

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED SIL AUGUST 2020

KNOWNEDGE SCHOOLS LYNST

(AGompany Umited by Guarantee)



07493696

Annual Report and Financial statements - Contents

Year ended 31 August 2020

Contents	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	2
Trustees' Report	4
Organisational Structure	6
Trustees' Report continued	7
Governance Statement	14
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	18
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	19
Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Knowledge Schools Trust	20
Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Knowledge Schools	23
Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency	
Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income & Expenditure Account	25
Balance Sheet	- 26
Cash: Flow Statement	27
Notes to the Financial Statements, incorporating	28
Statement of Accounting Policies	
Other Notes to the Financial Statements	

Reference and Administration Details

Year ended 31 August 2020

Members

Ms Caroline Bondy

Ms Kathryn Cooper Ms Suzanna Hobart Mr Cosmo Lush Mr Toby Young

Trust Directors (Trustees)

Ms Suzanna Hobart (Chair) (appointed 14.07.20) Mr Cosmo Lush (resigned as Chair 14.07.20)* Dame Sally Anne Coates (resigned 14.07.20)

*Members of the Finance and Operations Committee Ms Kathryn Cooper

Mr Alexander Conabeare*
Ms Kathryn Conner

Ms Jane Emmett
Ms Penny Hunt
Mr Ian Hunter*
Ms Chloe Mawson
Ms Laura McGaughey*
Ms Catherine Whelan*

Company Secretary

Ms Anne Wickham

Company Name & registration number

Knowledge Schools Trust (the Trust) - 07493696

Principal address & registered Office

Cambridge Grove, Hammersmith, London, W6 0LB

Principal places of operation

West London Free School

Palingswick House, 241 King Street, London W6 9LP Franklin House, 2 Bridge Avenue, London W6 9JP

West London Free School Primary and Earl's Court Free School Primary

Cambridge Grove, London W6 0LB

Kensington Primary Academy

205 Warwick Road, London W14 8PU

Trust Senior Management Team:

Chief Executive Officer (Accounting Officer)

Finance Director Operations Director Mr Ian Hunter
Ms Anne Wickham
Mr Stewart Keiller

WLFS Local Governing Body

Ms Catherine Whelan * Chair

Ms Nicola Arnold *

Mr Matthew Conrad (resigned 27.11.19)

Ms Kathryn Cooper

*Members of the Finance and General Purposes

Committee

Ms Caroline Ffiske
Ms Ruth Fonseka
Ms Sarah Fletcher
Mr Anthony Henwood

Mr Simon Hix (resigned 27.11.19)

Year ended 31 August 2020

Reference and Administration Details

Ms Gilat Levy

Mr Robert Wilne

Mr William Rollason (appointed 01.07.2020)

Headteacher of WLFS

Ms Clare Wagner

WLFS Primary, ECFS Primary and KPA Local Governing Body

Mr Alexander Conabeare* - Co-Chair

Ms Chloe Mawson - Co-Chair

Ms Fiona Battah
Ms Julienne Daglish*
Ms Emma Madden
Ms Jane Emmett
Ms Suzanna Hobart*
Ms Milena Jakupovic
Ms Abbe Martineau*
Mr Alvaro Montenegro

Ms Hannah Abu-Ghaida (appointed 23 September 2019)

*Members of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

Executive Headteacher of all the primary schools

Laura Lund

Independent Auditor

MHA McIntyre Hudson 2 London Wall Place

London EC2Y 5AU

Bankers

Lloyds Bank 25 Gresham Street

London EC2V 7HN

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson
6 Bevis Marks

London EC3A 7BA

Trustees Report

Year ended 31 August 2020

07493696

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

Knowledge Schools Trust is an independent charitable trust set up to provide children in West London with a knowledge rich education, regardless of background or ability. The Trust currently has four schools:

- the West London Free School (WLFS), a secondary school with a sixth form, which opened in 2011. On 31 August 2020, the end of its ninth year of operation, WLFS had 875 pupils on roll of which 233 pupils were in the Sixth Form;
- the West London Free School Primary (WLFS Primary), which opened in 2013. On 31 August 2020, the end of its seventh year of operation, WLFS Primary had 420 pupils on roll;
- the Earl's Court Free School Primary (ECFS Primary), which opened in September 2014. On 31 August 2020, the end of its sixth year of operation, ECFS Primary had 180 pupils on roll; and
- Kensington Primary Academy (KPA), which opened in September 2016. At 31 August 2020, the end of fourth year of operation, KPA had 180 pupils on roll, of which 30 pupils were in nursery.

West London Free School

The school is a publicly funded school and is non-selective. There are 130 Year 7 places available at the school each year. We offer up to 12 places for children with musical aptitude and, in accordance with the School Admissions Code, priority is given to children with education, health and care plans and children who were or are looked after. We want to ensure that the school serves local families and, after we have allocated places to music scholars, statemented children, siblings, etc, we allocate 50% of the remaining places based on proximity. The remaining places are awarded by lottery, with a majority being allocated to those who live within a one-mile radius of the school and a smaller number to those within a three-mile radius. In-year admissions are managed via straight-line distance from the front gate of the school. The admission arrangements of West London Free School fully comply with the 2014 School Admissions Code. The school is open to anyone and is non-selective. The full admissions code and oversubscription criteria are set out in the admissions policy published on the school website.

West London Free School Primary, Earl's Court Free School Primary and Kensington Primary Academy

The primary schools' welcome applications from across the local communities and are non-selective. We prioritise 20% of places for disadvantaged children and, in accordance with the School Admissions Code, priority is given to children with education, health and care plans and children who were or are looked after. In the event of oversubscription places are allocated according to straight-line distance from the relevant school gate. The full admissions code and oversubscription criteria are set out in the admissions policy published on the school website.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Knowledge Schools Trust is a non-registered exempt UK Charity and a company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 14 January 2011, with the company registration number 07493696. The primary governing documents of the charity are its Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 18 April 2013, when the Trust adopted new Articles of Association as part of the process of changing from a single academy trust to a multi-academy trust.

The Directors of the Trust act as the Trustees for the charitable activities of the Trust and are also the Trustees of the charitable company, known as Knowledge Schools Trust, for the purposes of company law.

Members' Liabilities

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, will be for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a Member.

Knowledge Schools Trust Trustees Report Year ended 31 August 2020

Trustees' Indemnities

There are no qualifying indemnity provisions in force for the benefit of one or more directors of the company.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative section of this document, commencing on page 2.

As specified in Trust's Articles of Association, the Members may nominate and appoint up to 12 Trustees. New Trustees may also be appointed by a majority vote of the existing Trustees. Potential Trustees are assessed with regard to the needs of the Trust and the particular skills and experience that they offer. Consequently, the Trustees represent a balance of private sector and public sector experience, including both primary and secondary school expertise.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

Policies and procedures relating to the induction and training of Trustees are reviewed annually and updated in light of best practice guidance issued by the Trust's regulators. Induction for new Trustees includes visits to the schools in the Trust, meetings with the headteachers and the existing Trustees, as well as meetings and discussions with the Trust's Officers.

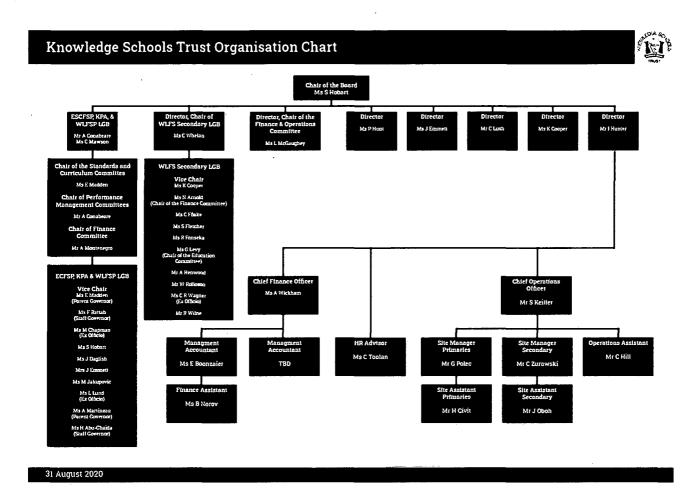
Organisational Structure

Since becoming a multi-academy trust, the organisation has established a scheme of delegation that delineates the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, the Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) and the head teachers of the schools within the Trust. The Chief Executive of Knowledge Schools Trust is the Accounting Officer.

The Trust has enshrined its scheme of delegation in a Terms of Reference document (available on its website) that describes how responsibilities are distributed between the Board, the LGBs and the head teachers in the following areas: Governance/Management, Education, Employment/Human Resources, Budgets, Sites/Facilities/ICT, Admissions/Exclusions and Marketing/Communications.

The diagram below shows the organisational structure of Knowledge Schools Trust as at 31 August 2020.

Knowledge Schools Trust Organisational Structure



Knowledge Schools Trust Trustees Report continued

Year ended 31 August 2020

Arrangements for setting the remuneration of key management and staff

The key management personnel of the Trust responsible for directing and controlling the Trust are the Trustees and the Senior Executive Management Team. Trustees are not remunerated for their services as Directors of the Trust, but the Senior Executive Management Team are.

There is a Remuneration Committee consisting of three Trustees that meets at least yearly to agree the remuneration of key management personnel (including the head teachers) in line with market rates and the achievement of performance objectives.

Trade union facility time

The Academy Trust does not have any staff who were relevant union officials during the year and no trade union expenses were incurred.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Knowledge Schools Foundation Trust (KSFT), a company that raises money for Knowledge Schools Trust, is a registered charity with the registered company number 07292254. Related party transactions involving Trustees are set out in notes 10 and 29 to the financial statements.

On 16 May 2019, the Trust incorporated a wholly owned subsidiary called KST Enterprises. It is a private company limited by shares. The company number is 12000639. Its registered office is Cambridge Grove, London W6 OLB. The subsidiary provides staff to Knowledge Schools Trust and sells primary knowledge curriculum materials, and associated training and consultancy, to other schools and multi academy trusts. The primary knowledge curriculum materials include curriculum maps, subject and unit rationale documents explaining curriculum progression and content, lesson plans, knowledge organisers and assessment materials for history, geography, art and science. Training courses on the implementation of the materials and are offered to schools, either on a face-to-face basis or online. Schools are also able to purchase one-to-one consultancy services.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and Aims

The Trust's aims are to advance education in the United Kingdom for the public benefit by establishing, maintaining, managing and developing schools offering a classical liberal knowledge-based education.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The Trust's objectives are to offer a knowledge rich education to all pupils regardless of background or ability; to ensure the Trust remains in financial surplus; to maintain budgetary discipline; to attract and retain the best staff possible and to ensure all the schools under its umbrella are over-subscribed. Trustees intend to expand the number of schools within the Trust and regularly discuss how to achieve this. The Trust has also invested in developing primary and secondary curriculum products to help other educational institutions adopt a similar knowledge rich approach.

Ensuring our objectives are met

The Trust's schools are subject to regular inspection by Ofsted. In addition, all schools are required to have a pre-opening inspection by Ofsted, as well as receive regular monitoring visits from the Department for Education (DfE). Lesson observations take place and a head teacher performance review system is in place. Academic progress is monitored, and the head teachers of the schools report regularly on progress to their LGBs, which in turn report to the Board. Other evaluation measures include examination results, assessments of pupil progress, sporting and other successes, attendance rates and application rates. The West London Free School was inspected by Ofsted in May 2017 and was rated "Good". The West London Free School Primary was inspected by Ofsted in May 2015 and was rated "Outstanding" in every area, and the Earl's Court Free School Primary was inspected in June 2017 and was rated "Outstanding" in every area. Kensington Primary

Year ended 31 August 2020

Academy was inspected by Ofsted in November 2018 and was rated "Outstanding" in every area.

Public Benefit

In setting the objectives and planning the activities of the Trust, the Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard for the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. The objectives, activities, achievements and performance above explain the ways in which The Trust fulfils this obligation.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievements and Key Performance Indicators

The Trustees are satisfied that its key aims and objectives have been attained with pupils in both Yr11 and Yr 13 achieving results in line with our previous excellent record of academic achievement. It has ended the year with a healthy financial surplus.

In line with government guidance, all of the schools in the Trust closed to pupils on 20th March 2020, with the exception of pupils of key workers and vulnerable pupils. From this point, until the end of the summer term, learning for pupils was conducted online. For WLFS, priority was initially given to pupils in year 10 and year 12. They received online lessons via Microsoft Teams from their teachers according to their scheduled timetables and were set homework as usual. Pupils in year 7,8 and 9 were initially set classwork and homework online via a homework sharing portal, and after the Easter Holidays these pupils commenced an online timetable which included two lessons per week for English, Maths and Science and one lesson per week for other subjects. After the announcement of the cancellation of exams, teaching stopped for year 11 and 13 as WLFS were confident that they had all of the data needed to submit grades to the DfE. Year 11 pupils were provided with a reading list and a pre-A level preparation pack for them to work through in advance of starting their A levels courses in September 2020. Pupils were also given access to EtonX, an online platform made available by Eton Colleage, which included lessons and lectures on study skills, job and university applications and research skills. Year 13 pupils were also sent an advanced reading list, which included advice on how to access undergraduate reading for their chosen university courses.

To ensure our online learning was accessible to all pupils, a laptop loan scheme was available for pupils without access to technology at home.

As GCSE examinations for West London Free School were cancelled, schools submitted Centre Assessment Grades (CAGs) for each pupil to the exam boards for each subject. The CAGs were created based on departments estimation of pupils' attainment, moderated by our knowledge of departments' past performance and the prior attainment of each individual.

Our realistic assessment of CAGs allowed our pupils to pass successfully on to the next stage of their education with a valid set of qualifications commensurate with their ability and prior attainment in year 10 and year 11.

As with the GCSE results, A level grades were assessed based on departments estimation of pupils' attainment. Of the A level cohort of 97 pupils, 90 submitted UCAS applications and 92% of those received confirmed destinations. 66% of those who received confirmed destinations achieved places at Russell Group or Russell Group equivalent universities. 7 pupils achieved places at Oxbridge universities, and one pupil achieved a place to study medicine.

The pupils' achievements are a testament to their hard work and focus, as well as the efforts of our exceptional teaching and support staff. Progress in Years 7-10 is in line with this level of exam success in year 11. In line with the schools specialism in music, across the whole school, 26% of pupils had musical tuition in one or more instruments [2018-19: 26%], which compares with less than 10% of secondary school pupils nationally. Attendance at the Secondary, up until the point of school closure was 93.1% (2018-19: 92%). The school remains over-subscribed by a ratio of 10:1 [2018-19: 10:1].

For the primary schools, lessons during closure were provided via audio Loom lessons for Maths, English, and five specialist subjects. A bespoke style of learning was developed to ensure that the schools maintained the sequence of the curriculum and to ensure that all pupils had contact with a teacher.

Year ended 31 August 2020

In all three Primaries, pupil performance continues to be strong, particularly given the impact of school closure and the challenges this creates for primary age children.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile	West London Free School Primary	Earl's Court Free School Primary	Kensington Academy	Primary	National
% achieving GLD	68%	70%	67%		Not available

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check % reaching the required standard		West London Free School Primary	Earl's Court Free School Primary	Kensington Academy	Primary	National
		98%	97% 'i	81%		Not available
Key Stage 1 results –	2018 - 2019	West London Free School Primary	Earl's Court Free School Primary	Kensington Academy	Primary	National
Reading	EXS	84%	83%	803%		Not available
	GDS	35%	41%	27%		Not available
Writing	EXS	76%	83%	67%		Not available
	GDS	23%	31%	20%		-
Maths	EXS	81%	83%	63%	······································	Not available
	GDS	27%	31%	23%		Not available

Key Stage 2 resul	ts – 2019 - 2020	West London Free School Primary	Earl's Court Free School Primary	Kensington Primary Academy	National
Reading	EXS	92%	n/a	n/a	Not available
	GDS	58%	n/a	n/a	Not available
Writing	EXS	85%	n/a	n/a	Not available
	GDS	27%	n/a	, n/a	Not available
Maths	EXS	90%	n/a	n/a	Not available
	GDS	42%	n/a	n/a	Not available

Trustees Report continued

Year ended 31 August 2020

EXS: Working at the 'Expected' standard

GDS: Working at a 'Greater Depth' within the 'Expected' standard

Due to school closure, attainment data was not submitted to the DfE, so no national averages for the 2019/20 academic year are available.

Average attendance across the primary schools (excluding the period of school closure) was 87% [2018-19: 96%]. 28% [2018-19-18:28%] of pupils learn to play a musical instrument.

Key Financial Performance Indicators

The schools' LGBs, as well as the Board, regularly review the following financial performance indicators:

- Balance of incoming and outgoing resources
- Year-to-date spend against forecast
- Distribution of spend across categories (e.g. salaries, educational supplies, extra-curricular activities)
- Monthly cash balance
- Levels of donations to the schools
- On-going capital investment

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board has a reasonable expectation that the Trust 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 Statement of Accounting Policies. The school re-opening plan for September 2020 for all schools included investment in personal protective equipment for pupils and staff, hand sanitiser, sprays and other anti-viral cleaning materials, screens to help prevent transmission and the employment of day cleaners at all sites. Whilst none of these costs were specifically budgeted, the schools have contingency in their budgets and/or reserves which can be used to absorb these costs. The Board considers there is no impact on the Trust as a going concern from COVID-19.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Trustees take a cautious approach to the financial management of the Trust and consequently the Trust had an operating surplus after discharging its objects and aims as outlined above. This is in line with Charity Commission guidance, DfE guidance and with the Trustees' desire that funds be spent for the intended purpose. The Trust's principal source of funds is the DfE under the terms of the Trust's funding agreements.

Reserves policy

The Trust's reserve policy is that, in any particular year, the total reserves should not fall below 10% of the total of General Annual Grant income and nursery funding for that year. At 31 August 2020, the level of reserves, excluding restricted fixed assets and prior to the pension adjustment of £1,743,941, was above this threshold.

Unrestricted General Fund Reserves

At 31 August 2020, the value of the free reserves held as unrestricted general funds was £1,041,883 (2019: £786,411). There is currently no target level for unrestricted reserves held. As and when this reserve grows, the Trustees will review reserves held to target necessary improvements throughout its property portfolio and its operational and organisational structure to improve teaching facilities, outcomes for pupils and the environment throughout the schools.

The Trust holds no other unrestricted reserves.

Restricted Reserves

The Trust aims to set a budget each year that will achieve a cumulative revenue (general restricted funds) surplus after all

Trustees Report continued

Year ended 31 August 2020

costs of between 2% and 5%. It is intended that the reserves will be held to allow the Trust in future periods to target necessary improvements throughout its property portfolio and its operational and organisational structure to improve the teaching facilities, outcomes for pupils and environment throughout the schools.

On 31 August 2020, the level of reserves held as restricted general funds was a deficit of £1,684,942. (August 2019: deficit of £718,031) and the level of reserves held as restricted fixed asset funds, was £57,977,658. (31 August 2019: £59,066,056), as shown in the Balance Sheet. The reason for the deficit in restricted general funds is due to the pension reserve being in deficit. After adjusting for the pension, the restricted general funds show a surplus of £702,058 (31 August 2019: surplus of £824,969).

Pension Reserve

At 31 August 2020, The Trust's share of the underlying Local Government Pension Scheme assets and liabilities was in deficit by £2,387,000 (31 August 2019: £1,543,000).

Investment Policy

The Trust manages and holds its bank and petty cash balances and makes investment decisions with regards to use of those funds which are directed towards the provision of educational activities in line with the curricula of the schools and the identified support needs. The surplus cash reserves are prudently invested in interest-bearing bank deposits or similar. The Trust has no other investments.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Board continues to keep the schools' activities under review to identify principal risks and regularly reviews the Trust's risk register. The risk register was updated during the year to include COVID-19 related risks, and a Pandemic Policy was developed and approved. School re-opening plans, including the detail of steps to minimise transmission of the virus, were reviewed and approved by the Board. The Board continues to monitor the effectiveness of the system of internal controls (including insurance cover as appropriate), to ensure the risks already identified can best be mitigated. The major risks to which The Trust is exposed, as identified by the Trustees, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.

The financial and risk management objective of The Trust is to ensure effective financial management at the schools, such that the schools deliver their objectives within their budgets. To this end, The Trust ensures its schools comply with its Financial Regulations and Scheme of Delegation document, the guidance in the Academies' Financial Handbook, wider government guidance (e.g. on procurement) and charities regulation.

Principal risks and actions to mitigate these risks include:

- Lack of demand for places leading to the schools operating at less than 100% capacity
 - o Mitigation: the schools ran an effective marketing and community outreach operation throughout the year and as a result were full during this financial year, with the exception of our sixth form. The Trust has invested additional financial resource in the Sixth Form in 2019/2020, and plan further investment in 2020/2021 aimed at increasing the roll next year.
- Uncertainty around running costs
 - Mitigation: The Trustees and the management accountants within the schools maintain a rigorous and effective set of financial procedures to support their overall financial and risk management objectives. In addition, contingencies are in place in the schools' budgets that minimise the impact of unforeseen costs during the year.
- The management of financial risks such as credit, cash flow and liquidity risk are not considered principal risks due to the nature of the Trust's funding profile. These areas are closely monitored at the schools and at Trust level on a regular basis.

Year ended 31 August 2020

The on-going Covid-19 pandemic creates uncertainty for all the schools in the Trust. However, plans are in place to make the schools environments as safe as possible for pupils and staff. The Trust will follow the government guidance to restrict the transmission of the virus when it becomes available. In the event of further school closure, all schools will be able to return to remote learning on a timely basis. Although priority will be given to exam classes in WLFS, it is envisaged that the teaching staff of the schools can mobilise remote learning in a short time frame. The schools also have procedures in place to ensure that laptops will be loaned to disadvantaged pupils.

As disclosed above, The Trust's share of the underlying Local Government Pension Scheme assets and liabilities was in deficit by £2,387,000 at 31 August 2020.

Financial impact of Covid-19

From a financial perspective, the impact of school closure due to the Covid was mixed. Lettings income is reduced from the from the prior year as no external lettings were possible from the point of school closure to year end, and before and after school care and holiday club income was reduced. Additional costs were also incurred to support remote learning, for personal protective equipment and for teaching supply costs (when staff were required to self-isolate). However, savings were also made in the areas of GCSE and A level exam fees, facilities hire, transport costs and department capitation spend.

Fundraising

The majority of the fundraising that is done for the benefit of Knowledge Schools Trust is done via four independent charities. The schools within the Trust have Parent Teacher Associations (PTA). (1 PTA for the secondary and 2 PTAs for the Primaries). They raise money from parents and other sources. In addition, the Knowledge Schools Foundation Trust (KSFT) receives donations from parents, a few interested sponsors and high net worth individuals and foundations. KSFT has a contractual arrangement with an individual who raises funds which in some cases needs to be done in the name of the schools. The KSFT manages this process.

The Parent Teacher Associations and the KSFT comply with the Code of Fundraising practice and ensure that the privacy of possible donors is protected, that no unreasonable fundraising practices are employed, and that undue pressure is not placed on individuals or entities to donate. Annual confirmation of this is sought from both charities each year. No fundraising complaints have been received by any of the charities.

Plans for Future Periods

In line with government guidance, West London Free School re-opened in September 2020. The three primary schools had reopened in June 2020. As noted above, this followed the Board approval of the re-opening plan which included various adjustments to school routines, including definition of 'bubbles', the availability of personal protective equipment for staff and pupils, and additional cleaning routines.

In September 2019, Kensington Primary Academy accepted its fourth cohort of reception pupils as well as continuing to operate a nursery for 30 pupils. It will continue to grow by 30 pupils each year until it reaches its full capacity of 240 pupils (including the nursery) in 2023/24. The West London Free School Primary has grown to capacity of 420 pupils and in 2019/20 had its first year six cohort. Earl's Court Free School Primary continues to grow by 30 pupils each year and will be fully fledged in 2020/21 with 210 pupils.

We are pleased also to have approval from the DfE to open a further secondary school in Cambridge which is expected to open in 2024. We continue to work with the DfE to open new schools or bring existing schools into our Trust in a managed and sustainable manner. On 1 November 2020, Edlesborough Primary Academy (formerly Edlesborough School), a primary school near Dunstable, Bedfordshire, joined the Trust. Edlesborough Primary Academy is a one-form entry primary school, and a pre-school. Over the medium term (2020-23), the Trustees intend to further increase the number of schools under the Trust's management via a blend of new free schools and bringing established schools on board.

Knowledge Schools Trust Trustees Report continued Year ended 31 August 2020

Auditor

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware.
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

A Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 29 January 2021 and signed on the Board's behalf by:

Signature:

Ms Suzanna Hobart

ysis that

Trustee

Governance Statement

Year ended 31 August 2020

Scope of Responsibility

As Trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that the 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 has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform to the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to them in the funding agreements between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Chief Executive is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees formally met three times during the year. In addition to the termly meetings, the Trustees maintain oversight of the operations of the Trust through regular communication by email and telephone, and via sharing of information via a file sharing portal designed for this purpose. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dame Sally Anne Coates	. 2	3
Mr Alexander Conabeare*	3	3
Ms Jane Emmett	3	3
Ms Kathryn Cooper	3	3
Ms Penny Hunt	1	3
Mr Ian Hunter*	3	3
Ms Suzanna Hobart	3	3
Mr Cosmo Lush* (Chair)	3	3
Ms Chloe Mawson	2	3
Ms Laura McGaughey*	2	3
Ms Catherine Whelan*	3	3

^{*}Members of the Finance and Operations Committee

Governance Reviews

The Trust reviews its governance on an annual basis and has reviewed its formal delegation of responsibilities between the Trust Board and Local Governing Board of our schools. With the resignation of Dame Sally Coates from the Board in July 2020 the Board has reviewed its composition and identified the requirement to replace her with an experienced director with secondary and especially Sixth Form experience. The Board will also undertake a self-evaluation exercise in December 2021.

The Finance and Operations Committee (FOC) is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to ensure that all funds are spent for their proper purpose; that financial regulations are adhered to in all material respects and that budgets are monitored on a monthly and termly basis. The FOC has formally met three times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the FOC was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Ms Laura McGaughey (Chair)	3	3
Mr Ian Hunter	3	3
Mr Alvaro Montenegro	3	3
Ms Catherine Whelan	3	3

Year ended 31 August 2020

Review of Value for Money

As accounting officer, the Chief Executive has responsibility for ensuring that the 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 Trust's use of its resources has provided good value formoney during each academic year and reports to the Board of Trustees.

Economies of Scale

In 2019-20, the Trust has continued to build on potential economies of scale derived from having four schools within the Trust. The addition of a fourth primary school in November 2020 will enable further economies of scale to be achieved, largely through leverage of the central MAT team to gain efficiencies.

Prudent Financial Management

Since 2011, the Trust has used its facilities efficiently and generated extra income from them wherever possible. In 2015-16 the Trust appointed a lettings management company to oversee general lettings and the level of lettings income has climbed steadily ever since. In total the lettings income from all sources in 2019-20 was £246,795. Lettings income was less than in previous years because of the impact on school closure from late March to the end of August 2020.

Where possible, essential services are procured at a Trust level rather than at an individual school level in order to gain best value for money. All budget holders within the schools are required to familiarise themselves with the Trust's internal financial guidance document, the Financial Regulations and Scheme of Delegation, and follow the policies and procedures it sets out.

The Trust does not pay excessive salaries. In 2019-20, only two employees were paid a salary of more than £100,000, both of whom are headteachers.

Better procurement

Both revenue and capital budgets are subjected to close budgetary monitoring and value for money tests, with the schools' expenditure being overseen by the Finance and General Purposes Committees of their Local Governing Bodies and the Finance and Operations Committee of the Trust. The Trust reviews available frameworks and assesses suitability on a case-by-case basis. Where there is no suitable framework, bespoke tenders are produced and/or value for money exercises are undertaken. In 2019/20 the Trust undertook the re-tendering of IT, legal services and external audit services.

All senior staff are aware that FF&E and ICT budgets are one-off capital budgets to be drawn down over an extended period. They know that once these budgets are depleted, FF&E and ICT refreshment must be financed from General Annual Grant budgets and they moderate their spending accordingly.

In the Secondary, department heads are allocated departmental capitation budgets decided by a formula based on pupil numbers and a multiplier to take account of the equipment needs of their departments. Additional departmental capitation budgets are available, but budget holders must bid for funds by producing a business case. This means staff have to evaluate whether a purchase is really necessary to support teaching and learning.

The Secondary

At the West London Free School, actions intended to improve educational outcomes include setting aspirational GCSE grade targets, keeping class sizes small, making Latin compulsory through to KS3 and setting across academic subjects in KS3, encouraging all children to learn a musical instrument and expecting all children to participate in our ambitious extracurricular programme. The Trustees' Report describes key outcomes and achievements to illustrate that this approach is having a positive impact.

Year ended 31 August 2020

The West London Free School also has various measures in place to narrow the attainment gap between disadvantaged groups and their peers, including stretch and support classes in Maths and English, a curriculum tailored towards pupils with low prior attainment, and subsidised music lessons for students eligible for the Pupil Premium.

The focus during 2019-20 was to maintain the high standard achieved in our first set of GCSE results in 2016-17. This goal was overtaken by the cancellation of public examinations in 2020 and the requirement to report CAGS. Nevertheless, our impressive track record was maintained with a genuine concern to maintain standards and to avoid grade inflation. In the summer of 2020, we also had our third set of A level results which showed improvement over the results of the previous year but again these outcomes were based on CAGs. While the Sixth Form was not fully subscribed, we managed to retain a high proportion of our Year 11 pupils who chose to continue to Year 12 with WLFS, as well as attracting high calibre new pupils from a variety of schools. Our impressive record for Oxbridge attainment is notable with 9% of our students in 2020 gaining places at either Oxford or Cambridge.

The Primaries

At our primary schools, measures are also in place continually to improve educational outcomes, such as setting high expectations, working with the children in small groups, organising them into ability groups in phonics and teaching an innovative, knowledge-based curriculum, which the school has developed. Again, there is evidence that this approach is having a beneficial impact, which is included within the Strategic Report.

The West London Free School Primary was inspected by Ofsted in May 2015 and was ranked "Outstanding" in every area, while the Earl's Court Free School Primary was inspected by Ofsted in June 2017 and was also ranked "Outstanding" in every area. Kensington Primary Academy was inspected in November 2018 and was also rated "Outstanding" in every area.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage and reduce 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 prioritise the risks to the achievement of The 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. A system of internal control has been in place in the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board has reviewed the key risks which the Trust is exposed to, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. There is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ending 31 August 2020 and up to the date of the approval of the annual report and financial statements. The Board regularly reviews this process.

The Risk and Control Framework

The 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 that are reviewed and agreed by the LGBs
- Regular reviews by the LGBs' Finance and General Purposes Committees of reports which assess 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
- · Identification and management of risks

Governance Statement

Year ended 31 August 2020

Robust key financial controls are crucial to ensure that the schools are complying with ESFA's requirements and expectations in relation to regularity, propriety and the safeguarding of public funds.

The Board considered the need for a specific internal audit function and decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, since April 2014, RSM has been engaged to undertake an annual review of key financial controls across the Trust.

RSM reviews each school and identifies any weaknesses in the design of the overall control framework, which the Trust addresses. RSM provides a report to the Board overviewing the work they complete, the outcome, and recommendations for improvement which are implemented by the schools, overseen by the Finance Director. The checks that RSM carried out in the year to 31 August 2020, within its programme of work, included:

- Review and testing of payroll system and personnel files
- Review of access levels to accounting systems and controls over data amendments and transactions
- Review and testing of purchasing systems and supporting documentation
- Review and testing of income systems and supporting documentation
- Review of bank reconciliations and procedures
- Review and testing of IT recovery procedures

Review of Effectiveness

As accounting officer, Mr Ian Hunter has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question, the review has been informed by:

• The work of the external auditor

you that

- The work of RSM's annual review of financial controls
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process
- The information supplied by the Trust's finance teams led by the Finance Director
- The work of the Trust's Senior Management Team which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The Finance and Operations Committee has advised the accounting officer of the implications of RSM'S programme of works on the system of internal control. Plans are in place to address any weaknesses identified and to ensure continuous improvement of the system.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 29 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature:

Signature:

Ms Suzanna Hobart

Trustee

Mr Ian Hunter

Accounting Officer and CEO

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

Year ended 31 August 2020

As accounting officer of Knowledge Schools Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Trust's Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreements in place between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

I confirm that I and the Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Trust's funding agreements and the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

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.

Signature:

Mr Ian Hunter

Accounting Officer and CEO

29 January 2021

Knowledge Schools Trust Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

Year ended 31 August 2020

The Trustees (who act as Governors of Knowledge Schools Trust and are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published 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. Undercompany law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

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

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform to 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 corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 29 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Signature:

Ms Suzanna Hobart

ysis that

Trustee

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Knowledge Schools Trust

Year ended 31 August 2020

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Knowledge Schools Trust (the 'Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2020 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
 and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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 Auditors' Report thereon. Other information includes the Reference and Administrative details, Trustees' Report, incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report, the Governance Statement, the Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance and the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. 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 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.

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Knowledge Schools Trust

Year ended 31 August 2020

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion 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 (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Trust 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, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Trust 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 Trust'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 the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (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.

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 Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable Trust'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 Trust's

Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Knowledge Schools Trust

Year ended 31 August 2020

members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Sudhir Singh FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of MHA MacIntyre Hudson Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor 6th Floor 2 London Wall Place London EC2Y 5AU

Date: 29 January 2021

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Knowledge Schools Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

Year ended 31 August 2020

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 December 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Knowledge Schools Trust during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 Knowledge Schools Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Knowledge Schools Trust and 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 Knowledge Schools Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Knowledge Schools Trust's Accounting Officer and the Reporting Accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Knowledge Schools Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 October 2016 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, 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 2019 to 2020. 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 year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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.

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- reviewing the Minutes of the meetings of the Governing Body and other evidence made available to us, relevant to our consideration of regularity;
- a review of the objectives and activities of the Academy, with reference to the income streams and other information available to us as auditors of the Academy;
- testing of a sample of payroll payments to staff;
- testing of a sample of payments to suppliers and other third parties;
- consideration of governance issues; and
- evaluating the internal control procedures and reporting lines, testing as appropriate and making appropriate enquiries of the Accounting Officer.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Knowledge Schools Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

Year ended 31 August 2020

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

MHA MacTelyre Hudson

Reporting Accountant
MHA MacIntyre Hudson
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
6th Floor
2 London Wall Place
London
EC2Y 5AU

Date: 29 January 2021

Knowledge Schools Trust
Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income & Expenditure Account

For the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed asset Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Income and endowments from:	_	7.400	240 622	75.240	202 204	425.074
Donations and capital grants	3	7,422	210,632	75,340	293,394	425,974
Charitable activities	4	- -	11 756 510	-	- 11 756 510	- 10,489,379
Funding for the Trust's educational operations	4		11,756,518 208,814	-	11,756,518 455,609	457,211
Other trading activities	5 6	246,795	208,814	-		*
Investments	6	1,255			1,255	1,075
Total		255,472	12,175,964	75,340	12,506,776	11,373,639
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities						
Trust's educational operations	7,8	-	12,505,867	1,342,746	13,848,613	12,048,868
Total		-	12,505,867	1,342,746	13,848,613	12,048,868
Net incoming resources before transfers		255,472	(329,903)	(1,267,406)	(1,341,837)	(675,229)
		·	, , ,	, , , , ,		
Gross transfers between funds	17	-	(179,008)	179,008	-	-
Net income for the year		255,472	(508,911)	(1,088,398)	(1,341,837)	(675,229)
Other recognised gains and losses Actuarial gains/(losses) on					-	
defined benefit pension schemes	28	-	(458,000)	-	(458,000)	(395,000)
Net movement in funds		255,472	(966,911)	(1,088,398)	(1,799,836)	(1,070,229)
Reconciliation of funds						
Funds brought forward at 1 September 2019		786,411	(718,031)	59,066,056	59,134,436	60,204,665
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2020		1,041,883	(1,684,942)	57,977,658	57,334,599	59,134,436
						

07493696

All of Knowledge Schools Trust's activities derived from continuing operations during 2018-19 and 2019-20.

The notes on pages 28-50 form part of these financial statements.

As at 31 August 2020

		2020		20:	19
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		57,977,658		59,066,050
Investments	14		1		:
Current assets			57,977,659		59,066,057
Stock		-		-	
Debtors	15	1,535,310		1,111,015	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,798,678		1,911,946	
		3,333,988		3,022,961	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(1,590,048)		(1,411,582)	
Net current assets			1,743,940		1,611,379
Total assets less current liabilities			59,721,599		60,677,436
Net assets excluding pension liability					
Pension scheme liability	28		(2,387,000)		(1,543,000
Net assets including pension liability			57,334,599		59,134,436
Funds of the Trust: -					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset funds	17		57,977,658		59,066,056
General funds	17		702,058		824,969
Pension reserve	17	•	(2,387,000)		(1,543,000
Total restricted funds			56,292,716		58,348,02 <u>!</u>
			30,292,710		30,340,023
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	17		1,041,883		786,41
Total unrestricted funds					
•			1,041,883		786,413
Total funds			F7 224 500		FO 124 424
			57,334,599 ————		59,134,436

The financial statements on pages 26 to 48 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 29th January 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Signature:

Ms S Hobart

Trustee

The notes on pages 28-50 form part of these financial statements.

2019
£
325,136
1,075
326,211
1,585,735
1,911,946

The notes on pages 28-50 form part of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31 August 2020

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

Knowledge Schools Trust is a private company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office and the principal places of operation are detailed on page 1. The nature of the Trust's operations and principal activities are described in the Trustee's report. The financial statements of Knowledge Schools, a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with 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 (FRS102) (Charities SORP(FRS102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Trust meets the definition of public benefit under FRS 102. The financial statements are presented in sterling (£) which is the functional currency of the Trust and are rounded to the nearest one pound.

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 one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Trustees have also reviewed the going concern on a longer-term basis. Most of the funding for the Trust's activities is provided by central government. Whilst exact funding levels for the next three financial years is not certain, the Trustees consider that any material change in funding is unlikely. Following this assessment, the Trustees have determined that the accounts should be prepared on a going concern basis.

Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the Trust has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipts and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

• Grants receivable

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 entitlement of receipt its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the year for which it is receivable and any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general funds.

Capital grants are recognised when receivable 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.

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the Trust, which amounts to a donation, is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable, where the receipt is probable and is measurable.

Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is entitlement, receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

For the year ended 31 August 2020

Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Donated goods, facilities and services and gifts in kind

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the Trust are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the Trust can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Trust's accounting policies.

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 benefit will be required in settlement and the amount of obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The cost of each activity are made up of total of direct cost and shared cost, including support cost involved in undertaking each activity. Direct cost attributable to a single activity, are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs, which contribute to more than one activity and support cost, which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Charitable activities

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

All resources expanded are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets are assessed accordingly to their nature and are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. All fixed assets purchased using capital start up budgets provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency are capitalised at cost irrespective of value. Fixed assets purchased from the General Annual Grant are capitalised if the value of an individual item is over £1,000.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the ESFA's capital budgets 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 Trust's depreciation policy.

Where fixed assets have been donated to the Trust, the asset is recognised at fair value and depreciated over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Trust's depreciation policy.

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:

Freehold and long leasehold buildings 50 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment 4 to 10 years
ICT equipment 4 years
Motor Vehicles 4 years

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

Other notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2020

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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 settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advance payments for the goods or service it must provide.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefit and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligations. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risk specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Investments

The Academy's shareholdings in its wholly owned subsidiary, KST Enterprises Ltd, is included in the balance sheet at the cost of the share capital owned less any impairment. There is no readily available market value, and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefits derived.

Financial Instruments

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

- Financial assets VAT and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in Note 15.
- Prepayments are not financial instruments.
- Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.
- Financial liabilities Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in Note 16.

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.

Leased Assets

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

Taxation

Knowledge Schools 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, Knowledge Schools 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.

For the year ended 31 August 2020

Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). These are defined benefit schemes and the assets are held separately from those of the Trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the 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 quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in note 27, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Trust in a separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources that may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources that are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the ESFA/DfE.

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.

The Trust makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have significant risks of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 27, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The net book value of tangible fixed assets is based on the original cost of the assets net of provision for depreciation. The depreciation provision to date is based on the Trustees' assessment of the estimated useful economic lives of such assets.

For the year ended 31 August 2020

Other than the estimates discussed above, the Trustees do not consider that there are any key judgements made in the preparation of the financial statements.

Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The academy trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 31.

Termination/severance payments

Termination benefits, including redundancy costs, are recognised when the Trust has the obligation to pay the benefits and they can be reliably measured.

2. GENERAL ANNUAL GRANT (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State the Trust was not subject to limits at 31 August 2020 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next.

3.	DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds £	Funds £	2020 £	2019 £
		-	-	-	•
	Capital Grants	-	75,340	75,340	252,038
	Donations – General	-	210,632	210,632	164,996
	Donation – Big Lottery Grant Fund	-	-	-	8,940
	Distribution from Trading Subsidiary	7,422		7,422	
		7,422	285,972	293,394	425,974
	Total 2019		425,974	425,974	
4.	FUNDING FOR THE TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL				
	OPERATIONS	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Funds	Funds	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£
	DfE/ESFA grants				
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	•	8,804,044	8,804,044	8,297,428
	Start-up Grants	-	84,000	84,000	61,500
	Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,583,155	1,583,155	1,007,349
			10,471,199	10,471,199	9,366,277
	Other Government grants				
	Local authority grants	-	453,655	453,655	337,779
	Exceptional Government Funding				
	Coronavirus job retention scheme grant		29,984	29,984	-
	Other income				
	Music Income	-	152,091	152,091	186,384
	Trips Income	-	100,539	100,539	239,485
	Before and After School Club income	-	194,518	194,518	100,448
	Nursery income from parents	-	27,577	27,577	40,040
	Other Income	-	326,955	326,955	218,966
		-	11,756,518	11,756,518	10,489,379
	Total 2019		10,489,379	10,489,379	=

The trust furloughed some of the staff who work in the before and after school club and holiday provision and as such are not GAG funded. It has been eligible to claim additional funding in the year from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above under "exceptional government funding". The funding received of £29,984 relates to staff costs in respect of 8 staff, which are included within note 9.

Knowledge Schools Trust Other notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 August 2020

5.	OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Unrest	tricted Re	stricted	Total	Total
٥.			Funds	Funds	2020	2019
			£	£	£	£
	Hire of Facilities	24	46,795	-	246,795	312,486
	Other self-generated income			208,814	208,814	144,743
	Total 2019	3:	12,468		457,211	
6.	INVESTMENT INCOME	Unres	tricted Re	stricted	Total	Total
			Funds	Funds	2020	2019
	Short Term Deposits		1,255		1,255	1,075
	Total 2019		1,075	-	1,075	
7.	EXPENDITURE			Pay Expenditure		Total
		Staff costs £	Premises £			2019 £
	Trust's educational operations	_		_	_	_
	- Direct costs	7,750,886	1,342,746	1,172,717	10,266,349	9,278,301
	- Allocated support costs	1,625,005	330,251	1,627,008	3,582,264	2,770,567
		9,375,891	1,672,997	2,799,725	13,848,613	12,048,868
	Total 2019 – Direct costs	6,645,035	1,421,845	1,211,421	9,278,301	
	Total 2019 – Allocated support costs	1,307,633	110,765			
	Total 2019	7,952,668	1,532,610	2,563,590	12,048,868	
•	Net Income/expenditure for the year includ	es:			£	£
	Fees payable to auditor					
	- audit of financial statements				20,500 10,968	26,530
	- under accrual for prior year audit fees				8,925	6 155
	- other audit services				1,342,746	6,155 1,421,845
	Depreciation Operating lease rentals				13,284	12,934
8.	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES				Total	Total
	Trust's educational operations				2020	2019
	Direct costs				£	£
	Teaching and educational support staff costs				7,750,886	6,645,035
	Depreciation				1,342,746	1,421,845
	Technology costs				135,678	92,621
	Educational supplies				204,314	235,097
	Examination fees	•			49,331	87,108
	Staff development				31,321	25,652

Other notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2020

	Other direct costs	752,073	770,943
		10,266,349	9,278,301
	Allocated support costs		
	Support staff costs	1,625,005	1,307,633
	Recruitment and support	124,878	83,078
	Maintenance of premises and equipment	330,251	110,765
	Cleaning	187,396	159,949
	Rent and rates	130,312	130,267
	Energy	174,178	162,343
	Security and transport	1,908	1,065
	Catering	436,247	338,611
	Bank interest and charges	5,526	8,554
	Insurance	74,807	68,687
	Other support costs	408,249	341,076
	Legal costs	37,867	21,044
	Governance costs	45,640	37,495
		3,582,264	2,770,567
	Total resources expended on Trust's educational operations	13,848,613	12,048,868
9.	STAFF COSTS	Total 2020	Total 2019
		£	£
	Staff costs during the period were:		
	Wages and salaries	6,828,254	6,047,514
	Social Security costs	649,870	582,846
	Pensions costs	1,674,588	1,104,279
		9,152,712	7,734,639
	Extra-curricular/Contractor teacher costs	189,477	200,517
	Staff Severance Payments	33,702	17,512
		9,375,891	7,952,668

STAFF SEVERANCE PAYMENTS

Included in staff costs are contractual severance payments of £20,566 and non-contractual staff severance payments of £13,136. Total £ (2019: £17,512 non-contractual staff severance payments). The individual payments were £20,566 (contractual), £5,500 and £7,636 (both non contractual). Non-contractual staff severance payments (exgratia payments) are made, without any admission of liability, to protect the Trust from subsequent claims under employment law.

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by Knowledge Schools Trust during the year was as follows:

STAFF NUMBERS	2020 No.	2019 No.
Charitable activities	140.	140.
Teachers	101	91
Administration and support	69	68
Management	13	10

For the year ended 31 August 2020

	183	169
Higher paid staff		
The number of employees whose salary fell within the following bands was:		
£60,001 to £70,000	15	10
£70,001 to £80,000	3	3
£80,001 to £90,000	1	-
£90,001 to £100,000	-	-
£100,000 to £110,000	1	2
£110,001 to £120,000	· 1	-
£120,000 to £130,000	-	-

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of Knowledge Schools Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team listed on page 2. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension and national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £315,139 (2019: £228,585). The 2019 comparative did not include employer's national insurance.

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

One Trustee has been paid remuneration from employment with the Trust for undertaking the role of CEO under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their role as Trustee. The value of the CEO's remuneration and other benefits were as follows:

Mr I Hunter CEO

Remuneration: £65,000-£70,000 (2019: £40,000-£45,000).

Employer's pension contributions: £15,000-£20,000 (2019: £5,000 - £10,000).

None of the other Trustees received any remuneration in respect of their services as Trustees.

During the year ended 31 August 2020, no travel and subsistence expenses were reimbursed to any Trustee (2019: £nil).

11. CENTRAL SERVICES

The Trust has provided the following central services to its schools during the year:

Financial, accounting, auditing and compliance services Legal services Educational support services Management of capital projects Management of trust-wide procurements Human resources services

During the year, the Trust charged for these services on a % basis of each school's annual allocation income, 1/12 of which was remitted monthly by the schools to the Central Trust Team. For all schools this was budgeted at 2.75% (2019: 2.75%). These charges were recommended and approved by the LGB of each school. The actual amounts levied during

the year were:		
CENTRAL SERVICES CHARGE	2020 £	2019 £
West London Free School	145,709	143,304
West London Free School Primary	52,294	45,280
Earl's Court Free School Primary	26,187	22,339
Kensington Primary Academy	27,194	22,110
Total	251,384	233,033
		

12. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2020 was included in the total premium paid by the charity of £35,684 (2019: £37,162).

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold land and buildings	Leasehold Property	Motor Vehicles	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	ICT Equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 September 2019	27,802,656	34,662,801	50,538	1,567,121	1,481,762	65,564,878
Additions Disposals	-	57,248 - 	· .	93,130	103,970	254,348
At 31 August 2020	27,802,656	34,720,049	50,538	1,660,251	1,585,732	65,819,226
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2019	2,430,463	1,396,470	50,538	1,325,559	1,295,792	6,498,822
Charged in year Disposals during year	556,053	525,256 - 	. -	163,461	97,976 - 	1,342,746
At 31 August 2020	2,986,516	1,921,726	50,538	1,489,020	1,393,768	7,841,568
Net Book Value At 31 August 2020	24,816,140	32,798,323	-	171,231	191,964	57,977,658
At 31 August 2019	25,372,193	33,266,331	-	241,562	185,970	59,066,056
						

The Trust's transactions relating to leasehold property included the refurbishment of two classrooms at the Cambridge Grove site. (2019 - £234,372)

14.	INVESTMENTS	2020 £	2019 £
	Investment in KST Enterprises	1	1
15 .	DEBTORS	2020	2019
		£	£
	VAT	1,023,425	608,727
	Trade debtors	190,734	153,358
	Other debtors	21,493	75,037
	Prepayments	177,522	162,054
	Accrued income	114,714	111,839
	Amount owed from trading subsidiary	7,422	-
		1,535,310	1,111,015
16.	CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	2020	2019
		£	£
	Trade creditors	624,633	528,565
	Taxation and social security	164,549	148,646
	Other creditors	120,315	81,685
	Accruals and deferred income	680,551	652,686
		1,590,048	1,411,582
	·	2020	2019
	Deferred income (included within accruals and		
	deferred income of £680,551, 2019 £652,686)		
		£	£
	Deferred income as at 31 August 2019	439,139	242,749
	Resources deferred in the year	388,962	316,070
	Amounts released from previous years	(291,359)	(119,680)
	Deferred income as at 31 August 2020	536,742	439,139

Deferred income held at 31 August 2020 includes capital and general funding received and related to the year ending 31 August 2021, deposits held for school trips that had not taken place by 31 August 2020, nursery fees, catering and music income received in advance of September 2021.

17.	FUNDS Restricted general funds	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources (expended) £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	824,969	8,804,044	(8,747,947)	(179,008)	702,058
	Start-up Grant	-	84,000	(84,000)	-	-
	Other DfE/ESFA/LA grants	-	2,066,794	(2,066,794)	-	-
	Other income	-	1,221,127	(1,221,127)	-	-
	Pension reserve	(1,543,000)	-	(386,000)	(458,000)	(2,387,000)
		(718,031)	12,175,965	(12,505,868)	(637,008)	(1,684,942)
	Restricted fixed assets funds					
	DfE/ESFA capital grants	31,632,758	75,340	(793,228)	-	30,914,870
	Condition Improvement Fund	191,111	-	(3,941)	-	187,170
	Local Authority Capital Grant	275,485	-	(5,986)	-	269,499
	Capital expenditure from other funds	398,819	-	(68,681)	179,008	509,146
	Private capital donation	148,195	-	(98,410)	-	49,785
	Transfer from Local Authority	26,419,688	-	(372,500)	-	26,047,188
		59,066,056	75,340	(1,342,746)	179,008	57,977,658
	Total restricted funds	58,348,025	12,251,305	(13,848,614)	(458,000)	56,292,716
	Unrestricted funds					
	Unrestricted funds	786,411	255,472	-	-	1,041,883
	Total unrestricted funds	786,411	255,472	-	-	1,041,883
	Total funds	59,134,436	12,506,777	(13,849,614)	(458,000)	57,334,599
						= ==

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

The restricted general fund includes all government and local authority funding which is used to meet the normal running costs of our schools. The majority of this is General Annual Grant (GAG), but it also includes the Universal Infant Free School Meal grants, which is used to provide every pupil in Reception and years 1 and 2 with a free school meal. It includes the Pupil Premium which is used to help raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils. It includes nursery funding which is used to employ appropriate staff for the nursery at Kensington Primary Academy. It also includes Special Education Needs funding which is used to assist pupils with special needs. Start-up grants are also included to cover some of the disproportionate costs of operating a new school which does not have all year groups present. £179,008 of this funding was used in the year ended 31 August 2020 to fund the purchases of fixed assets, including IT equipment, classroom refurbishment works, and furniture and fittings.

The restricted fixed asset fund includes funding received from various sources for the purposes of buying the fixed assets shown in note 13 of these financial statements. This includes ESFA capital grants for the purchase of fixed assets.

Unrestricted funds include those received from the trading activities of the Trust. It is used at the discretion of the Trustees to meet any of KST's objectives.

Under the funding agreements with the Secretary of State, the Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward as at 31 August 2020.

Ω

17. FUNDS (continued)

FUNDS (2019)	Balance at 1 September 2018	Incoming Resources	Resources (expended)	Gains, Losses and Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2019
Restricted general funds	£	£	£	£	£
General Annual Grant (GAG)	544,639	8,297,428	(7,871,393)	(145,705)	824,969
Start-up Grant	-	61,500	(61,500)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA/LA grants	-	1,345,127	(1,345,127)	-	-
Big Lottery Grant Fund	-	8,940	(8,940)	-	-
Other income	· -	1,095,063	(1,095,063)	-	-
Pension reserve	(903,000)	-	(245,000)	(359,000)	(1,543,000)
	(358,361)	10,808,058	(10,627,023)	(540,705)	(718,031)
Restricted fixed assets funds					
DfE/ESFA capital grants	32,444,397	106,822	(918,461)	-	31,632,758
Condition Improvement Fund	49,836	145,216	(3,941)	-	191,111
Local Authority Capital Grant	281,471	-	(5,986)	-	275,485
Capital expenditure from other funds	275,661	-	(22,547)	145,705	398,819
Private capital donation	246,605	-	(98,410)	-	148,195
Transfer from Local Authority	26,792,188	-	(372,500)	-	26,419,688
•	60,090,158	252,038	(1,421,845)	145,705	59,066,056
Total restricted funds					
	59,731,797	11,060,096	(12,048,868)	(395,000)	58,348,025
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted funds					
	472,868	313,543	-	-	786,411
Total unrestricted funds		-			
	472,868	313,543	-	-	786,411
Total funds					
	60,204,665	11,373,639	(12,048,868)	(359,000)	59,134,436

For the year ended 31 August 2020

17. FUNDS (continued)

Analysis of fund balances by entity

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 were made up as follows:

	Total	Total
	2020	2019
	£	£
West London Free School	386,252	294,937
West London Free School Primary	522,375	449,052
Earl's Court Free School Primary	384,988	324,366
Kensington Primary Academy	182,755	124,671
Central Trust Team	267,571	418,354
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	1,743,941	1,611,380
Restricted fixed asset fund	57,977,658	59,066,056
Pension reserve	(2,387,000)	(1,543,000)
Total	57,334,599	59,134,436

The West London Free School's retained surplus increased to £386,252 as at 31 August 2020 from £294,937 as at 31 August 2019. Prudent financial management, particularly during the period of school closure, has enabled the School to remain in surplus.

The West London Free School Primary and Earl's Court Free School Primary are carrying comfortable surpluses of £522,375 and £384,988 respectively (2019: £449,052, and £324,366) also due to prudent financial management. A portion of the retained surplus in West London Free School Primary was deliberately allocated to capital improvements within the Cambridge Grove site, with two classrooms being refurbished.

Kensington Primary Academy is carrying a net surplus of £182,755 (2019: £124,671). This reflects prudent financial management in its fourth year of operation, where a surplus is being achieved despite having to run a nursery and four year groups and maintain and operate a five-storey school building.

The Trust's Central Team is carrying a surplus of £267,571 (2019: £418,354). The surplus this year is reduced from prior year due to agreed used of reserves for Sixth Form improvement initiatives.

Analysis of expenditure by entity

Expenditure incurred by each entity within the Trust during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs	Other Support Staff Costs	Educational Supplies	Other costs (excluding Depreciation)	Total 2020	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
WLFS	4,466,569	577,073	151,398	1,165,637	6,360,677	5,971,649
WLFS Primary	1,886,478	280,113	28,265	576,836	2,771,692	2,191,833
ECFS Primary	695,522	1,431	15,980	126,667	839,600	854,179
KPA	710,627	43,724	8,672	226,651	989,674	962,593
Central Trust Team	690	722,665		820,869	1,544,224	646,769
Total	7,759,886	1,625,006	204,315	2,916,660	12,505,867	10,627,023
Central Trust Team	690	722,665	<u> </u>	820,869	1,544,224	646,

For the year ended 31 August 2020

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed assets Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets Current assets	- 1,041,883	- 2,292,106	57,977,658	57,977,658 3,333,989
Current liabilities Pension scheme liability	1,041,003 - -	(1,590,048) (2,387,000)	· -	(1,590,048) (2,387,000)
Total net assets	1,041,883	(1,684,942)	57,977,658	57,334,599
Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are repo	resented by:			
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed assets Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	59,066,056	59,066,056
Current assets Current liabilities Pension scheme liability	786,411 - -	2,236,551 (1,411,582) (1,543,000)	- - -	3,022,962 (1,411,582) (1,543,000)
Total net assets	786,411	(718,031)	59,066,056	59,134,436

19. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 August 2020, the Trust had a capital commitment for the refurbishment of two further classrooms at the Cambridge Grove of £50,451 (2019 £Nil). The work was completed in the 20/21 financial year and was funded from in year earnings.

20. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating leases

At 31 August 2020 the total of the Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2020 £	2019 £
Amounts due within one year Amounts due between one and five years Amounts due after five years	12,560 20,270	12,560 32,831
	32,830	45,391

21. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

On 1 November 2020 Edlesborough Primary Academy (formerly Edlesborough School) joined Knowledge Schools Trust. The value of the leasehold land and buildings which will transfer to the Trust is £2,875,000. This comprises land £700,000 and buildings £2,100,000, of which £75,000 relates to the property adjacent to the school used by the school caretaker. The LGPS pension deficit which will transfer to the Trust is £61,000.

22.	RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		2020 £	2019 £
	Net income		(1,799,836)	(1,070,229)
	Depreciation (note 13)		1,342,746	1,421,845
	Capital grants from ESFA and other capital income		(254,348)	(397,743)
	Interest receivable (note 6)		(1,255)	(1,075)
	Pension cost less contributions payable (note 27)		844,000	640,000
	Decrease in stocks		-	756
	Increase in debtors		(424,295)	(456,741)
	Increase in creditors		178,465	188,324
	Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	3	(114,523)	325,136
23.	RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FIR	NANCE	2020 £	2019 £
			-	-
	Interest received		1,255	1,075
	Net cash inflow from returns on investment and se	rvicing of finance	1,255	1,075
24.	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT	NT	2020 £	2019 £
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(254,348)	(397,744)
	Capital grants from ESFA		75,340	252,038
	Capital funding received from sponsors and others		179,008	145,706
	Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and fina	ncial investment	-	-
25.	ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS	At 1 September	Cash flow	At 31 August 2020
		2019 £	Cash flow £	2020 £
	Cash in hand and at bank	1,911,946	(113,268)	1,798,678

26. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no contingent liabilities at 31 August 2020 or at 31 August 2019.

27. 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 he/she is a Member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceased to be a Member.

28. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

The Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by the relevant Local Authority. Both are defined-benefit pension schemes. The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions either at the beginning or at the end of the financial year.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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 (HMT). 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% employer 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
- 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. 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 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 £776,726. (2019: Employer's contribution £575,911). A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the <u>Teachers' Pensions website</u>.

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

For the year ended 31 August 2020

28. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £442,902. (31 August 2019: £359,687 of which employer's contributions totalled £340,405 (2019: £274,309), and employees' contributions totalled £102,497 (2019: £85,377). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23.9% per cent (2019:23.9%) for employers and 5.5-12.5% (2019: 5.5-12.5%) for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013. The Trust has two separate LGPS funds, one held by London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (including West London Free School, West London Free School Primary and Earl's Court Free School Primary) and one held by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (for Kensington Primary Academy).

Principal Actuarial Assumptions	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.20	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.20	2.10
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1.90
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.20	2.15
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	-	50

Sensitivity analysis for the principal assumptions used to measure scheme liabilities

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund

	£	£	£
Adjustment to discount rate	+0.1%	0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	3,683,000	3,804,000	3,929,000
Projected service cost	678,000	700,000	723,000
Adjustment to long term salary increase	+0.1%	0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	3,805,000	3,804,000	3,803,000
Projected service cost	700,000	700,000	700,000
Adjustment to pension increases and deferred revaluation	+0.1%	0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	3,927,000	3,804,000	3,685,000
Projected service cost	722,000	700,000	678,000
Adjustment to life expectancy assumptions	+1 Year	None	-1 Year
Present value of total obligation	3,936,000	3,804,000	3,676,000
Projected service cost	724,000	700,000	676,000

28. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Sensitivity analysis for the principal assumptions used to measure scheme liabilities

Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Pension Fund

	£	£	£
Adjustment to discount rate	+0.1%	0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	279,000	290,000	302,000
Projected service cost	69,000	72,000	75,000
Adjustment to long term salary increase	+0.1%	0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	290,000	290,000	290,000
Projected service cost	72,000	72,000	72,000
Adjustment to pension increases and deferred revaluation	+0.1%	0%	-0.1%
Present value of total obligation	302,000	290,000	279,000
Projected service cost	75,000	72,000	69,000
Adjustment to life expectancy assumptions	+1 Year	None	-1 Year
Present value of total obligation	300,000	290,000	280,000
Projected service cost	74,000	72,000	70,000

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	At 31 August	At 31 August	
	2020	2019	
Retiring today			
Males	21.8	23.4	
Females	24.4	24.8	
Retiring in 20 years			
Males	23.2	25.1	
Females	25.9	26.7	
	 		

For the year ended 31 August 2020

28. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

The Trust's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme and the expected rates of return were:

Movements in the present value of defined benefit`

·	Fair value At 31 August 2020 £	Fair value At 31 August 2019 £
Equities	811,000	784,000
Absolute Return Portfolio	-	7,000
Cash	108,000	42,000
Property	165,000	150,000
Inflation Opportunities fund	157,000	151,000
Cash plus Funds	218,000	411,000
Other bonds	248,000	30,000
	1,707,000	1,575,000
Total market value of assets		
Present value of scheme liabilities		
- Funded	(4,094,000)	(3,118,000)
Deficit in the scheme	(2,387,000)	(1,543,000)

The actual return on scheme assets in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund was £104,000 (2019: £58,000). The actual return on scheme assets in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Pension Fund was £12,000 (2019: £7,000).

For the year ended 31 August 2020

28. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows	2020 £	2019 £
At 1 September	3,118,000	2,055,000
Current service cost	725,000	445,000
Interest cost	60,000	57,000
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(9,000)	8,000
Employee contributions	105,000	86,000
Change in financial assumptions	384,000	587,000
Change in demographic assumptions	(175,000)	(163,000)
Past service costs including curtailments	_	43,000
Experience loss/(gain) on defined benefit obligation	(110,000)	-
Liabilities assumed/(extinguished) on settlements	(4,000)	-
At 31 August (closing defined benefit obligation)	4,094,000	3,118,000
•	2020	2019
Movement's in the fair value of the Trust's share of scheme assets		
	£	£
At 1 September	1,575,000	1,152,000
Interest on assets	35,000	36,000
Return on assets less interest	81,000	29,000
Administrative expenses	(1,000)	-
Employer contributions	361,000	264,000
Employee contributions	105,000	86,000
Estimated Benefits paid	(9,000)	8,000
Other actuarial gains/(losses)	(440,000)	
At 31 August	1,707,000	1,575,000
	2020	2019
	£	£
Service cost	725,000	488,000
Net interest on the defined liability	25,000	21,000
Total operating expense	750,000	509,000
Return on assets in excess of interest	81,000	29,000
Change in financial assumptions	(384,000)	(587,000)
Change in demographic assumptions	175,000	163,000
Other actuarial gain/(losses) on assets	(440,000)	-
Experience gain/(loss) on defined benefit obligation	110,000	-
Total comprehensive income	(458,000)	(359,000)
Total amount recognised in statement of financial activities	292,000	114,000

29. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the fact that the Board's Trustees are drawn in part from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which a Trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted on an arm's length basis, i.e. any Trustees with an interest in the organisations concerned are not involved in the decision of whether to engage in those transactions, and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures, i.e. the Board follows the procedures set out in the company's Articles of Association regarding the purchase of goods or services from Trustees, observes the guidance set out in the Academies Financial Handbook and its Financial Regulations and Scheme of Delegation document and complies with company law and charity law.

The following related party transaction took place in the period:

During the year ended 31 August 2020 the Trust had donations receivable totalling £156,570 (2019: £121,497) from Knowledge Schools Foundation Trust, a company and registered charity that shares some common Trustees with Knowledge Schools Trust.

During the twelve months ended 31 August 2020 the Trust paid for staffing services provided by KST Enterprises, a wholly owned subsidiary of Knowledge Schools Trust. The value of services paid for was £105,207 (Four months to 31 August 2019: £9,072). At 31 August 2020, KSTE owed KST a net unsecured amount of £8,683. (2019: £217 owed by KST).

30. NON-CONSOLIDATION OF WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY - KST ENTERPRISES

The financial statements presented are for the Knowledge Schools Trust. Consolidated accounts including the wholly owned subsidiary, KST Enterprises, have not been prepared as the activity of KST Enterprises during the four months of operation is not material. KST owns 100% of the ordinary shares in KSTE. The nominal value of the shares amounts to £1. For the sixteen months ending 31 August 2020 KSTE made a profit of £7,422. The net assets of KSTE at 31 August 2020 were £7,423.

31. AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2020 the academy trust received £23,622 and disbursed £8,387 from the fund. An amount of £15,235 is in included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that may be repayable to ESFA. Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2019 are £22,100 received, £22,100 disbursed with £18,008 income carried forward from the year needed 31 August 2018 included in other creditors. £18,008 was repaid to the ESFA on 1 October 2019.

32. PRIOR YEAR STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed asset Funds £	Total 2019 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities	3	-	173,936	252,038	425,974
Funding for the Trust's educational operations	4	-	10,489,379	-	10,489,379
Other trading activities	5	312,468	144,743	-	457,211
Investments	6	1,075	-	-	1,075
Total		313,543	10,808,058	252,038	11,373,639
Expenditure on:				.	
Charitable activities	7.0		40 627 022	4 424 045	42.040.000
Trust's educational operations	7,8		10,627,023	1,421,845 	12,048,868
Total		-	10,627,203	1,421,845	12,048,868
Net incoming resources before transfers		313,543	181,035	(1,169,807)	(675,229)
Gross transfers between funds	16	-	(145,705)	145,705	-
Net income for the year		313,543	35,330	(1,024,102)	(675,729)
Other recognised gains and losses Actuarial gains/(losses) on					
defined benefit pension schemes	27	-	(395,000)	-	(359,000)
Net movement in funds		313,543	(359,670)	(1,024,102)	(1,070,229)
Reconciliation of funds Funds brought forward at 1 September 2018		472,868	(358,361)	60,090,158	60,204,665
Funds carried forward at 31 August 2019		786,411	(718,031)	59,066,056	59,134,436