. Students in need of EHCP supported to obtain one; and
11. Systematic feedback from all stakeholders regularly received.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22
(continued)

Strategy to meet the objectives in Priority 1: Quality of Education

1. Complete audit of leavers' destinations beyond year 1 of leaving Westside;
2. Explore possibility of finding funding for a support worker to continue to work with Westside students in year 12 and 13;
3. Provide new placements with pupil passports/Westside contacts;
4. Find opportunities for PE off-site/on site that students are willing to fully engage in;
5. Provide external training and support for KA;
6. Enable students to participate in science practical lessons by using facilities at REACH Academy Feltham;
7. Find a qualification that enables academically able students to achieve a Level 2 qualification;
8. Monitor the quality of planning, teaching and learning closely of this qualification;
9. Support JF with curriculum planning;
10. Half-termly monitoring of administration practices;
11. Testing of students and learning passports created;
12. All staff plan for personalised learning;
13. 1-2-1 intervention groups identified and attend tutoring. Impact measured;
14. Provide high quality CPD for all staff: ASD/Trauma/SEND/SRE;
15. Monitoring of new curriculum areas and support given where required;
16. All staff trained in how to promote the use of formal standard English in the school;
17. Continue with Jack Petchey scheme/teach formal debating skills;
18. Begin application process for those students without EHCP who are in need; and
19. Complete stakeholder surveys regularly throughout the year.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22
(continued)

Priority 2: Behaviour and Attitudes

1. Reduced FT Exclusions /End of Placement;
2. Improved student relationships in Year 10;
3. Improved attendance and punctuality for small group of students; and
4. Students supported with strategies for self-management of behaviour both inside and outside of school.

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 2

1. Improve student self-regulation of behaviour through curriculum and pastoral support;
2. Bespoke support plans put in place for individual students;
3. Rewards/incentives as important and sanctions in place and impact monitored;
4. Be rigorous in admitting students to the school;
5. Monitor behaviour closely of this group of students;
6. Adopt a zero-tolerance approach to racist and homophobic comments;
7. Provide opportunities for team building/improving relationships;
8. Continue work with feeder schools / parents / carers to ensure that students arrive at school on time and attend fully: texts/phone calls home/send attendance to home schools / late detention / meetings / rewards / home visits / involvement of external agencies;
9. Liaison with PC Waite/Met Police/Gangs Unit;
10. Behaviour reports;
11. Contact with home/collaboration with families;
12. Work with agencies outside of school: YOT/support workers;
13. Provision of counselling/OT/EP/mentors;
14. Providing after school escorts;
15. Increase staff presence in surrounding area; and

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22
(continued)

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 2 (continued)

16. Refine rewards system.

Priority 3: Personal Development

1. Increase the confidence of girls in the school;
2. Improved oracy across the school;
3. Early identification of NEETs and support put in place;
4. Students' lives enriched;
5. 100% of students engage with the PE curriculum; and
6. Students understand the importance of healthy relationships.

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 3

1. Provide opportunities for girls across the school to work together to develop self-confidence/strengthen relationships;
2. All staff are to make students aware of the difference between formal and informal language;
3. Students given opportunities to learn how to participate in formal debating/participation in Jack Petchey speaking competition;
4. Every class is to present an assembly to the school;
5. Involve commissioning bodies/feeder schools early;
6. Provide mentoring at Westside beyond Year 11;
7. Liaise with LA/ outside agencies to sustain the improvements made by students at Westside;
8. Continue to use services of Clement James careers' advice;
9. Employability introduced into curriculum;
10. Westside staff to escort students to 6th form/college open days;
11. Time allocated on Friday afternoons for year 11 research/careers;

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22
(continued)

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 3 (continued)

12. Continue to provide a comprehensive range of enrichment opportunities both in school and beyond;
13. Find activities that engage all students;
14. All staff trained on SRE;
15. Consultation with parents on SRE curriculum and made aware of what their son/daughter will be taught at each stage of their education; and
16. Rota of when SRE taught published in advance in calendar and staff bulletin.

Priority 4: Leadership and Management

1. Impact of Covid minimised on students and staff;
2. Improved accommodation at Westside offers;
3. Views of all stakeholders obtained;
4. Maintain financial viability;
5. Select students carefully to ensure that the needs of all can be met;
6. All curriculum planning contributes to the overall vision of the school;
7. Staff supported to develop their careers;
8. Staff feel physically and mentally well at work;
9. HR and Payroll practices refined with greater emphasis on accuracy; and
10. Westside is a more environmentally aware school.

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 4

1. Keep the building and environment as safe as possible;
2. Follow DFE/PHE updated guidance on managing Covid;
3. Provide high quality remote learning for students when necessary;
4. Remote learning included in MER programme;

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22
(continued)

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 4 (continued)

5. Continue to work with LocatED to find suitable premises;
6. Complete termly surveys for students and staff; annual review feedback from parents/commissioners;
7. When safe to do so, invite as many local authorities and Head Teachers in to school to ensure that places are filled;
8. Work closely with ARF Committee and all trustees to ensure that the school continues to remain financially successful;
9. Obtain as much information as possible about students prior to admission from parents/carers/ SEND departments/EP etc;
10. Standardised curriculum plans submitted in advance. Curriculum intent can be articulated by all teaching staff;
11. Staff are confident in what they are teaching and why;
12. Deputy Head Teacher responsible for curriculum is acutely aware of what is being taught in the school and when. Monitoring should confirm what has been planned for is in fact what is seen in classrooms;
13. ECT/Unqualified and ITT staff supported by external advisor;
14. All staff on training courses supported by LM. Impact of training on outcomes for students monitored;
15. PM system used to encourage staff to develop their skills;
16. All ST to support the colleagues that they line manage to feel well. Meetings to be kept to strict time limits and workload implications monitored for staff;
17. School counsellor offers termly sessions for well-being;
18. Line managers responsible for ensuring that staff have reasonable workload;
19. Head Teacher responsible for ST having a reasonable work-home life balance;
20. Maintenance of a healthy and safe working environment;
21. HR audit undertaken: all staff HR files updated during summer;

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES (continued)

Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22
(continued)

Strategy to meet the objectives: Priority 4 (continued)

22. Payroll to be checked and signed off by three members of staff;
23. All staff are to be made familiar with HR policies and provide written evidence of this;
24. Staff understand the professional Code of Conduct;
25. Rigorous New Staff induction programme;
26. All staff and students encouraged to reduce, re-use and recycle;
27. No single use plastic purchased by school;
28. Staff encouraged to use fewer paper resources/energy;
29. Meat free days; and
30. Assembly/SMSC continues to include emphasis on the environment and impact of climate change.

Performance Indicator	Targets 2020-21	Targets 2021-22
GCSE English and Maths Outcome	100% students to achieve a GCSE grade	100% students to achieve a GCSE or FS grade
Reduce WSV (Within-School Variance)	No WSV in BTEC Sport; Art; Biology	Reduce WSV between maths and English outcomes KS4
Attendance	>88%	>88%
Fixed Term Exclusions	Reduce number of FT Exclusions	Reduce number of FT Exclusions
Quality of Teaching	100% Good or Better	100% Good or better
Year 11 Progress to ETE	100%	100%
Increase student numbers	>50	>50

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 in respect to having due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the Academy Trust.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Strategic review

The Trustees discussed strategy at each Trustee meeting and held a Strategy Awayday in April 2021. The focus of strategic discussions in recent years has been identifying ways to replicate the highly successful Westside model, to support significantly more pupils in need. However, as noted in the last Trustees' Annual Report, the Trustees decided that their main focus over 2020/21 should be supporting the school's response to the Covid-19 pandemic, and maintaining the standards indicated by our Ofsted Outstanding grade. Two other significant issues became even higher priorities this year than last year: the need for more space for the school, and the changing nature of the pupil profile at the school.

Scaling up Westside's highly successful model is still very important to the Trustees and will be a priority for 2021/2022.

Achievements and performance

2020/2021 was the first year with the new Head teacher, Patricia Hanley. The Trustees wish to note the many successes achieved in this time, and to thank Mrs Hanley and all the staff for their extremely hard work during an exceptionally difficult year.

As an Alternative Provision school, Westside was open all through the year, even when other schools were closed to the majority of their pupils. Covid-19 presented enormous challenges to the school, which has coped admirably. The challenges included:

- Staff absences through illness, self-isolation and needing to look after their own families;
- The increased costs of cleaning, other changes to the school's physical environment and of agency staff required to Covid-related staff absence;
- Managing the space required for social distancing in a school which was already coping with the maximum number of pupils;
- Supporting pupils who were not attending in person, and who have troubled home lives. This support has been required both while the children were not attending, and then when they returned to school with some behavioural problems exacerbated by the long absence; and
- Maintaining pupil interest and enthusiasm despite having to pause the external visit programme for most of the year.

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance

The school has achieved some notable successes in terms of Covid-19. Staff have worked extremely hard to provide face to face and online education for Westside pupils, including significant efforts to maintain interactions with pupils with troubled home lives who did not attend in person. This include creating bespoke part-time timetables. All students had access to an internet-enabled device if they could not attend. Staff have also delivered the mass testing programme, introduced by the government at very short notice in December 2020.

The school also provided the entire suite of interventions throughout the year, for example careers advice, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, and counselling.

For the second year running, exams were cancelled, and grades awarded based on teacher and centre assessment. This involved teachers assessing students and creating portfolios of work to support these grades. A rigorous process of assessment took place in the school in the spring and summer term, with students working exceptionally hard in order to demonstrate their competence. The challenges faced by the Westside cohort meant that this was harder for them than having to sit in the examination hall for one or two papers for each subject. Many students struggled with the constant demands to produce evidence but demonstrated great resilience in doing this. With the exception of one student, they gained qualifications to enable them to move on to the next stage of their education or training.

A sample of English and Science portfolios were requested for moderation. All grades were confirmed as accurate.

Quality of Education

The achievements in GCSE and Vocational qualifications this year represent an enormous effort on the part of the students themselves, their teachers and families. All the Trustees are proud of the efforts made by our students, and are aware of the resilience, determination and conscientious effort it took to produce their results.

The Senior Leadership Team has continued to improve the Westside curriculum over the year. The school has introduced new topics, and just as importantly, has had the courage to withdraw subjects if they are not successful. Withdrawn subjects include GCSE music and a vocational qualification in motor mechanics. Successful new topics include GCSE sociology, a coding module for Years 7 and 8, Black Lives Matter additions to the Citizenship curriculum, and an arts intervention programme from the Hammersmith Lyric Theatre. Conscious of the low proportion of girls in the school, the Senior Leadership Team put on a series of seminars for girls over the summer. These covered self-defence, coping with gangs, graphic design, make-up and facials, and sexual health. These have all been very popular.

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Quality of Education (continued)

As some Covid restrictions lifted, Westside was finally able to offer a programme of external visits to our students. These included Kew Gardens (with a photography lesson built in), the London Dungeon for history, and Tate Modern and Tate Britain for art.

Interventions to close educational gaps exacerbated by Covid are a priority for all schools at the moment. Westside is taking advantage of the National Tutoring Programme, but the majority of interventions will be targeted and personalised to Westside students' individual needs and delivered by school staff. Trustees believe that the resource available for interventions is best channelled by Westside staff, who already know the students so well.

Personal development

Westside has continued to deliver an outstanding personal development offering to our students. Through ClementJames (an educational charity), we have provided support for students with college/school visits and applications, and CV writing workshops. There is an emphasis on Year 11, but all students have access to the careers service.

We offer an extensive after-school programme of enrichment including basketball, art club, E-sports, ICT and boxing.

We work closely with external agencies such as Social Services, the Metropolitan police, children and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS), the local Youth Offending Team and the NHS nursing team. As noted in the section on Covid, the school has continued to deliver occupational therapy, educational psychologist support, and engagement with mentors (staff and external) and youth workers.

The school has also extended the model of personalising the academic curriculum to the area of personal development: For example, we have arranged for the London Gangs and Knife Crime Unit to work with students considered to be particularly at risk in this area. Westside has also created a Pupil Passport system. The Pupil Passport is a personalised document for each student. It contains strategies regarding their personal development: for example, a note to say that the student should be allowed to leave the classroom with a support member of staff when necessary for time out, or just a few minutes physical movement time. All teachers have access to all the Pupil Passports.

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Behaviour

Despite the school's very challenging cohort (Westside is not a special school, but more than three quarters of the students have an EHCP, as do 100% of the most recent intake), Westside has made significant improvements to behaviour this year. The school has a new room for "calm time" – this is not a punishment room, as is often the case in mainstream schools or Pupil Referral Units (PRUs). We have instituted a Behaviour and Punctuality reporting system, which encourages students to take ownership of their own behaviour. To align with this, we have improved the Rewards system, to encourage students to manage their own behaviour and their attitude to learning better. Rewards range from certificates to a meal out or a trip to a place of choice e.g. Go-Karting.

The school also offers more traditional support with behaviour management for example, counselling and music therapy.

Leadership and management

Teaching and learning have been the main focus of the leadership team. Teaching has continued to improve over the year. There is a strong focus on reflection and learning through the Monitoring, Evaluation and Review (MER) programme. Monitoring for students physically attending school was carried out through lesson drop-in and workbook reviews. For students studying through the online portal, MER focused on how well questioning could work in a non-physical space. The school also renewed its focus on how well students could work independently, as this was clearly something that became increasingly important.

More generally, the school has worked on improving differentiation (providing multiple pathways to ensure that students have equal and appropriate access to curriculum, with a variety of classroom instruction techniques and assessments), as this has been especially challenging with online learning.

The Teaching and Learning Group meets regularly to discuss teaching, to train staff, and to implement and monitor strategies for individual students. As there is such a large proportion of students with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs) in the current cohort, this group has emphasised knowledge of SEND conditions and how to help students with EHCPs. This has also been a main focus of the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme.

The school day has been restructured to allow Progress Leaders to meet at the end of the day with teaching staff to plan lessons and prepare learning materials. This has enabled support staff and teaching staff to share strategies that work well with individual students – continuing to provide the personalised curriculum which led to Westside's Outstanding grade in 2019.

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Leadership and management (continued)

On other aspects of leadership and management, the new Head teacher has undertaken a thorough review of all HR documentation and practices. In a small school, getting the staff team right is essential, and this will put Westside in an excellent position for future recruitment.

Finally, the Trustees have demonstrated leadership by their strategic guidance on managing the balance of students with and without EHCPs in the cohort, and on managing the need for the school to expand its physical space (both discussed further later in this section).

The Trustees now turn to the second and third major challenge (Covid was the first) for the school over the last year and looking to the immediate future. These are the make-up of the current cohort, and the restrictions imposed by the school's current premises.

The challenges of the current cohort

Westside was set up as a small school to help students who were not thriving in large mainstream schools. It was not, and is not, a special school. However, 75% of the current cohort of pupils has an EHCP, and 100% of all new pupils have one. Trustees believe that there is a variety of reasons for this, including:

- Greater diagnosis of SEND, and parents being more aware of their children's needs and rights;
- Schools not wishing to pay the higher costs of referring their pupils to a special school; and
- A shift in educational policy towards educating children who need Alternative Provision within the "home" school, not at a different school.

The reasons are interesting, but it is the effect on Westside which is important. Although the Trustees have supported the Head teacher with rigorously applying the school's admissions criteria, the proportion of pupils with EHCPs is still significantly higher than it used to be. This has led to a greater range of challenging behaviour, a need to accommodate the extra staff needed for one-to-one support, and of course the need to appropriately support students *without* EHCPs, who are now in a minority.

Trustees and the Head teacher are in dialogue with the local authority and with educational leaders on this issue. There are simply not enough referrals for pupils without EHCPs to ensure financial viability for the school – unless this changes, the school will have to accept a much higher number of pupils with EHCPs than was originally intended.

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The challenge of the school building

This is the third major challenge facing the school. Westside has a lease due to run until 2027, and no outside space. It is now clear that DfE would not permit a new school to open in these circumstances today, but there is no support available from DfE to remedy Westside's situation.

It was always going to be hard to manage an AP school with no outside space, but when Westside had a much smaller number on roll (NOR) and a much lower proportion of children with EHCP's, the challenges were more manageable. There was enough space to offer sport to all the pupils within the school building, and it was easier to walk a smaller group of pupils to the park and back.

However, the school now has a greater need for its own inside and outside space. This greater need is caused by:

- Much higher pupil numbers (at least double since the school opened) – the school has literally run out of space to accommodate everyone comfortably;
- Behavioural needs resulting from the changed nature of the cohort – many more of the pupils need more space and fresh air to burn off energy, and then behave more calmly;
- Increased staff, also resulting from the changed cohort – many pupils now have a right to a support worker, who needs to be near them in the classroom. This increased number of people creates a need for more physical space; and
- Safeguarding – it is not possible to safely escort all the pupils to the park and back for outside activities, because of the large number of pupils, and the local gang culture.

There are two ways to resolve the need for more space: expanding the current premises (which would be possible, and for which the Trust has obtained plans and an indicative quote) or moving to a new site. Trustees and senior staff have held exhaustive discussions with LocatED over the last few months, the conclusions of which are:

- There is no possible new site available before 2030; and
- There is no DfE funding currently available to expand the current premises.

This leaves the Trust having to run a school which cannot meet a significant element of its pupils' needs. Trustees plan to engage with DfE over the academic year 2021/22 to try to resolve this.

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The challenge of the school building (continued)

The Trustees feel that this quote from Kate Chhatwal OBE, the CEO of Challenge Partners (a continuation of The National Challenge and London Challenge) is a good note on which to end this review. Kate said: "I was blown away by Westside: it was a joy to visit". Despite the challenges of Covid, the changing cohort of Westside school, and the pressing need for more space, the Trustees are immensely proud of all that the pupils and the staff achieved in 2020/21 and wish to note their thanks for everyone's hard work.

Results for 2020/21

Performance Indicator	Targets	Results
Achieving at least one GCSE grade	100%	Achieved for all students except one
Variance	No in-school variance in BTEC Sport, Art or Biology	Achieved
Attendance	> 88%	Achieved
Full-time exclusions	Reduce number of FT Exclusions	Not achieved, but the current cohort of students is very different to what was expected when this target was set, with higher incidence of behavioural challenges
Teaching	100% good or better	Achieved
Progress to EET	100%	Not achieved. Four previous students are now NEETs, one of whom is not currently resident in the UK. The school has started a new project to support students after they leave Westside.
Number on roll	> 50	Achieved (the usual number on roll was higher than 60)

STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Progress made in 2020/21 on the four main areas of the Ofsted inspection framework

Overall, the Trustees are very proud of Westside's offering to our pupils. Performance data on Alternative Provision is notoriously hard to find. However, the Trustees are confident that Westside is providing exceptional support to our pupils. The latest data available shows that the national average of pupils in AP achieving at least grade 4 in Maths and English GCSEs is 4%. This compares with an average of 38% in Westside this year: a huge difference even with the caveat that the time periods do not quite match up.

In addition, 80% of Westside's pupils had positive destinations this year: this compares extremely well with 54% nationally for AP, and 42% in Hammersmith and Fulham.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial report for the year

Most of the Academy Trust's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the Local Authority, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE and the Local Authority during the year ended 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

A summary of the results for the Group for the period is included on page 41.

Total income for the Group for the year was £2,466,740 (2020 – £2,257,636), which included £2,351,458 (2020 – £2,197,705) of ESFA revenue grants and Local Authority revenue grants.

Total expenditure for the Group for the year was £2,401,362 (2020 – £2,111,001), of which £1,642,235 (2020 – £1,404,601) related to staffing costs and the balance to the other costs of running the educational operations of the Academy Trust.

The net movement in funds for the year ended 31 August 2021 was an increase of £65,378 (2020 – increase of £146,635).

The operational surplus for the year excluding fixed asset purchases was £126,213 (2020 – operational surplus of £177,970). This figure excludes movements on the tangible fixed assets, fixed asset purchases from revenue funds, and other non-recurring items.

Financial performance and management

The Academy Trust manages its financial position principally through the budgeting process and through ongoing monitoring by its staff and by the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee. Its principal sources of funding comprise government grants pursuant to a funding agreement between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education, fees paid by feeder schools and agencies, and charitable donations.

FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)

Reserves policy

The Academy Trust collects all top-up fees from feeder schools and agencies at the beginning of each academic year (or as soon as each new student starts). In addition, the Department for Education provides monthly grants to cover some of the basic tuition, salaries, rent, and other commitments. Because of this income profile, and the fact that the Academy Trust's annual expenses approximate its income, its current policy is to maintain a high level of reserves in the early part of the year, which reduces throughout the year. Trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19 when reviewing this policy and resolved that the level of reserves is realistic. The policy sets a minimum reserve of three months' payroll costs equivalent to £300k. The additional reserves over the minimum are held to cover inherent operational risks and future relocation plans.

The ESFA previously set limits on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. These limits have now been removed so that Academy trusts have the freedom to keep money aside for when it is needed most and to build up reserves, for example for long-term capital projects. The DfE expects academy trusts to use their allocated funding for the full benefit of their current students. Therefore, it is important that, if the Trust has a substantial surplus, it has a plan for how it will be used to benefit their students.

Budget forecasts sent to the ESFA must declare any unspent funds expected to be carried forward at the end of the financial year. The ESFA will also verify the sums of unspent funds when it checks the Trust's accounts and highlight and report, to the relevant DfE boards, any cases where it has serious concerns about long-term substantial surplus with no clear plans for use.

Investment policy

Due to the nature of the funding cycles, the Academy may at times hold cash balances which are reserved for use later in the academic year. The Trustees have authorised the opening of an interest-bearing bank account with a daily clearance to or from the current account to maximize the interest income at minimum cost. The level of funds held and foreseen to be held do not require Trustees to develop further investment policies at this stage.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have every expectation that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues 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 note of the financial statements.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

Last year, we explained that the economic and political climate created a significant number of uncertainties, many of which were very subjective in nature and difficult to quantify with any reasonable assurance. The Covid-19 pandemic has made this year even more challenging.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES (continued)

The academy trust publicly funded revenue income is 99% of its revenue and capital income. This level of reliance is expected to continue, if not increase. There is an assumption that Government policy and funding will not change.

The Trustees regularly assess the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks. Risk Management is a standing item on the agenda at Trustee meetings, and takes into account possible risks to the school, staff, pupils, and Trustees.

The school is insured through the ESFA RPA scheme. A Health and Safety policy is in place at the school, and has been approved by the DfE, as well as separately Quality Assured by the Tri-borough. Of course, providing a Covid-secure environment is now a significant part of the schools Health and Safety activity. The two other challenges the trust faces are one the current student cohort and restrictive accommodation.

FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS

We continue to be successful in attracting private donations and generating internal income. This is in part due to the fact that donors are keen to help young and vulnerable people develop themselves into full members of the society we live in.

The nature of pupils in Alternative Provision is to place an extremely heavy demand on staffing ratios. Very simply the school would not be able to provide as good results without the generous donations received during the year in addition to the ESFA grants, all of which goes to providing pupils extra teaching, personal tuition, career guidance, and pastoral effort. The school is, however, always mindful that the academy must continue to strive towards being able to operate within the ESFA grants available; and those donations may not always be relied upon to continue at the same generous level.

The Trust's approach to fundraising is light touch. We communicate with potential and existing supporters of the school, some of whom kindly donate. This communication is GDPR-compliant. We do not work with or have oversight of, any commercial participators and/or professional fundraisers. Our fundraising conforms to recognised standards but is so minor that we do not sub-contract any external body to monitor this activity.

There have been no fundraising complaints. We do not approach the general public, nor do we pressure parents or carers to donate.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND PLANS

For 2021/2022, this is covered in the section "Objectives, the strategy for meeting objectives, and the success criteria for 2021/22". The main priorities for the longer-term future are:

- Managing the significant increase in pupils with EHCPs in Westside's cohort;
- Managing the challenges posed by the lack of outside space; and
- Finding a way to replicate Westside's model, to benefit more young people.

Trustees' Report Year to 31 August 2021

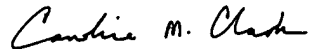
AUDITOR

Buzzacott LLP are appointed as the company's auditor.

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information, as defined by section 499 of the Companies Act 2006, of which the school's auditors are unaware; and
- each Trustee/Director has taken all steps that they ought to have taken as Trustee/Director in order to make the school's auditors aware of any relevant audit information.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by the Board of Trustees on 15 December 2021 and signed on the Board's behalf by:



Caroline Clark

Chair of Trustees



Patricia Hanley

Accounting Officer

Governance statement Year to 31 August 2021

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Westside Academy Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board of Trustees have delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Head teacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreements between Westside Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Head teacher is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook, the competency framework for governance and the recent DfE guidance on Academy Trust role descriptions.

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has met four times during the year, including a Strategy Day.

The Trust has exercised effective oversight of funds with fewer than six meetings through:

- holding four full Trustee meetings;
- holding three Audit, Risk and Finance (ARF) Committee meetings; and
- frequent communication between the Chair, the Chair of the ARF Committee, the School Business Manager, and the Head teacher.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Attended	Required for
Nicholas Basden	5	5
Dominic Bolton	5	5
Caroline Clark	5	5
Sarah Evans	5	5
Patricia Hanley	5	5
Christina Lyons	4	5
Deborah Rhodes	5	5
Grazia Rapisarda	0	0

Trustee meeting attendance at Westside is excellent. The only absence all year was caused by a change of date which was then not possible for one Trustee.

Governance statement Year to 31 August 2021

Governance (continued)

The Board of Trustees seeks out and receives performance data from a variety of sources. This includes, but is not limited to:

- External performance data (Year 11 results);
- Internal performance data (e.g., mock examinations);
- Feedback from local schools and the local authority;
- Assessment of teaching quality (from the Head teacher);
- Training delivered to school staff;
- Staff absence data;
- Staff vacancy data;
- Pupil cohort data;
- Pupil attendance and punctuality data;
- Data from internal pupil assessment (e.g., mock exams, six-week tracking);
- Data from external pupil assessment (e.g., GCSEs, BTec);
- SEN prevalence data and description of support provided;
- Qualifications and courses taken and attended by pupils;
- Behavioural incident data (also known as Culture for Learning data);
- Exclusions data;
- Safeguarding and Prevent incident data;
- Information gathered from Trustee visits to the school;
- Information gathered from reports from other school visitors; and
- Feedback from the staff attending Trustee meetings.

Governance statement Year to 31 August 2021

Governance (continued)

The Audit, Risk and Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Board of Trustees by enabling more detailed consideration of the best means to ensure sound management of the Academy's finances, premises, and resources, including proper planning, preparation of budgets, and monitoring. The Committee makes appropriate comments and recommendations on such matters to the main Board of Trustees. The requirement for external auditor to carry out internal scrutiny and assurance has been removed. Staff members cannot be part of the audit committee or attend as members of the committee when audit risks matters are being discussed.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Attended	Required for
Nicholas Basden	3	3
Dominic Bolton	3	3
Caroline Clark	3	3
Patricia Hanley	3	3

Governance reviews

The Trustees reviewed their skill set in 2020 and started to recruit for new Trustees to provide education and finance expertise. Covid delayed the recruitment process, but the Trustees identified two excellent new Trustees. They are described on page 3.

In addition, the Trustees are currently undergoing a governance review. The Trust's governance professional carries out regular checks on compliance with the Academies Handbook and other DfE guidance. The review will focus on how the Trustees perceive the Trust and their role. This includes discussion of, for example:

- how efficient meetings are;
- how confident they feel about challenging the Executive; and
- How Trustees' skills are used.

The results of the review will be discussed at the December 2021 Board meeting.

Review of value for money

The Headteacher as accounting officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources.

The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate.

Governance statement Year to 31 August 2021

Review of value for money (continued)

The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Using effective procurement to reach the best VFM outcomes for services and resources;
- Competitive tendering procedures (e.g., for goods and services above £5,000) e.g., for capital upgrades and new photocopiers contract; and
- Changing the structure of the IT manager's role and remuneration.

The Trust adhered to principles recommended in PPN notices issued during the year, by continuing to pay suppliers who were able to continue to deliver services and allowing reasonable adjustments to be implemented to service delivery during the year. There were no situations where Covid-19 adversely impacted value for money.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritize the risks to the achievement of the academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Westside Academy Trust for the period to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

The revised ethical standards state that a firm providing external audit cannot provide internal scrutiny. Financial Information Consultants were therefore appointed to carry out this function.

The Academy Trust's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;

The risk and control framework (continued)

- regular reviews by the Risk, Audit and Finance Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees considered the need for a specific internal scrutiny function and decided to appoint Financial Information Consultants to carry out the internal scrutiny. Their role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. On an annual basis, they will report to the finance committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustee's financial responsibilities.

During the year to 31 August 2021, three internal scrutiny reports were compiled. There were no material findings from these reports.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Head has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the systems of internal control. During the year in question, the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance of the Academy self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 15 December 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Caroline Clark

Chair of Trustees



Patricia Hanley

Accounting Officer

Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance Year to 31 August 2021

As Accounting Officer of Westside Academy Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust's Board of Trustees and the ESFA of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration, I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust's Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreements and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the Board of Trustees and the ESFA.



Patricia Hanley

Accounting Officer

Date: 15 December 2021

Statement of trustees' responsibilities Year to 31 August 2021

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Requirements issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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 Academy Trust and of its income and expenditure 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 (FRS 102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Academy Trust will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Academy Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Academy Trust 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 Academy Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the Academy Trust applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 15 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Caroline Clark

Chair of Trustees

Independent auditor's report Year to 31 August 2021

Independent auditor's report to the members of Westside Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Westside Academy Trust (the 'charitable parent company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the group statement of financial activities, the group and charitable parent company balance sheets, the group statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and the notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (the Charities SORP 2019) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the charitable parent company's affairs as at 31 August 2021, and of the group's income and expenditure for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group or charitable parent company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent auditor's report Year to 31 August 2021

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which is also the directors' report for the purposes of company law and includes the strategic report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report, which is also the directors' report for the purposes of company law and includes the strategic report, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the charitable parent company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report including the strategic report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable parent company, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the charitable parent company 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
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company 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, and for such internal control as the trustees determine 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, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and the charitable parent 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 trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the charitable parent company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 (UK) 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the group through discussions with management, and from our knowledge of the academy trust sector;
- the identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit;
- we understood how the group is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries to management and those responsible for legal, compliance and governance procedures. We corroborated our inquiries through our review of the minutes of trustees' meetings and the subsidiary company directors' meetings and papers provided to the trustees and directors.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- we planned and carried out a separate limited assurance engagement in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the ESFA, as set out in our separate independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity.

We assessed the susceptibility of the group's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- tested the authorisation of expenditure as part of our substantive testing thereon;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- used data analytics to identify any significant or unusual transactions and identify the rationale for them.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reviewing the minutes of trustees' meetings and subsidiary company directors' meetings;
- enquiring of management and those charged with governance as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing any available correspondence with Ofsted, ESFA and HMRC; and
- the work undertaken in relation to the limited assurance engagement in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the ESFA, as set out in our separate independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity.

Independent auditor's report Year to 31 August 2021

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. International Standards on Auditing also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



16.12.2021

Hugh Swainson (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Buzzacott LLP, Statutory Auditor

130 Wood Street

London

EC2V 6DL

Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity Year to 31 August 2021

Independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity to Westside Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 20 September 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Westside Academy Trust during the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Westside Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Westside Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Westside Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Westside Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Westside Academy Trust's funding agreements with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 August 2013 and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed, and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed, and income received during the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity.

A limited assurance engagement is more limited in scope than a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express a positive opinion.

Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity Year to 31 August 2021

Approach (continued)

Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity and propriety of the Academy Trust's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across all of the Academy Trust's activities;
- Further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including enquiry, identification of control processes and examination of supporting evidence across all areas identified as well as additional verification work where considered necessary; and
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work detailed above and the work completed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects

- a) the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament; and
- b) the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Buzzacott LLP

Hugh Swainson - 16.12.2021
Buzzacott LLP, Reporting Accountant
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

**Consolidated statement of financial activities
(including the income and expenditure account)**

Year to 31 August 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted general funds £	Restricted funds		2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
			General funds £	Fixed assets funds £		
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	1	—	7,500	6,151	13,651	6,320
Charitable activities:						
· Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	3	—	2,351,458	—	2,351,458	2,197,705
Other trading activities	4	20,799	80,758	—	101,557	52,757
Investments	2	74	—	—	74	854
Total income		20,873	2,439,716	6,151	2,466,740	2,257,636
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
· Academy Trust's educational operations	5	20,799	2,320,080	60,483	2,401,362	2,111,001
Total expenditure	6	20,799	2,320,080	60,483	2,401,362	2,111,001
Net income (expenditure) before transfers		74	119,636	(54,332)	65,378	146,635
Transfers between funds	13	(54,685)	—	54,685	—	—
Net (expenditure) income and net movement in funds		(54,611)	119,636	353	65,378	146,635
Fund balances brought forward at 1 September 2020		345,103	469,226	261,454	1,075,783	929,148
Fund balances carried forward at 31 August 2021		290,492	588,862	261,807	1,141,161	1,075,783

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

All gains and losses are included in the above statement of financial activities.

Balance sheets Year to 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		Group £	Westside Academy Trust £	Group £	Westside Academy Trust £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10	261,807	261,807	261,454	261,454
Current assets					
Debtors	11	142,705	159,028	384,809	398,523
Cash at bank		812,590	796,267	584,458	570,744
		955,295	955,295	969,267	969,267
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	(75,941)	(75,941)	(154,938)	(154,938)
Net current assets		879,354	879,354	814,329	814,329
Total net assets		1,141,161	1,141,161	1,075,783	1,075,783
The funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed assets fund	13	261,807	261,807	261,454	261,454
Restricted general fund	13	588,862	588,862	469,226	469,226
Total restricted funds		850,669	850,669	730,680	730,680
Unrestricted income funds					
General fund	13	290,492	290,492	345,103	345,103
Total funds		1,141,161	1,141,161	1,075,783	1,075,783

The financial statements on page 41 to 62 were approved by the Board of Trustees of Westside Academy Trust and signed on its behalf by:

Caroline M. Clark

Caroline Clark

Trustee

Date: 15 December 2021

Westside Academy Trust (Companies Registration Number 05888220) (England and Wales)

Consolidated statement of cash flows Year to 31 August 2021

		2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	A	288,894	79,421
Cash flows from investing activities			
Net cash used in investing activities	B	(60,762)	(28,801)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		228,132	50,620
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds:			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2020		584,458	533,838
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2021	C	812,590	584,458
A Reconciliation of net income to cash provided by operating activities			
		2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the year (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)		65,378	146,635
Adjusted for:			
Depreciation (note 10)		60,483	60,990
Interest receivable (note 2)		(74)	(854)
Decrease (increase) in debtors		242,104	(209,292)
(Decrease) increase in creditors		(78,997)	81,942
Net cash provided by operating activities		288,894	79,421
B Cash flows from investing activities			
		2021 £	2020 £
Interest received (note 2)		74	854
Purchase of tangible fixed assets (note 10)		(60,836)	(29,655)
Net cash used in investing activities		(60,762)	(28,801)
C Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
		2021 £	2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand		812,590	584,458
Total cash and cash equivalents		812,590	584,458
D Analysis of net debt			
	At 1 September 2020 £'000	Cash flows £'000	At 31 August 2021 £'000
Total: cash	584,458	228,132	812,590

Principal accounting consolidated policies Year to 31 August 2021

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The consolidated statement of financial activities and group balance sheets consolidate the financial statements of the company and those of its subsidiary made up at the balance sheet date. No separate statement of financial activities has been prepared for Westside Academy Trust, as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and SORP (FRS 102).

GOING CONCERN

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e., whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

INCOME

All income is recognised when the Academy Trust has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

INCOME (CONTINUED)

Grants (continued)

The General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance-related conditions) where the receipt is probable, and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity.

Expenditure on charitable activities

These are costs incurred on the Academy Trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy Trust apportioned to charitable activities.

All expenditure is stated net of recoverable VAT.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Assets costing £5,000 or more, including assets which are part of a capital project which aggregate to £5,000 or more, are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

Principal accounting consolidated policies Year to 31 August 2021

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful lives, as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ◆ Leasehold building improvements | Over the life of the lease |
| ◆ Furniture and equipment | 33% |
| ◆ Computer equipment | 33% |

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

A full year of depreciation is calculated in the year of acquisition and none in the year of disposal.

DEBTORS

Debtors are recognised at their settlement amount less any provision for non-recoverability. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank and in hand represents such accounts and instruments that are available on demand or have a maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition.

LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

LEASED ASSETS

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Academy Trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy Trust and their measurement basis are as follows:

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 11. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (CONTINUED)

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 12. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

TAXATION

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

PENSIONS BENEFITS

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy Trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS'). This is a defined benefit scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 20, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds represent monies which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Academy Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

The restricted fixed assets fund is for resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes with conditions imposed by the providers.

The restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the DfE and the ESFA.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGEMENT

Estimates and judgements 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.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Academy Trust makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimate and assumption that has a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year is the estimation of the useful economic lives of tangible fixed assets which have been estimated in accordance with the policy on page 46.

Critical areas of judgement

There have been no judgements made in the preparation of these financial statements that are considered to have had a significant impact on the amounts recognised.

Notes to the consolidated financial statements Year to 31 August 2021

1 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Fixed asset funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Other donations	—	7,500	6,151	13,651	6,320
	—	7,500	6,151	13,651	6,320

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Fixed asset funds £	2020 Total funds £
Other donations	—	6,320	—	6,320
	—	6,320	—	6,320

2 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Interest receivable	74	—	74	854
	74	—	74	854

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
Interest receivable	854	—	854
	854	—	854

3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020* Total funds £
DfE/ESFA grants				
. General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	600,000	600,000	500,000
. Other DfE / ESFA grants	—	349,329	349,329	370,822
. Pupil Premium	—	238	238	—
	—	949,567	949,567	870,822
Other Government grants				
. Local authority grants	—	1,353,291	1,353,291	1,305,348
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
. Catch-up premium	—	14,400	14,400	—
. Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	—	—	—	21,535
COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)				
. Other non-DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	—	34,200	34,200	—
	—	2,351,458	2,351,458	2,197,705

The trust received £14,400 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £14,400.

The trust received £34,200 of funding for Mass Testing and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £34,200.

* Following the reclassification in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21 of some grants received from the Department for Education and ESFA, the academy trust's funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals and Pupil Premium is no longer reported under the Other DfE Group grants heading, but as separate lines under the Other DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020* Total funds £
DfE/ESFA grants			
. General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	500,000	500,000
. Other DfE / ESFA grants	—	370,822	370,822
	—	870,822	870,822
Other Government grants			
. Local authority grants	—	1,305,348	1,305,348
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
. Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	—	21,535	21,535
	—	2,197,705	2,197,705

Notes to the consolidated financial statements Year to 31 August 2021

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Hire of facilities	20,799	—	20,799	52,757
Staff secondment	—	80,758	80,758	—
	20,799	80,758	101,557	52,757

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £
Hire of facilities	52,757	—	52,757
	52,757	—	52,757

5 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non pay expenditure		2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
		Premises £	Other costs £		
Charitable activities					
Academy Trust's educational operations:					
· Direct costs	1,486,915	60,483	453,940	2,001,338	1,780,251
· Support costs	155,320	110,316	134,388	400,024	330,750
	1,642,235	170,799	588,328	2,401,362	2,111,001

	Staff costs £	Non pay expenditure		2020 Total funds £
		Premises £	Other costs £	
Charitable activities				
Academy Trust's educational operations:				
· Direct costs	1,346,303	60,990	372,958	1,780,251
· Support costs	58,298	126,096	146,356	330,750
	1,404,601	187,086	519,314	2,111,001

Expenditure for the year includes:

	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Operating leases rentals – Land and buildings	275,000	275,000
Depreciation	60,483	60,990
Fees payable to auditor		
· Audit	8,320	8,160
· Other services	2,890	5,195

6 Academy Trust's education operations

	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Direct costs	2,001,338	1,780,251
Support costs	400,024	330,750
	2,401,362	2,111,001

	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	155,320	58,298
Technology costs	21,892	13,705
Premises costs	110,316	126,096
Legal costs – other	17,345	3,326
Other support costs	64,318	66,507
Donations to Westside Education Trust	—	31,000
Governance costs	30,833	31,818
Total support costs	400,024	330,750

Notes to the consolidated financial statements Year to 31 August 2021

7 Comparative information

Analysis of income and expenditure in the year ended 31 August 2020 between restricted and unrestricted funds:

	Notes	Unrestricted general funds £	Restricted funds		2020 Total funds £
			General funds £	Fixed assets funds £	
Income from:					
Donations and capital grants	1	—	6,320	—	6,320
Charitable activities:					
· Funding for the Academy					
Trust's educational operations	3	—	2,197,705	—	2,197,705
Other trading activities	4	52,757	—	—	52,757
Investments	2	854	—	—	854
Total income		53,611	2,204,025	—	2,257,636
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
· Academy Trust's educational					
operations	5	52,757	1,997,254	60,990	2,111,001
Total expenditure	6	52,757	1,997,254	60,990	2,111,001
Net income (expenditure) before transfers		854	206,771	(60,990)	146,635
Transfers between funds	13	—	(29,655)	29,655	—
Net income (expenditure) and net movement in funds		854	177,116	(31,335)	146,635
Fund balances brought forward at 1 September 2019		344,249	292,110	292,789	929,148
Fund balances carried forward at 31 August 2020		345,103	469,226	261,454	1,075,783

8 Staff

(a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	1,302,319	1,080,356
Social security costs	118,305	110,334
Other pension costs	173,970	137,279
	1,594,594	1,327,969
Supply staff costs	47,641	76,632
	1,642,235	1,404,601

8 Staff (continued)

(b) Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including the senior management team) employed by the Academy Trust during the year ended 31 August 2021 was as follows:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Teaching	15	15
Administration and support	14	11
Management	5	4
	34	30

(c) Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments, excluding employer's pension contributions, fell within the following bands during the year was:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
£60,001 – £70,000	2	—
£70,001 – £80,000	2	3
£90,001 – £100,000	1	—
£150,001 – £160,000	—	1

Four of the employees included above participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme with total contributions of £66,331 (2020 – three employees with total contributions of £51,249).

(d) Related party transactions – Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Headteacher and one staff trustee only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the role of a Headteacher and as a member of staff and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments nor expenses from the academy trust. The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
P Hanley (Headteacher) (from 1 September 2020)		
. Remuneration	90,000 – 95,000	—
. Employer's pension contribution	20,000 – 25,000	—
C A Alcock (Headteacher) (resigned 31 August 2020)		
. Remuneration	—	150,000 - 155,000
. Employer's pension contribution	—	—

(e) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise: the Trustees, the Head teacher, Business Director, Deputy Heads and Assistant Head. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer's pension and national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £443,080 (2020 – £527,668).

9 Commercial trading operations

The charity has a wholly owned trading subsidiary, Westside Community Enterprises Limited which is incorporated in the UK. The company managed and operated lettings.

	2021 £	2020 £
Turnover	20,799	52,757
Costs of sales	—	(3,190)
Gross profit	20,799	49,567
Administration expenses	(20,799)	(49,567)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	—	—
Tax	—	—
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	—	—

The assets and liabilities of the trading subsidiary were:

	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets	17,317	14,014
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(17,317)	(14,014)
Total assets less current liabilities	—	—

10 Tangible fixed assets

Group and Westside Academy Trust	Leasehold improvements £	Furniture and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2020	463,757	84,410	34,108	582,275
Additions	14,970	13,408	32,458	60,836
Disposals	—	(31,000)	(30,000)	(61,000)
At 31 August 2021	478,727	66,818	36,566	582,111
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2020	214,862	76,482	29,477	320,821
Depreciation charged in the year	31,589	16,705	12,189	60,483
Depreciation on Disposals	—	(31,000)	(30,000)	(61,000)
At 31 August 2021	246,451	62,187	11,666	320,304
Net book value				
At 31 August 2021	232,276	4,631	24,900	261,807
At 31 August 2020	248,895	7,928	4,631	261,454

Notes to the consolidated financial statements Year to 31 August 2021

11 Debtors

	Group 2021 £	Westside Academy Trust 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Westside Academy Trust 2020 £
Trade debtors	86,985	85,992	332,527	332,227
VAT recoverable	39,014	39,014	32,946	32,946
Other debtors	3,065	20,381	—	14,014
Prepayments and accrued income	13,641	13,641	19,336	19,336
	142,705	159,028	384,809	398,523

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2021 £	Westside Academy Trust 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Westside Academy Trust 2020 £
Trade Creditors	16,135	16,135	64,799	64,799
Accruals and deferred income	59,806	59,806	90,139	90,139
	75,941	75,941	154,938	154,938

Accruals and deferred income above includes the following deferred income balance:

	Group 2021 £	Westside Academy Trust 2021 £	Group 2020 £	Westside Academy Trust 2020 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	42,136	42,136	19,336	19,336
Amount released from previous year	(42,136)	(42,136)	(19,336)	(19,336)
Resources deferred in the year	22,917	22,917	42,136	42,136
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	22,917	22,917	42,136	42,136

The deferred income balance at 31 August 2021 comprises £22,917 (2020 – £22,800) of Local Authority funding received in advance for the 2020/21 financial year together with £nil (2020 – £19,336) of ESFA funding received in advance for rent in 2020/21.

13 Funds

The income funds of the Academy include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

Group	At 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers and losses £	At 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
. General Annual Grant	—	600,000	(600,000)	—	—
. Pupil Premium	—	238	(238)	—	—
. Catch-up premium	—	14,400	(14,400)	—	—
. Other non-DfE/ESFA					
COVID-19 funding	—	34,200	(34,200)	—	—
. Other restricted funds	469,226	1,790,878	(1,671,242)	—	588,862
	<u>469,226</u>	<u>2,439,716</u>	<u>(2,320,080)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>588,862</u>
Restricted fixed assets fund					
. DfE / ESFA capital grants	231,799	6,151	(53,780)	—	184,170
. Capital expenditure from					
GAG	29,655	—	(6,703)	—	22,952
. Capital expenditure from					
unrestricted reserves	—	—	—	54,685	54,685
	<u>261,454</u>	<u>6,151</u>	<u>(60,483)</u>	<u>54,685</u>	<u>261,807</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>730,680</u>	<u>2,445,867</u>	<u>(2,380,563)</u>	<u>54,685</u>	<u>850,669</u>
Unrestricted funds					
. General funds	345,103	74	—	(54,685)	290,492
. Westside Community					
Enterprises Limited	—	20,799	(20,799)	—	—
Total unrestricted funds	<u>345,103</u>	<u>20,873</u>	<u>(20,799)</u>	<u>(54,685)</u>	<u>290,492</u>
Total funds	<u>1,075,783</u>	<u>2,466,740</u>	<u>(2,401,362)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,141,161</u>

13 Funds (continued)

	At 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers and losses £	At 31 August 2021 £
Westside Academy Trust					
Restricted general funds					
· General Annual Grant	—	600,000	(600,000)	—	—
· Pupil Premium	—	238	(238)	—	—
· Catch-up premium	—	14,400	(14,400)	—	—
· Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	—	34,200	(34,200)	—	—
· Other restricted funds	469,226	1,790,878	(1,671,242)	—	588,862
	<u>469,226</u>	<u>2,439,716</u>	<u>(2,320,080)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>588,862</u>
Restricted fixed assets fund					
· DfE / ESFA capital grants	231,799	6,151	(53,780)	—	184,170
· Capital expenditure from GAG	29,655	—	(6,703)	—	22,952
· Capital expenditure from unrestricted reserves	—	—	—	54,685	54,685
	<u>261,454</u>	<u>6,151</u>	<u>(60,483)</u>	<u>54,685</u>	<u>261,807</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>730,680</u>	<u>2,445,867</u>	<u>(2,380,563)</u>	<u>54,685</u>	<u>850,669</u>
Unrestricted funds					
· General funds	345,103	74	—	(54,685)	290,492
Total unrestricted funds	<u>345,103</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(54,685)</u>	<u>290,492</u>
Total funds	<u>1,075,783</u>	<u>2,445,941</u>	<u>(2,380,563)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,141,161</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Other restricted general funds consist of funding carried forward from previous years and funding received in the year under review. The funding is restricted to supporting the Academy's mission and have been applied for the funding of specific staff posts, co-curricular provision and widening participation programmes.

Capital transfers relate to the purchase of fixed assets from the GAG fund during the year. During the year, a transfer was made from the general fund to the restricted fixed asset fund, which represents the net book value of tangible fixed assets at 31 August 2021.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

Notes to the consolidated financial statements Year to 31 August 2021

13 Funds (continued)

Comparative information

Comparative information in respect of the preceding period is as follows:

Group	At 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers and losses £	At 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
· General Annual Grant	—	500,000	(500,000)	—	—
· Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding		21,535	(21,535)	—	—
· Other restricted funds	292,110	1,704,025	(1,497,254)	(29,655)	469,226
	292,110	2,204,025	(1,997,254)	(29,655)	469,226
Restricted fixed assets fund					
· DfE / ESFA capital grants	292,789	—	(60,990)	—	231,799
· Capital expenditure from GAG	—	—	—	29,655	29,655
	292,789	—	(60,990)	29,655	261,454
Total restricted funds	584,899	2,204,025	(2,058,244)	—	730,680
Unrestricted funds					
· General funds	344,249	854	—	—	345,103
· Westside Community Enterprises Limited	—	52,757	(52,757)	—	—
Total unrestricted funds	344,249	53,611	(52,757)	—	345,103
Total funds	929,148	2,257,636	(2,111,001)	—	1,075,783

Westside Academy Trust	At 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers and losses £	At 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
· General Annual Grant	—	500,000	(500,000)	—	—
· Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding		21,535	(21,535)	—	—
· Other restricted funds	292,110	1,704,025	(1,497,254)	(29,655)	469,226
	292,110	2,204,025	(1,997,254)	(29,655)	469,226
Restricted fixed assets fund					
· DfE / ESFA capital grants	292,789	—	(60,990)	—	231,799
· Capital expenditure from GAG	—	—	—	29,655	29,655
	292,789	—	(60,990)	29,655	261,454
Total restricted funds	584,899	2,204,025	(2,058,244)	—	730,680
Unrestricted funds					
· General funds	344,249	854	—	—	345,103
Total unrestricted funds	344,249	854	—	—	345,103
Total funds	929,148	2,204,879	(2,058,244)	—	1,075,783

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

Group	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds		Total funds 2021 £
		Restricted general funds £	Fixed assets fund £	
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	261,807	261,807
Current assets	290,492	664,803	—	955,295
Current liabilities	—	(75,941)	—	(75,941)
Total net assets	290,492	588,862	261,807	1,141,161

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds		Total funds 2021
		Restricted general funds	Fixed assets fund	
Westside Academy Trust	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	261,807	261,807
Current assets	290,492	664,803	—	955,295
Current liabilities	—	(75,941)	—	(75,941)
Total net assets	290,492	588,862	261,807	1,141,161

Group	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds		Total funds 2020 £
		Restricted general funds £	Fixed assets fund £	
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	261,454	261,454
Current assets	345,103	624,164	—	969,267
Current liabilities	—	(154,938)	—	(154,938)
Total net assets	345,103	469,226	261,454	1,075,783

Westside Academy Trust	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds		Total funds 2020 £
		Restricted general funds £	Fixed assets fund £	
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	261,454	261,454
Current assets	345,103	624,164	—	969,267
Current liabilities	—	(154,938)	—	(154,938)
Total net assets	345,103	469,226	261,454	1,075,783

15 Capital commitments

The Academy Trust had no capital commitments at 31 August 2021 (2020 – none).

16 Financial commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are set out below.

Group and Westside Academy Trust	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	275,000	275,000
Between two and five years	1,100,000	1,100,000
In over five years	550,000	825,000
	1,925,000	2,200,000

The charge for the year was £275,000 (2020: £275,000).

17 Contingent liabilities

The Academy Trust had no contingent liabilities at 31 August 2021 (2020 – none).

18 Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a member.

19 Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal industry practice the Academy Trust has purchased indemnity cover through participation in the government's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) Scheme to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. The scheme provided unlimited cover on any one claim for the year ended 31 August 2021 and the charge for indemnity cover was included as part of a single payment for comprehensive cover.

20 Pensions and similar obligations

The Academy Trust's employees belong to the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016.

No amounts were payable at 31 August 2021 (2020 – none).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

20 Pensions and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- ♦ employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy);
- ♦ total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million; and
- ♦ the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £160,313 (2020 – £127,926)

A full copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation can be found on the Teachers' Pension Scheme website.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

21 Related party transactions

The Group donated £nil (2020 – £31,000) to Westside Education Trust (WET) (note 6). Two of the trustees of WET are also trustees of Westside Academy Trust. When making these payments, the Trust has ensured compliance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook.

Other than as disclosed in note 8, the academy trust did not enter into any other related party transactions in the year.