

Registered number: 07625556

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020



MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Members

Charles Elly	Chairman
Annabel Nicoll	
Deborah Eyre	
Peter Holding	Advisor

Directors and Trustees

Mr I Duguid	Chairman
Mrs C Redcliffe	Chair of Governors - Sir William Borlase's Grammar School
Mr R Krajewski	
Mr A Handford	Chair of Beechview Academy Governors, LGB – to which appointed 11 October 2018
Dr P Holding	Advisor

Executive

Dr P Holding	Executive Head of Beechview. Chief Operating Officer ("COO") and Accounting Officer
Mrs C McLeod	Chief Financial Officer

Company Secretary

C S McLeod

Senior Management Team

Dr P Holding	COO and Accounting Officer
Mr A Blackmore	Head Teacher Beechview Academy
Ms K Mountfield	Head Teacher Sir William Borlase's Grammar School
Mrs C McLeod	Business Manager and Chief Financial Officer

Company Name

Marlow Education Trust

Principal and Registered Office

Marlow Education Trust, West Street, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 2BR

Company Registered Number

07625556 (England and Wales)

Independent Auditor

MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Abbey Place, 24 - 28 Easton Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP11 1NT

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc, 17 High Street, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 1AJ

Solicitors

Veale Wasbrough Vizards, Orchard Court, Orchard Lane, Bristol, BS1 5WS

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2019 -31 August 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

Marlow Education Trust ("Trust") is a Multi Academy Trust ("MAT") which operates two academies:

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School ("SWBGS") – an academy for pupils aged 11 to 19 with a catchment area covering Marlow, South Buckinghamshire and Maidenhead in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead. It has a pupil capacity of 920 and had a roll of 1,086 in the school census on 5 October 2019; and

Beechview Academy ("Beechview") – a primary academy for pupils aged 6 to 11 with catchment area in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. It has a pupil capacity of 240 and had a roll of 198 in the school census on 5 October 2019.

From a governance perspective, each of the academies within the trust are governed by Local Governing Bodies ("LGB") who work to agreed schemes of delegation ("SoDs" – which are available on the individual academy's websites) and hold the head of that academy to account. The LGB's, in turn, are accountable to the Trustees/Directors of the Trust. The remainder of this report is written from the perspective of the Trust being a multi academy trust.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

Marlow Education Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Trust.

The Trustees of Marlow Education Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1 - 2.

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

Trustees and Directors benefit from indemnity insurance to cover the liability which, by virtue of any rule of law, would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the MAT. The cost of this insurance in the year was £201 (2019: £193).

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The Articles of Association of the Trust require the makeup of the Directors/Trustees to be as follows:

Subject to Articles 48-49 and 53, the Trust shall have the following Trustees:

- a. up to 7 Trustees (but not less than three), appointed under Article 50; and
- b. a minimum of 2 Parent Trustees elected or appointed under Articles 53-56 in the event that no Local Governing Bodies are established under article 100a or if no provision is made for at least 2 Parent Local Governors on each established Local Governing Body pursuant to Article 101A; and
- c. subject to Article 57, the Chief Executive Officer
- d. The Academy Trust may also have any Co-opted Trustee appointed under Article 58.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees (continued)

The Members may appoint, by ordinary resolution, up to 7 Trustees.

The total number of Trustees including the Chief Executive Officer, if they so choose to act as Trustee under Article 57, who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

The term of office for any Trustee shall be four years, save that this time limit shall not apply to any post which is held ex officio. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee may be re-appointed or re-elected.

Members will review the skill set of the Trustee body and invite individuals with appropriate skills to join the body as appropriate.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary induction will provide training on charity, educational, legal and financial matters. Training is available to all Trustees via GovernorHub.

All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Governors.

Induction is provided informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

Organisational Structure

The Trust Management is organised in four levels: the Trust executive, individual academies' LGBs, individual academies' Senior Leadership Teams ("SLT") and individual academies' Budget Holders.

The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. The LGBs are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring their Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. In addition, each LGB is responsible for holding to account the head teacher and their academy in line with agreed SoDs.

The Trust executive has overall executive responsibility for the Trust's activities including approving the financial procedures under which the Academies' finances operate. Much of the responsibility for financial activities has been delegated to the Chief Finance Officer who works alongside each academy's SLT.

The Head Teachers of individual academies are responsible for the appointment of all staff with the exception of the SLT and Heads of Departments, which is performed in conjunction with the Local Governors.

The local SLTs control the individual Academy at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the LGBs and reporting back to them.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The LGBs, subject to their individual SoD, make pay decisions in accordance with the 'key principles of public life': objectivity openness and accountability. It recognises the requirement for a fair and transparent policy to determine the pay and grading for all staff employed at the Academy, having regard to the conditions of service under which staff are employed and relevant statutory requirements. Pay decisions will take account of the resources available to the Academy. The staffing structure will support the School Development Plan. The LGBs will exercise their discretionary powers using fair, transparent and objective criteria in order to secure a consistent approach in pay decisions.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel (continued)

The Head Teachers' reviews will be done by the LGB, subject to their individual SoDs. The LGB will agree performance objectives relating to school leadership and management and pupil progress with the Head teacher, taking account of the advice of an appointed adviser. The objectives will be agreed as early as possible in the Autumn Term; a Review Committee will review the performance of the Head Teacher annually against the performance objectives and may award increments in accordance with "School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document", with particular regard to leadership, management and pupil progress.

The Trust Directors review the performance and salaries of Trust Executives (COO and CFO) in accordance with the principles above.

The Trust Directors delegate to the individual Head Teachers, subject to SoDs, the agreement of performance objectives relating to individual school leadership, management and pupil progress with their SLT's. School Improvement Plan ("SIP") objectives will be agreed and reported to the LGBs as early as possible in the Autumn Term. The Head Teacher will review SLT salaries against performance annually.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
	0

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	0
1%-50%	
51%-99%	
100%	

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	£0
Provide the total pay bill	
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) x 100	

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities such as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period ÷ total paid facility time hours) x 100	0%
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Marlow Education Trust is not controlled by a third party.

Marlow Education Trust has a controlling interest in the Sir William Borlase's Grammar School – School Fund, a charity (Charity Number 1096750) set up to support the education of pupils attending Sir William Borlase's Grammar School.

The School Fund transactions are combined within these financial statements.

Although it does not have a controlling interest, Marlow Education Trust has strong connections with the following organisations:

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School Trust (Charity Number 310623);
Sir William Borlase's Grammar School Parent Association (Charity Number 279085);
Sir William Borlase's Grammar School Rowing Parent Support Group (Charity Number 1092936);
Marlow and District Schools' Boathouse Trust (Charity Number 1160539);
The Beechview School Fund (Charity Number 1130987).
Marlow Sports Club (Charity Number 1139862).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and Aims

The principal object and aim of the Trust "establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing academies offering a broad and balanced curriculum"

The Trust and all academies aspire to deliver an exceptional quality of teaching and learning. They promote high expectations for both staff and students and encourage maximum effort, intellectual curiosity and independence of mind. By fostering a spirit with a strong ethos of consideration, the whole school community works together to create accomplished and well-rounded young people in a safe environment.

The board has considered its effectiveness, especially in relation to the following areas, roles and responsibilities of Directors, Governors and Senior Leadership, assessment of the new Governors' days and in building and establishing relationships within the wider Marlow community, with a view to broaden MAT expansion for the future.

The board was satisfied that quality data was being produced by both academies in the Trust, and it will continue to use this data to drive improvements across the Trust.

Public Benefit

The Trustees of the Trust have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on Public Benefit published by the Charity Commission when defining and reviewing their aims and objectives and undertaking the charity's activities.

The activities undertaken to further the Trust's purpose for the Public Benefit is to provide education for its pupils.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Marlow Education Trust

The Trust's long-term aim is to work with the various schools and academies in our neighbouring community to develop a group of which work together to deliver the best outcomes for each pupil, whatever their ability, background or needs. Over the past three years, the trustees worked with the governing bodies of many of these schools to see if common ground could be found to see a much closer working relationship and ideally within one multi academy trust – be that Marlow Education Trust or otherwise. In fact, one of the primary schools in Marlow had indicated an intention to join the Trust but the decision to make a formal commitment remains untaken.

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STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Marlow Education Trust

Therefore, whilst our objective remains the same, we have had to accept that the journey to joining with us is a decision not easily taken by others for whom the perceived risks currently outweigh the benefits. We have decided to focus on developing the relationships between the academies within the Trust and the local schools/academies on a practical daily basis for the time-being. Strategic alliances will likely develop out of this but, for now, the Trust executive maintains a watching brief as regards MAT expansion.

The board continues to focus its attention on seeing improvements in both its current academies and, in particular, to drive the Executive Head Teacher and the LGB of Beechview to deliver improvements, as quickly as possible, especially in the areas of teaching and learning.

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School.

Our Vision and Purpose: Inspire, empower to shape the Future

Our Aims: To stay Safe and Well; To deliver the Curriculum in a COVID environment.

To deliver a rich, challenging curriculum.

To create opportunities to excite and open minds.

To recruit, grow and develop passionate specialist teachers.

To maintain a happy, supportive community (at school and having an impact beyond Borlase)

The strategic vision of Sir William Borlase's Grammar School is to inspire and empower all its learners to have the skills, knowledge, qualifications and personal qualities to shape the future; their own and in so doing, the future of the world around them. The school is proud of the many different pathways its students follow, empowered to take up places in the most competitive universities, conservatoires, specialist colleges and apprenticeships. The school is equally proud of the positive role so many Borlasians play in their community while at school and in their adult lives.

The LGB and SLT are committed to continuous review of the school's priorities and performance to ensure it is always moving forward, improving and providing an inspirational education for all its learners.

Ofsted and external verification

OFSTED 2012 - Outstanding, all areas

DFE designated MFL Hub 2019, reconfirmed 2020

Designated Teaching School 2017, reconfirmed 2020

World Class School, High Performance Learning 2019

Challenge Partners Teaching and Learning Review 2020 - Exceeding, all areas.

Curriculum

The school offers a rich and broad curriculum introducing Year 7 and 8 pupils to a wide range of creative arts subjects taught by specialists alongside a challenging, exciting core curriculum. In Year 9, students start their KS4 courses which are enriched with deeper learning beyond the specifications and opportunities for practical exploration and independent projects. At KS5 students can choose from a wide range of subjects and extension opportunities. All academic learning encourages creativity, intellectual curiosity and independent research.

In 2019/20 the school reviewed its curriculum considering breadth, challenge, intent, implementation and impact.

Recent introductions this year include a new PSHE programme; KS3 RS, Philosophy and Ethics; Food taught through MFL and Production Arts into DT.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

Wider Opportunities

The school offers wider opportunities to excite and open the minds of students. These include a wider range of super curricular activities to extend and deepen academic learning and extra-curricular activities in sport, the arts, Duke of Edinburgh, computing, thinking games and much more. Even in the current COVID environment the school is committed to maintaining the cultural life of the school.

Culture and Character

The school has a strong culture built on the distinctive values that form the Borlase character.

Aspiration, Enthusiasm, Integrity, Responsibility, Respect, Courage and Kindness

There is a genuine enthusiasm for learning and for participation in wider activities that is visible across the school. The school's House system encourages a family identity and friendly competitiveness. The students are proud of the school's traditions and committed to its values. Senior students create opportunities for juniors, leading clubs and societies and contribute generously of their time to mentoring others, in younger years and their own. The Tutor Programme has been redesigned and places an emphasis on the school's values including developing a greater understanding of Equalities and Diversity.

The school is involved with a number of school support programmes, most significantly via the MFL Hub. The school has primary mentoring programmes at several local primary schools including Beechview. We have led projects with PP children in three primary schools to try and widen access. The mechanisms for this are being reviewed in the current climate.

Teaching and Learning

The school recruits, grows and retains passionate, specialist teachers. Weekly professional development training has further strengthened the commitment to continuous improvement and leading the way in research-led teaching and learning strategies. The school's key priorities are always linked to taking teaching and learning forward. The school's approach is expressed through The Borlase Learner Framework developing independent, resilient learners able to understand how they learn.

COVID 19 Provision of Education

The school is particularly proud of its response to the imposed lockdown of 2020. Already a BYOD school with an IT infrastructure supporting the Google Suite of learning tools, SLT and teachers very swiftly set up and implemented a virtual school including daily live tutor time and daily lessons. Attendance and engagement were excellent and Key Worker School supported KW children and any with social or emotional needs. Teaching and Learning pedagogy for online learning developed significantly through weekly training sessions for teachers and much of this is still valuable in the school environment. Examination students are in a strong position having been taught throughout lockdown and assessments since returning have identified support which is being implemented.

Academic Success

The school has improved year on year in its academic performance at GCSE and A Level.

GCSE Results

	2018	2019	2020
Number of candidates	140	139	135
Total number of entries	1345	1363	1329
Average points per GCSE (Note 1) (A*=58, A=52, B=46, C=40, D=34)	51.8	7.2	7.3
Average attainment 8 score per pupil	73.7	7.4	7.4
% 9	19.6	22.0	24.4
%8/9	43.3	47.5	51.4
%7-9	67.9	70.21	74.87
Progress 8 score		0.56	0.32

Note 1: Changes to the marking of GCSEs from A* to D to a 9-1 ranking were gradually introduced in the summers 2018; the transfer was completed in 2019. The 2018 figures were adjusted under the old system. The 2019 data is the format that will be followed in the future.

Note 2: No exams were sat due to Covid, therefore Centre Assessed Grades were used.

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STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

A2 Results

	2018	2019	2020
Number of candidates	213	202	207
Total number of entries	656	624	626
Average point score per A level entry (A*=60, A=50, B=40, C=30, D=20, E=10)	42.6	43.7	45.7
% A*	12.7	18.4	20.6
% A* - B	46.3	50.3	56.6
% A* - C	77.0	77.7	83.2

Key Performance Indicators

Year ended 31 August	2018	2019	2020
Donations as % of Income (Excluding capital funding)	3%	4%	2.5%
Teaching staff costs per pupil £000s	£3,300	£3,420	£2,883
Support staff costs per pupil	£504	£708	£811

School Priorities

The SLT identifies its school improvement priorities annually and shares them with all staff and governors. For 2020/21 they focus specific elements within: Curriculum; Attainment and Progress; Culture and Character; Collaboration and Outreach and the Learning Environment.

This year there are two additional and overriding priorities: keeping everyone safe and well and delivering the school curriculum in a COVID 19 environment. This is considered in all aspects of school life and planning.

The school has developed its SEND team with the Head of Year 11 qualifying as a SENDco and a member of MFL qualifying as a Specialist Teacher. This will enable us to invest this year on further improving SEND provision. There are action research projects led by SLT in SEND, Attitude to Learning and Underachievement and Google Education. The school is embedding Equalities & Diversity and Careers Education across the curriculum, building on the wealth of provision beyond the curriculum.

The school's MFL Hub is creating resources in Spanish, French and German for the Oak Academy and supporting the teaching and learning of primary and secondary children across the country. The school hopes to resume wider school support programmes in the current covid context.

Buildings and Learning Environment

The school has been delighted with its recent success with Condition Improvement Funding bids and bids to the DfE and Buckinghamshire. We have seen roofs replaced on the Cloisters this year and the second phase of this programme has started. We have had new heating installed and older windows reconditioned. Following successful bids of 1.8, 1.7 and 1.3 million we have a new Astroturf, Netball Courts and our Sports Hall is due to open in March. We are entering a fundraising programme to reach our target for the next phase of building, expanding our catering and toilet facilities as well as developing new classrooms and learning support. The school has started its work towards celebrating the school's 400th birthday with the conversion of a room in the Cloisters into an archive room.

COVID 19 has driven significant changes to the school environment. The school has made changes to its systems, structures and timings; erected temporary marquees and repurposed many rooms in order to keep the school open safely.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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Key Performance Indicators (continued)

Beechview Academy

Beechview's aim is to improve academic outcomes and raise the historic low expectations for all our children so that they are able to reach their full potential, not just while they are at Beechview but for the years ahead, in secondary, further education and the workplace. We feel strongly about the responsibility and the part we play in their early years.

Milestones in the past two years. At our last Ofsted inspection, in June 2019, we were graded Requires Improvement, which was a major milestone in the school's recovery from long term Ofsted failure. Ofsted recognised the work that had been undertaken in the two previous years, and acknowledged that there were clear plans for further improvement.

- The school has made major strides in tackling behaviour and attendance. Beechview's overall attendance figures are now above national averages, with over 96% attendance last year, and with very low levels of unauthorised or persistent absence. Behaviour is now consistently good among all children, with clear and consistent application of our behaviour policy. There are very few incidents of major behaviour problems and there were no significant instances of bullying last year.
- The introduction of a new governor with specific experience in, and responsibility for, Safeguarding has also strengthened this crucial area of our work.
- The introduction of two new Parent Governors will further strengthen our ties to the community and improve the quality of our communications.
- Our focus on a holistic approach to the children's welfare encompasses concern for their home care, their diet and their overall health. Our Breakfast Club is offered free for all children and we consistently see in excess of 90 children (circa half the school) in attendance. The Club also gives us access to early signs of children's difficulties, and provides an informal setting for tackling everything from welfare to literacy.

In the past 18 months our major focus has been on improving the quality of both teaching and learning. We have now replaced all unqualified teaching staff with fully qualified teachers. Our Senior Leadership Team has undertaken extensive training, building from a position of huge inexperience to one of relatively strong experience across all areas. Our Literacy and Numeracy performance figures (see below) put us well below the national expected standards so whilst a 35% improvement year on year is a fantastic achievement, we have to move fast to continue to improve.

Results

In 2017 the "combined" figure for Reading, Writing and Maths stood at 28%. Over the past three years this has improved steadily and the projected figures for 2019 were 55%. While still well below national averages, given the significant areas of deprivation combined with high levels of children with SEND needs, this marks real progress on our way towards achieving at least national averages. The three major KPIs for the school remain largely unchanged:

1. Financial stability, moving away from in year deficits by 2022.
2. Improvement pupil recruitment, in order to bring the cohort up to between 230 and capacity of 240, by 2023. (This is clearly linked to the financial targets)
3. Achieving Ofsted Good at our next inspection which will be achieved by moving our academic results to parity with national averages by 2023.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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Key Performance Indicators (continued)

Beechview Academy.

Results (continued)

Our Partnership in Excellence ("PiXL") membership has sharpened the school's focus on and use of, high quality data to monitor pupil performance, and, crucially, has sharpened our interventions on those who are not thriving as expected.

We work in close collaboration with the Local Authority, who have sponsored leadership support for the past two years, via their Side by Side project. These Side by Side consultants provide challenge and training to teachers. We have also developed further collaboration with local schools, with Continuing Professional Development links with SWBGS, St Michael's, Danesfield, Aspire and our partner Infant School, Marsh Infants, all taking place over the past 18 months.

Major improvements to the school's Health and Safety and general environment have been achieved through government condition improvement funding ("CIF") over the last three years, with a full overhaul of the school's fire protection systems, complete replacement of the water supply, new roofing across the majority of the school's buildings and installation of a full perimeter fencing around the site as the most significant improvements. This has been combined with a judicious programme of internal works, so that every part of the school has been refurbished in the past 18 months as well as a range of other improvements to the working environment.

Results

KS2 % at least at the expected standard	Reading/Writing TA/ Maths		
	2018	2019	2020
Beechview	28	38	55
Buckinghamshire	66	66	Tbc
National	64	65	Tbc

GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, especially into the impact of the current Covid pandemic, the board of trustees 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.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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FINANCIAL REVIEW

In a challenging year financially, both Academies in the MAT maintained spending in line with the budgets set whilst delivering an outstanding educational experience to our pupils. The trust delivered a surplus of £2,970,314 excluding pension reserves. This balance includes the recognition of £3,104,429 of capital grants and CIF income that is restricted for use for our capital projects. The income is recognised in the year as per the statutory requirements but the actual expenditure that relates to it will not be incurred until the next academic year.

At our SWB academy, our focus in the later part of the academic year was directed towards achieving an outstanding remote learning experience for our pupils during lockdown and any subsequent self-isolation and on preparing a Covid secure setting for our pupils to return to when the schools reopened. We suffered negatively from a substantial drop in our letting income, representing 42% drop from last year. We were fortunate that our donations, mostly from parents, remain largely unaffected. On-going expenses to keep our school Covid secure are expected to continue into the next financial year.

At our BV academy our focus was on support the families through the lockdown, especially those experiencing financial challenges, with extra help for supplies and equipment to help them achieve some form of home learning. On site, the work to prepare for a return to school was their focus.

The Trust was able to reclaim £26,000 Covid related cost from the Department of Education but was left with the need to support more cost in our accounts. Our ongoing running costs have increased to enable us to operate safely during the pandemic.

The benefits of sharing resources, including specialist staff, within the MAT, enabled resources to be channeled into improving teaching and learning, especially at Beechview.

We were successful with three of our Condition Improvement Funding bids this year, and this enabled us to proceed with Phase two for SWB roofing and water distribution/heating projects. BV was able to proceed with a Safeguarding project to improving the security fencing to the whole school site.

Our Secondary School Expansion Funding grant (to develop the site to accommodate an extra form of entry) enabled SWB to start the build of a new and much improved Sports Hall. This will free up other buildings which will be redesigned to allow extra classrooms and space for the extra pupils.

During the year, we continued to monitor and evaluate our staffing costs against efficiency and effectiveness metrics, with the aim to achieve that optimum balance of resources relative to teaching and support staff and pupil numbers.

Finance and Audit issues are reviewed by the Trust's Finance and Audit Working Group ("FAWG") which takes recommendations to the MAT Board for agreement and approval. The FAWG is chaired by a director and has representatives from each of the LGBs and is attended by the Trust's chief financial officer with an open invitation to the heads of each of the academies in the Trust. The FAWG's purpose is to consider and make recommendations in respect of all financial matters relating to the academies, including the setting of annual and strategic budgets; overseeing the financial management and procedures and ensuring compliance with legislation and ESFA policy.

The majority of day to day financial administration and control is delegated to the individual academies in line with their SoDs.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

IMPACT OF COVID-19 VIRUS

The Covid pandemic has negatively impacted the Trust's ability to foster formal collaborations and to take the MAT discussions forward across the local community.

Both Headteachers are in regular contact with their liaison groups. The Head of SWBGS meets regularly with the other Headteachers in Marlow via Zoom. These are our target group for formal collaboration. However, in this climate, inevitably relationships are focusing on practical support for one another e.g. providing face masks from DT; supporting the setup of virtual learning; sharing challenges and solutions.

Impact on our school to school collaborations within the MET.

The Sixth Form mentoring scheme where SWB students work 1-2-1 with BV children is not possible. SWB staff visiting the school for collaborative projects is not possible. The extension of the exam teaching window for years 11 and 13 ties up teachers who may have contributed to summer support projects. So, fundamentally, at the moment the two major mechanisms for fostering collaborations across the MET have been suspended.

Exploring Solutions.

The two schools are exploring transferring the mentoring system to an online version.
There may be a possibility of a summer remote learning PP Project.

Borlase

Borlase has lost significant income from lettings of the theatre, sports, dance and other school spaces.

All events that raise income for the school have been suspended. Concerts, parents, alumni, events etc have all been cancelled. The Trustees are monitoring the situation and are aware that in the current year, contributions to the operation of the school will be reduced; the budget submitted reflected the anticipated loss in income.

Virus control measures have led to additional costs;

relating to staffing - the school is employing additional cover for covering absenteeism and teachers teaching remotely, or off site due to self-isolation.

relating to technology - to run a successful virtual school, the school has had to invest in visualisers, better microphones and speakers, some lap-tops for staff and students, software, cameras and webcams.

relating to cleaning and hygiene - the school employs a cleaner who cleans toilets and touch points around the school on a rolling programme across the day, the school is spending significant amounts on cleaning fluids, sanitizer, paper towels etc.

relating to Covid secure working - the desks of all staff have been encased in Perspex, outdoor sinks and hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed around school, additional indoor spaces Borlase has hired three large marquees and repurposed a number of communal spaces, having to set up IT infrastructure.

relating to utilities bills - the windows and doors are permanently open, increasing the need for heating.

Changes to Systems

The school day has been changed to minimise the number of lessons a student attends and the number of transitions. All breaks have become staggered to separate year groups, generating a significant number of supervisory duties. All staff are involved with supervision of students.

Lessons are now longer. This has required training of staff at all levels.

Curriculum

The school is managing to deliver the curriculum successfully following the considerable amount of work undertaken through the virtual school. Sequencing of teaching has changed moving practical work into the Autumn term. Any gaps in learning have been identified, support is in place.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Beechview

Loss of Income through lettings – some lost income through external sports and summer camps over the summer.

Increase of costs owing to coronavirus precautions – These were relatively small at Beechview, mostly focusing on cleaning costs (staff and materials)

Impact on our operation: relatively small on a strategic basis, as we have been able to set up class and year bubbles, so our timetable is relatively unscathed. Our main impacts have been; a major catch up programme - we estimate roughly 25% of our children were unable consistently to access online learning during lock down.

some minor narrowing of the curriculum - we have temporarily suspended the teaching of MFL and Music in order to focus on core subjects during the catch up period. some additional staffing costs - we have employed additional teaching staff both to help us manage the catch up challenges and also to manage cover as we attempt to minimise contacts outside of class bubbles. Our other major project is to strengthen the existing limited capacity for distance and blended learning. This cannot be live lessons owing to access issues, a significant percentage of our children have not been able to access remotely at all, and others have limited access.

For both academies the Trustees will closely monitoring the school operational performance; the expectation is that the usual funding from Government will remain unaffected by the Covid pandemic but that extra income from external means may continue to suffer. The additional expenses for virus control measures are likely to continue and it is uncertain whether there will be any additional grants to cover these expenses. In the short term, reserves may need to be used to support activities at the customary level while cost control measures are explored.

NATIONAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS SUPPORT

Throughout the pandemic both schools have supported those families that are classed as FSM and any family that has notified the schools of difficulties. Free School Meal vouchers were provided and additional food parcels were delivered where needed.

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

The Accounting Officer is aware that value for money might be impacted in relation to utility bills for the current year. Covid secure measures require the ventilation of classrooms and working spaces and this will cause heating bills to increase as the Academies balance the need for ventilation and the need to have acceptable working/learning spaces that are not too cold for use.

Reserves Policy

Marlow Education Trust intends to spend its General Academy Grant ("GAG") income in the year in which it is received. To this end, Directors and Governors approve a neutral academy budget. Within individual academies, contingency reserves are maintained to ensure that emergencies can be appropriately managed. Contributions towards specific projects are collated and spent against projects set by the Governors. Larger projects may attract reserve accruals across financial reporting periods.

At 31 August 2020 the total funds comprised:

Unrestricted-		
SWB		23,183
BV		14,634
Restricted:	Fixed asset funds	24,024,234
	GAG	112,733
	Pension reserve	(3,820,000)
	Other	774,983
		<u>£21,129,767</u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Reserves Policy (continued)

Each school within the MAT should maintain reserves of at least the equivalent of one month's fixed costs (being broadly the all costs excluding IT and maintenance spend).

A surplus or deficit position of the pension scheme would generally result in a cash flow effect for the academy trust in the form of an increase or decrease in employers' pension contributions over a period of years.

Investment Policy

The financial instruments in which the Trust deals are mainly bank balances, cash, trade creditors and limited trade debtors. The Trust has not made any investments in the period other than holding the cash in its bank account (including a balance of cash on a rolling 90-day deposit to raise interest income). As such, there is minimal risk in the nature of the Trust's transactions.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The principal risks facing the Trust are:

Reputational risk – this is mitigated by high quality teaching, linked to excellent academic results, effective interventions to ensure high standards of pupil behaviour in and around the community, regular reporting to local Governors on all complaints from parents and the wider community, along with actions taken.

Performance risk – this is mitigated by strong professional development, effective systems for monitoring performance at all levels, an effective Performance Management system, monitored by local SLTs and local Governors.

Financial risk - The principal financial risks can arise from a reduction in pupil numbers, reduction in central government funding, unbudgeted increase in teaching or support staff costs, lack of staffing during the pandemic leading to school closures or unbudgeted major capital repairs. These are mitigated by:

- running a continuous programme of recruitment open events - targeting prospective pupils (and their parents) at all entry levels of the academy;
- the preparation of robust budgets at a neutral (or surplus) level;
- monitoring of expenditure and income by the Trust Directors, the FAWG, local SLTs and by the local Governors – against the budgets;
- internal reviews and external audits;
- managing an effective, maintenance and upkeep plan for the sites and facilities (overseen by the MAT buildings working group), coupled with adequate insurance against damage to property; and
- the successful set up of remote learning in our SWB academy will enable the Trust to respond positively even if staff shortages require closure of that academy

Risks associated with personnel are mitigated by high quality recruitment to ensure quality staff are employed, robust safeguarding procedures and effective risk assessment procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of staff. We have a strong cross MAT human resources team.

Regulatory risk - The principal risk here would be from any changes to regulations surrounding academies as charities and/or companies. These are mitigated by continual assessment by Directors and local Governors of regulation changes and robust adherence to DfE policies, along with continual advice from well informed professional legal and accountancy support.

The Trust practices, through its Board (principally via the LGBs and the constituted working groups), risk management principles such that any major risks highlighted at any LGB or sub-committee are brought to the main Board with proposed mitigating actions and they continue to be reported until the risk is adequately mitigated.

The Directors accept managed risk as an inevitable part of its operations but maintain the objective not to run unacceptable levels of risk in any area. The subjective nature of this process requires major risks to be resolved by the Directors and LGBs collectively, whilst more minor risks are dealt with by the SLTs of individual academies.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

FUNDRAISING

We make every effort to follow best practice, honesty and transparency in all our fundraising activities. Our activities are mainly performed by internal staff at each of our academies, with the exception of one-off projects, such as our Telethon and consent capture at SWBGS. Where we use the services of external consultants, their performance and approach is closely monitored and directed by our internal staff.

We ensure that our activities and those of our consultants conform to recognised standards, including the GDPR regulations. We approach our contacts in a respectful way, being aware of the total number of times we ask for support and taking care to respect the expressions for opt out that we keep up to date on our databases.

We have had no complaints about our fundraising practices and continue to be vigilant about protecting the public from unreasonably intrusive or persistent approaches. We never put pressure on people to donate.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Marlow Education Trust

The Trust's vision continues to be to develop a group of schools in Marlow and the surrounding area which work together to deliver the best outcomes for each pupil, whatever their ability, background or needs. Whilst, as noted in the strategic report above, we have suspended MAT expansion in the immediate future, we continue to prepare ourselves for this eventuality by focusing on the following priorities:

- To ensure good financial management, with a particular emphasis on achieving financial stability for Beechview Academy. This will largely be achieved through increasing pupil recruitment, as the school is currently undersubscribed.
- Fostering strong and working relationships between the academies within the MAT and the schools and academies, at both secondary and primary level, within Marlow and the surrounding area.

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School

The Academy is currently rated Outstanding by Ofsted. Our priority for future years is to maintain and build upon this in line with the school's vision "Inspire, Empower, to shape the Future". In order to do so, the school has identified the following development priorities:

- To deliver a rich, challenging curriculum in a Covid environment
- Continue to develop all our teachers as Outstanding Practitioners through an innovative research-based CPD programme.
- With our new Specialist Tutors in place, build on our Tutoring Programming and our PSHE provision, ensuring the highest quality of support for all pupils covering the key agendas of Careers, Equalities, use of Social Media and Emotional Health.
- Further develop our Fair Access programme through our Pupil premium Transition project and other collaborations.
- Continue working with 4 secondary schools in Buckinghamshire to raise attainment and uptake in MFL, within the limitations of the current climate.
- Further develop links with our primary schools to improve understanding of KS2 for curriculum development.
- Work in partnership with Great Marlow School to enhance our Rowing provision – we also continue to move forwards to developing a new joint boathouse.
- Complete our Capital Campaign to extend on-site sporting provision within the new Sports Hall mentioned above.
- To maintain a happy, supportive community (at school and having an impact beyond Borlase).

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (continued)

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School

The school will hope to be able to continue, in the current pandemic environment, to offer a wide range of extra-curricular and super-curricular opportunities:

- There are clubs and competitions for students across almost all academic subjects.
- The Arts are thriving with 10 choral ensembles, 9 large instrumental ensembles and a large number of Dance ensembles including a very strong boys Dance company. Our outstanding choirs have been invited to form in a number of external venues.
- A wide range of sports continues to be offered from elite National level Hockey to KS3 Cheerleading.
- Rowing continues to thrive with the numbers participating growing in all year groups. An ambitious programme of training is in place with clear goals for their season ahead. We have increasing numbers of rowers being invited to GB Trials and gaining success.
- Duke of Edinburgh programme has record numbers taking up Bronze, Silver and Gold awards; this year's Gold Expeditions took the students to Snowdonia and Albania.
- Model United Nations programme for our Year 9

The main focus of our wider curriculum development this year will be the strengthening of our Emotional Health and Wellbeing programmes.

Beechview Primary Academy

Beechview School was rated Requires Improvement at its recent Ofsted review. Its priority is to move as rapidly as possible to at least Good. To achieve this the school has identified the following priorities:

- To ensure that all pupils have access to the equipment needed in order to continue their education during the pandemic.
- Improve academic outcomes at KS2 to at least National Averages in all areas.
- Improve the quality of teaching to ensure that at least 70% of teaching is good or better.
- Improve the school's financial stability by increasing pupil recruitment to ensure that the school is no longer undersubscribed.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School Fund is an unincorporated Trust fund which was registered as a charity in the United Kingdom on 28 March 2003 (Charity Number 1096750). It is established to aid the advancement of education at Sir William Borlase's Grammar School by way of assisting in the provision of facilities for all pupils. The trustees the Marlow Education Trust are also trustees of this school fund charity. Monies held by the school fund charity held in a separate bank account from the Trust but are consolidated within these financial statements.

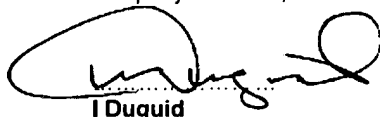
AUDITOR

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

MHA MacIntyre Hudson are deemed to be re-appointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

This Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 7 December 2020 and signed on the board's behalf by:


I Duguid
Chair of Directors/Trustees

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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 Trust directors/trustees have delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Trust COO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned in the funding agreement between the Trust's Academies and the Secretary of State for Education. The Head teachers are also responsible for reporting to their LGB any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The directors / trustees have formally met 3 times during the year. Local governing bodies have met and attendance during the year at meetings were as set out below:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr I Duguid (Chairman)	3	3
Mr A Handford	3	3
Mr R Krajewski	3	3
Mrs C Redcliffe	3	3

Sir William Borlase's Grammar School's local governing body has formally met times during the year and attendance at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr H Bethell (Resigned 05.10.20)	3	5
Dr E Bridges (Appointed 12.11.19)	4	4
Mrs A Brown (Resigned 05.10.20)	5	5
Mr W Evans (Appointed 16.10.19)	4	4
Mr K Gale	5	5
Mrs K Kennedy	5	5
Mr R Krajewski (Appointed 17.10.19)	4	4
Mr H Miall	4	5
Mr S Miall	5	5
Prof G Morgan (Resigned 29.09.19)	0	0
Mr T Presho (Resigned 19.10.20)	3	5
Mrs C Redcliffe (Chair)	5	5
Mr P Sharp	5	5
Mrs G Towell (Appointed 12.11.19)	4	4

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

GOVERNANCE (continued)

Beechview's local governing body has formally met 3 times during the year and attendance at meetings was as follows:

Trustee		Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs M Bovington	(Staff Governor)	2	3
Mr A Coulthard		3	3
Ms B Day		3	3
Mrs C Dollin		3	3
Mr A Handford	(Chair)	2	3
Ms J Lawson	(Appointed 24.9.19)	3	3
Mrs E Meeking	(Appointed 24.9.19)	3	3
A Perveen		2	3
P Rowe		3	3

Attendance at Finance and Audit working Group meetings in the year was as follows:

	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr R Krajewski	8	8
Mr K Gale	8	8
Mrs C Dollin	6	8

The majority of day to day administration and control is delegated to the individual academies in line with their SoDs (which are available on each academy's website).

The board has considered their effectiveness, especially in relation to the following areas: roles and responsibilities of Directors, Governors and Senior Leadership; assessment of the new Governors' days; and in building and establishing relationships within the wider Marlow community, with a view to broaden MAT expansion for the future. The board continued to drive the Executive Head Teacher and the LGB of Beechview to deliver improvements, as quickly as possible, especially in the areas of teaching and learning.

The board was satisfied that quality data was being produced by both academies in the Trust, and it will continue to use this data to drive improvements across the Trust.

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

The Trust Board has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. Operationally, the accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcome achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Trust has worked to improve the use of its resources in the following ways:

By developing projects that will provide better value for money through economies of scale. These projects include our developing collaborations, both formal and informal, between academies within the Trust and with other schools.

By continuing to generate efficiencies in our curricular provision, particularly focusing on the sixth form. This has included a careful review of the range and number of A level subjects on offer at SWBGS and of the opportunities to offer a wider variety of courses through our membership of the South Bucks Consortium.

Constant review of the value for money of all school contracts.

Use of benchmark data for costs to ascertain areas of strength or areas with potential for improvement.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Marlow Education Trust for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Trust board has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the MAT board.

THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Trust board;
- regular reviews by the finance and audit working group of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Trust board has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. The FAWG undertakes the role of the Audit Committee. During the reporting period, a representative from MHA MacIntyre Hudson has conducted four Financial Process Reviews and reported their findings to the FAWG. Their report then feeds back to the MAT Board and the LGBs on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of financial responsibilities. The FAWG considered each report from MHA MacIntyre Hudson and their recommendations.

Checks carried out during the year:

- testing of payroll systems
- grants and trip income
- testing of purchase and receivable systems
- testing of control account/bank reconciliations

On a half yearly basis, the responsible officer reports to the MAT board, through the FAWG on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. For future years the revised FRC Ethical Standard for auditors will mean that the Trust will review its arrangements for the deliverance of its internal review.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

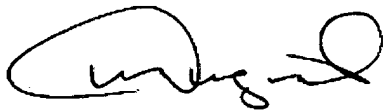
REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

As accounting officer, the Chief Operating Officer has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the period in question the review has been informed by:

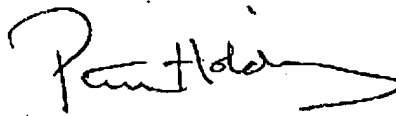
- the work of the staff within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the work of the external auditor; and
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the FAWG and a plan to address any weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 7 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
I Duguid
Chair of Trustees



.....
P A Holding
Accounting Officer

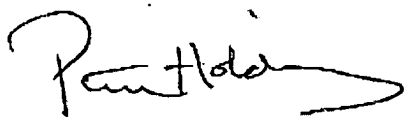
MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

As Accounting Officer of Marlow Education 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's academies 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's 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 academies' 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 ESFA.



.....
P A Holding
Accounting officer

07 December 2020

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

The Trustees (who 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 Academies 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. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of 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:

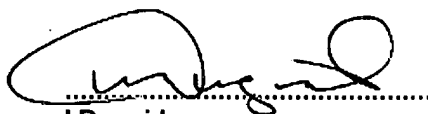
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting 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 with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from 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 and signed on its behalf by:



I Duguid
Chair of Trustees
Date: 7 December 2020

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Marlow Education Trust (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, 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 2019 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 Academy 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 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 Academy 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 Academy 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.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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, the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report, the Governance Statement, the Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance and the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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 Trustees Report including the Strategic 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 Academy 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.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Responsibilities of trustees

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

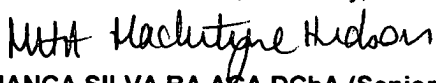
Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 Academy 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 Academy Trust's 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 Academy Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.


BIANCA SILVA BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of
MHA MacIntyre Hudson

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Abbey Place
24-28 Easton Street
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP11 1NT

Date: 21 January 2021

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 October 2020 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 Marlow Education 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 Marlow Education Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Marlow Education 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 Marlow Education Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Marlow Education Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Marlow Education Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 September 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.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

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 Academy 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 Trust, with reference to the income streams and other information available to us as auditors of the Academy Trust;
- 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, and testing as appropriate;
- making appropriate enquires of the Accounting Officer.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests 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 MacIntyre Hudson

Reporting Accountant

MHA MacIntyre Hudson

Abbey Place
24-28 Easton Street
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP11 1NT

Date: 21 January 2021

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	214,365	3,135,115	3,349,480	2,952,205
Charitable activities	4	-	7,142,097	-	7,142,097	7,177,323
Teaching schools	30	-	94,150	-	94,150	59,948
Other trading activities	5	27,941	51,107	-	79,048	238,303
Investments	6	1,605	-	-	1,605	1,797
Total income		29,546	7,501,719	3,135,115	10,666,380	10,429,576
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	8	10,118	7,553,189	348,864	7,912,171	7,920,824
Teaching schools	30	-	92,895	-	92,895	55,846
Total expenditure	7	10,118	7,646,084	348,864	8,005,066	7,976,670
Net income/(expenditure)		19,428	(144,365)	2,786,251	2,661,314	2,452,906
Transfers between funds	17	(240,855)	(40,068)	280,923	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	(552,000)	-	(552,000)	(400,000)
Net movement in funds		(221,427)	(736,433)	3,067,174	2,109,314	2,052,906
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		259,244	(2,195,851)	20,957,059	19,020,452	16,967,546
Net movement in funds		(221,427)	(736,433)	3,067,174	2,109,314	2,052,906
Total funds carried forward		37,817	(2,932,284)	24,024,233	21,129,766	19,020,452

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 32 to 63 form part of these financial statements.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07625556

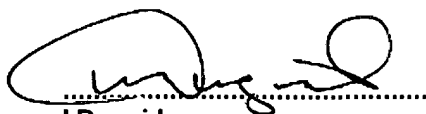
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		21,837,690		19,600,986
			<u>21,837,690</u>		<u>19,600,986</u>
Current assets					
Debtors	14	2,684,478		2,751,059	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,266,816		1,330,996	
		<u>3,951,294</u>		<u>4,082,055</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(815,084)		(1,698,895)	
Net current assets			<u>3,136,210</u>		<u>2,383,160</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>24,973,900</u>		<u>21,984,146</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(24,134)		(4,694)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	25		(3,820,000)		(2,959,000)
Total net assets			<u><u>21,129,766</u></u>		<u><u>19,020,452</u></u>
Funds of the Academy Trust					
Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	17	24,024,233		20,957,059	
Restricted income funds	17	887,716		763,149	
Pension reserve	17	(3,820,000)		(2,959,000)	
Total restricted funds	17		<u>21,091,949</u>		<u>18,761,208</u>
Unrestricted income funds	17		<u>37,817</u>		<u>259,244</u>
Total funds			<u><u>21,129,766</u></u>		<u><u>19,020,452</u></u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

The financial statements on pages 28 to 63 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 07 December 2020 and are signed on their behalf, by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I Duguid', is written over a horizontal dotted line.

I Duguid
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 32 to 63 form part of these financial statements.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	19	(615,898)	(1,225,614)
Cash flows from investing activities	21	554,846	1,162,342
Cash flows from financing activities	20	(3,128)	(3,128)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(64,180)	(66,400)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,330,996	1,397,396
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22,23	1,266,816	1,330,996
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The notes on pages 32 to 63 form part of these financial statements

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which 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 Department for Education Group.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

- **Grants**

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

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

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

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 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 Academy Trust to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.6 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.7 Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 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.

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold and long leasehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold property	-	2% per annum on cost (buildings only)
Long leasehold property	-	2% per annum on cost (buildings only)
Equipment	-	15% per annum on cost
Motor vehicles	-	15% per annum on cost
Computer equipment	-	20% per annum on cost

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 incorporating Income and Expenditure Account.

1.9 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.10 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.11 Liabilities and provisions

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

Provisions are recognised when the Academy 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 benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. 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 risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. 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 notes 15 and 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.

1.13 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy Trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS"). These are defined benefit schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit 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 net income/(expenditure) are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.14 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing Schools Direct grants from the DfE to partner schools. Payments received from DfE and subsequent payments to partner schools are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Academy Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 27.

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

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 or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, 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.

Critical areas of judgement:

The judgments that have had a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements are those concerning the choice of depreciation policies and asset lives.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Donations	214,365	-	214,365
DfE/ESFA capital grants	-	1,529,115	1,529,115
Other grants	-	-	-
Selective school expansion funding	-	1,606,000	1,606,000
	<u>214,365</u>	<u>3,135,115</u>	<u>3,349,480</u>

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Donations	85,850	-	85,850
DfE/ESFA capital grants	-	2,767,035	2,767,035
Other grants	-	5,320	5,320
Selective school expansion funding	-	94,000	94,000
	<u>85,850</u>	<u>2,866,355</u>	<u>2,952,205</u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
DfE/ESFA grants		
General Annual Grant (GAG)	5,780,461	5,780,461
Pupil premium	133,174	133,174
Other DfE/ESFA revenue grants	408,563	408,563
	<hr/> 6,322,198	<hr/> 6,322,198
Other government grants		
Other local authority revenue grants	16,461	16,461
Other government grants	92,358	92,358
	<hr/> 108,819	<hr/> 108,819
Exceptional government funding		
Coronavirus exceptional support	26,243	26,243
	<hr/> 26,243	<hr/> 26,243
Other funding		
Trip income	567,343	567,343
Other income	117,494	117,494
	<hr/> 684,837	<hr/> 684,837
	<hr/> 7,142,097	<hr/> 7,142,097

The Academy Trust 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 for coronavirus exceptional support covers £26,243 of premises related costs, expenditure on free school meals and additional cleaning costs. These costs are included in notes 7 and 8 below as appropriate.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations (continued)

	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
DfE/ESFA grants		
General Annual Grant (GAG)	5,660,235	5,660,235
Pupil premium	132,047	132,047
Other DfE/ESFA revenue grants	138,423	138,423
	<u>5,930,705</u>	<u>5,930,705</u>
Other government grants		
Other local authority revenue grants	22,729	22,729
Other government grants	86,536	86,536
	<u>109,265</u>	<u>109,265</u>
Other funding		
Trip income	950,792	950,792
Other income	186,561	186,561
	<u>1,137,353</u>	<u>1,137,353</u>
	<u><u>7,177,323</u></u>	<u><u>7,177,323</u></u>

There are no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies attached to the government grants above.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
School fund income	-	24,846	24,846
Hire of facilities	27,941	-	27,941
Other income	-	26,261	26,261
	<u>27,941</u>	<u>51,107</u>	<u>79,048</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
School fund income	-	142,133	142,133
Hire of facilities	48,188	-	48,188
Other income	-	47,982	47,982
	<u>48,188</u>	<u>190,115</u>	<u>238,303</u>

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>1,605</u>	<u>1,605</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>1,797</u>	<u>1,797</u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2020 £	Premises 2020 £	Other 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	4,663,498	-	1,258,234	5,921,732
Allocated support costs	910,975	781,362	298,102	1,990,439
Teaching school	90,570	-	2,325	92,895
	<u>5,665,043</u>	<u>781,362</u>	<u>1,558,661</u>	<u>8,005,066</u>

Expenditure includes coronavirus exceptional premises related costs of £26,243. These are covered by the additional government grant as per note 4.

Comparatives for the previous year

	Staff Costs 2019 £	Premises 2019 £	Other 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	4,343,364	-	1,607,975	5,951,339
Allocated support costs	926,622	745,000	297,863	1,969,485
Teaching school	47,912	-	7,934	55,846
	<u>5,317,898</u>	<u>745,000</u>	<u>1,913,772</u>	<u>7,976,670</u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Academy's educational operations	<u>5,921,732</u>	<u>1,990,439</u>	<u>7,912,171</u>

	Activities undertaken directly 2019 £	Support costs 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Academy's educational operations	<u>5,951,339</u>	<u>1,969,485</u>	<u>7,920,824</u>

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Teaching and educational support staff wages and salaries	4,663,498	4,343,364
Depreciation	92,268	88,321
Technology costs	130,662	137,575
Educational supplies	124,094	128,071
Examination fees	165,607	155,090
Educational consultancy	33,100	23,899
Other direct costs	712,503	1,075,019
	<u>5,921,732</u>	<u>5,951,339</u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Pension finance costs	52,000	55,000
Support staff wages and salaries	910,975	926,622
Depreciation	256,596	225,367
Technology costs	1,613	7,414
Premises costs	567,282	542,257
Legal costs	8,120	-
Other support costs	170,183	184,630
Governance costs	23,670	28,195
	1,990,439	1,969,485

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2020 £	2019 £
Operating lease rentals	24,141	13,187
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by charity	348,864	313,688
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	3,694	-
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	12,500	12,000
- other services	11,170	16,195

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

10. Staff costs

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	4,091,290	3,955,018
Social security costs	387,692	371,327
Pension costs	1,169,778	972,753
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,648,760	5,299,098
Agency staff costs	16,283	18,800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,665,043	5,317,898
	<hr/>	<hr/>

b. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the Academy Trust during the year was as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Teachers	78	78
Administration and support	81	81
Management	4	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	163	163
	<hr/>	<hr/>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

10. Staff costs (continued)

c. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	4	2
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employers national insurance) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £389,904 (2019: £317,115).

11. Related party transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2019 £	2019 £
P Holding, Accounting Officer	Remuneration	65,000 - 70,000	65,000 - 70,000
	Pension contributions paid	5,000 - 10,000	10,000 - 15,000

During the year ended 31 August 2020, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2019 - £NIL).

12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

One of the academies in the Trust has opted into the Department of Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

In accordance with normal commercial practice another academy in the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2020 was included in the total insurance premium..

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold property £	Motor vehicles £	Equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2019	3,518,305	17,186,822	22,700	570,939	282,373	21,581,139
Additions	505,175	1,949,143	-	103,949	31,857	2,590,124
Disposals	-	-	-	(35,329)	-	(35,329)
At 31 August 2020	<u>4,023,480</u>	<u>19,135,965</u>	<u>22,700</u>	<u>639,559</u>	<u>314,230</u>	<u>24,135,934</u>
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2019	99,634	1,270,773	12,340	402,204	195,202	1,980,153
Charge for the year	37,807	216,125	1,680	52,045	41,207	348,864
On disposals	-	-	-	(30,773)	-	(30,773)
At 31 August 2020	<u>137,441</u>	<u>1,486,898</u>	<u>14,020</u>	<u>423,476</u>	<u>236,409</u>	<u>2,298,244</u>
Net book value						
At 31 August 2020	<u>3,886,039</u>	<u>17,649,067</u>	<u>8,680</u>	<u>216,083</u>	<u>77,821</u>	<u>21,837,690</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>3,418,671</u>	<u>15,916,049</u>	<u>10,360</u>	<u>168,735</u>	<u>87,171</u>	<u>19,600,986</u>

Included in long leasehold property is land at valuation of £7,057,500 (2019: £7,057,500) which is not depreciated.

Included in freehold property is land at valuation of £884,000 (2019: £884,000) which is not depreciated.

Freehold property additions relate to water distribution, roofing replacement and safeguarding at Beechview Academy.

Long-term leasehold property additions relate to heating distribution, roofing replacement, playing fields and various smaller projects at Sir William Borlase's Grammar School.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

14. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	1,172	20,957
Other debtors	13,411	-
Prepayments and accrued income	2,574,247	2,521,218
VAT recoverable	95,648	208,884
	<u>2,684,478</u>	<u>2,751,059</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	95,353	557,208
Other taxation and social security	201,904	181,575
Other creditors	94,096	41,011
Accruals and deferred income	423,731	919,101
	<u>815,084</u>	<u>1,698,895</u>

	2020 £	2019 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2019	405,539	448,250
Resources deferred during the year	134,520	405,539
Amounts released from previous periods	(405,539)	(448,250)
	<u>134,520</u>	<u>405,539</u>

At the Balance Sheet date, deferred income relates to monies received in advance for trips taking place in the next academic year, a deferred grant which is consistent with PY and NNDR rates relief claims for money received prior to the year end.

Included within other creditors falling due within one year in 2020 and 2019 is a Salix loan of £3,128 repayable as a reduction of revenue payments. No interest is charged on the loan.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Other loans	<u>24,134</u>	<u>4,694</u>

Included within other creditors falling due after more than one year are three Salix loans repayable at the rate of £3,128, £1,649 and £1,575 per annum as a reduction of revenue payments. No interest is charged on the loans.

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	259,244	29,546	(10,118)	(240,855)	-	37,817
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	-	5,780,461	(5,627,660)	(40,068)	-	112,733
Other DfE/ESFA grants	92,244	408,563	(422,830)	-	-	77,977
Exceptional cost funding	-	26,243	(26,243)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	-	133,174	(133,174)	-	-	-
Other local authority grants	-	16,461	(16,461)	-	-	-
School fund	652,920	24,846	-	-	-	677,766
Other grants	13,883	92,358	(92,358)	-	-	13,883
Teaching school	4,102	94,150	(92,895)	-	-	5,357
Trip income	-	567,343	(567,343)	-	-	-
Other income	-	358,120	(358,120)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,959,000)	-	(309,000)	-	(552,000)	(3,820,000)
	<u>(2,195,851)</u>	<u>7,501,719</u>	<u>(7,646,084)</u>	<u>(40,068)</u>	<u>(552,000)</u>	<u>(2,932,284)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	19,600,986	-	(348,864)	2,585,568	-	21,837,690
Devolved formula capital	5,744	30,686	-	(36,430)	-	-
Capital improvement fund	1,334,476	1,461,650	-	(1,384,338)	-	1,411,788
Selective school expansion fund	4,971	1,606,000	-	(847,098)	-	763,873
Donations	10,882	36,779	-	(36,779)	-	10,882
	<u>20,957,059</u>	<u>3,135,115</u>	<u>(348,864)</u>	<u>280,923</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,024,233</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>18,761,208</u>	<u>10,636,834</u>	<u>(7,994,948)</u>	<u>240,855</u>	<u>(552,000)</u>	<u>21,091,949</u>
Total funds	<u>19,020,452</u>	<u>10,666,380</u>	<u>(8,005,066)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(552,000)</u>	<u>21,129,766</u>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

All general funds are held for the purpose of education in line with the Academy's objectives.

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the Academy that has been provided to the Academy via the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education. The GAG fund has been set up because the GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

The pension reserve deficit represents the future pension funding requirements which will be met from future employer pension contributions.

School fund represents balances to be spent on school fund activities.

Funds from local authority school are to be spent on educational activities by the Academy.

Restricted fixed assets are funds representing the amounts invested in fixed assets, and unspent grants.

The transfer between unrestricted funds, restricted funds and restricted fixed asset funds represents amounts capitalised during the period less amounts funded from capital grants.

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

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 were allocated as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Sir William Borlase's Grammar School	720,199	776,411
Beechview Academy	141,199	167,582
MAT capacity grant	64,135	78,400
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	925,533	1,022,393
Restricted fixed asset fund	24,024,233	20,957,059
Pension reserve	(3,820,000)	(2,959,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	21,129,766	19,020,452
	<hr/>	<hr/>

MARLOW EDUCATION TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2020 £
Sir William Borlase's Grammar School	3,911,962	716,532	114,549	1,618,310	6,361,353
Beechview Academy	737,269	193,993	9,545	246,880	1,187,687
MAT capacity grant	14,267	-	-	-	14,267
Teaching School	90,570	-	-	2,325	92,895
Academy Trust	4,754,068	910,525	124,094	1,867,515	7,656,202

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2019 £
Sir William Borlase's Grammar School	3,669,503	759,619	118,103	1,984,913	6,532,138
Beechview Academy	673,861	167,003	9,968	224,166	1,074,998
Teaching School	47,500	412	-	7,934	55,846
Academy Trust	4,390,864	927,034	128,071	2,217,013	7,662,982

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	232,724	49,985	(12,517)	(10,948)	-	259,244
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	-	5,660,235	(5,626,292)	(33,943)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	92,244	138,423	(138,423)	-	-	92,244
Pupil premium	-	132,047	(132,047)	-	-	-
Funds transferred from local authority school	49,185	-	-	(49,185)	-	-
Other local authority grants	-	22,729	(22,729)	-	-	-
School fund	512,194	142,133	(1,407)	-	-	652,920
Other grants	13,883	86,536	(86,536)	-	-	13,883
Teaching school	-	59,948	(55,846)	-	-	4,102
Trip income	-	941,076	(941,076)	-	-	-
Other income	-	330,109	(330,109)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,243,000)	-	(316,000)	-	(400,000)	(2,959,000)
	<u>(1,575,494)</u>	<u>7,513,236</u>	<u>(7,650,465)</u>	<u>(83,128)</u>	<u>(400,000)</u>	<u>(2,195,851)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	18,208,864	-	(313,688)	1,705,810	-	19,600,986
Devolved formula capital	-	100,087	-	(94,343)	-	5,744
Capital improvement fund	78,452	2,666,948	-	(1,410,924)	-	1,334,476
Selective school expansion fund	-	94,000	-	(89,029)	-	4,971
Donations	23,000	5,320	-	(17,438)	-	10,882
	<u>18,310,316</u>	<u>2,866,355</u>	<u>(313,688)</u>	<u>94,076</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,957,059</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>16,734,822</u>	<u>10,379,591</u>	<u>(7,964,153)</u>	<u>10,948</u>	<u>(400,000)</u>	<u>18,761,208</u>
Total funds	<u>16,967,546</u>	<u>10,429,576</u>	<u>(7,976,670)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(400,000)</u>	<u>19,020,452</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	21,837,690	21,837,690
Current assets	37,817	1,726,934	2,186,543	3,951,294
Creditors due within one year	-	(815,084)	-	(815,084)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(24,134)	-	(24,134)
Pension scheme liabilities	-	(3,820,000)	-	(3,820,000)
Total	37,817	(2,932,284)	24,024,233	21,129,766

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	19,600,986	19,600,986
Current assets	259,244	2,466,738	1,356,073	4,082,055
Creditors due within one year	-	(1,698,895)	-	(1,698,895)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(4,694)	-	(4,694)
Pension scheme liabilities	-	(2,959,000)	-	(2,959,000)
Total	259,244	(2,195,851)	20,957,059	19,020,452

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

19. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	2,661,314	2,452,906
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	348,864	313,688
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(3,135,115)	(2,866,355)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	66,581	(2,237,848)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(861,243)	797,792
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(1,605)	(1,797)
Pension FRS 102 adjustments	309,000	316,000
Profit on sale of tangible fixed assets	(3,694)	-
Net cash used in operating activities	(615,898)	(1,225,614)

20. Cash flows from financing activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Repayments of borrowing	(3,128)	(3,128)
Net cash used in financing activities	(3,128)	(3,128)

21. Cash flows from investing activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,605	1,797
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,590,124)	(1,705,810)
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	8,250	-
Capital grants from DfE Group	3,135,115	2,861,035
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	-	5,320
Net cash provided by investing activities	554,846	1,162,342

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash in hand	1,266,816	1,330,996
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,266,816	1,330,996

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2019 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,330,996	(64,180)	1,266,816
Debt due after 1 year	(4,694)	(19,440)	(24,134)
	1,326,302	(83,620)	1,242,682

24. Capital commitments

	2020 £	2019 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	2,545,167	1,495,270

25. Pension commitments

The Academy Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Buckinghamshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £101,762 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2020 (2019 - £85,285) and are included within creditors.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

The Teachers' Pension budgeting and valuation account

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

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- 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 including earnings growth is 4.45%.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £637,496 (2019 - £438,237).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the [Teachers' Pensions website](#).

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

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £352,000 (2019 - £347,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £278,000 (2019 - £275,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 74,000 (2019 - £72,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.9 per cent for employers and 5.8 and 12.5 per cent 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2020	2019
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.275	3.70
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.275	2.20
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.60	1.85
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.275	2.20
Inflation assumption (RPI)	3.075	2.30

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

	2020	2019
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.8	22.9
Females	25.1	24.8
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23.2	24.6
Females	26.6	26.7

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis - present value of obligation

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	7,300	6,071
Discount rate -0.1%	7,666	6,363
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	7,777	6,439
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	7,196	5,999
CPI rate +0.1%	7,653	6,352
CPI rate -0.1%	7,313	6,082

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
	£	£
Equities	2,007,000	1,748,000
Gilts	386,000	384,000
Other bonds	574,000	463,000
Property	229,000	222,000
Cash and other liquid assets	96,000	104,000
Alternative assets and other	369,000	335,000
Total market value of assets	3,661,000	3,256,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £105,000 (2019 - £252,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Current service cost	(532,000)	(483,000)
Past service cost	-	(51,000)
Interest cost	(52,000)	(55,000)
Administrative expenses	(3,000)	(2,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(587,000)	(591,000)

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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Opening defined benefit obligation	6,215,000	5,028,000
Current service cost	532,000	483,000
Interest cost	115,000	132,000
Employee contributions	74,000	72,000
Actuarial losses	626,000	575,000
Benefits paid	(81,000)	(126,000)
Past service costs	-	51,000
Closing defined benefit obligation	7,481,000	6,215,000

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets	3,256,000	2,785,000
Interest income	63,000	77,000
Actuarial gains	74,000	175,000
Employee contributions	74,000	72,000
Benefits paid	(81,000)	(126,000)
Administration expenses	(3,000)	(2,000)
Employer contributions	278,000	275,000
Closing fair value of scheme assets	3,661,000	3,256,000

The amount showing in the Statement of Financial Activities is:

	2020 £	2019 £
Changes in financial assumptions	(594,000)	(575,000)
Return on plan assets	42,000	175,000
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	(552,000)	(400,000)

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25. Pension commitments (continued)

	2020 £	2019 £
The amount recognised in the Balance Sheet was as follows:		
Present value of defined benefit obligation	(7,481,000)	(6,215,000)
Fair value of scheme assets	3,661,000	3,256,000
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	(3,820,000)	(2,959,000)

26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2020 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Not later than 1 year	19,210	8,858
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	59,565	6,881
	78,775	15,739

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 £NIL for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The following related party transactions took place in the period:

During the year, a local governor of Sir William Borlase's Grammar School provided consultancy services to the Academy Trust on the management accounts. The local governor invoiced the Academy Trust £4,900 through Percentage Ltd, a private limited company registered in England and Wales (company registration number 12294495) of which the local governor is sole director and shareholder. The Academy Trust owed £nil at 31 August 2020 to Percentage Ltd. The local governor was paid under the same terms that would be offered to an individual or organisation with no connection to the trust.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.

29. Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust distributes Schools Direct grants as an agent for DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2020 the Academy Trust received £14,000 and disbursed £14,000. An amount of £NIL is included in other creditors. Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2019 are £NIL received, £NIL disbursed and £NIL included in other creditors.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

30. Teaching school trading account

	2020 £	2020 £	2019 £	2019 £
Income				
DIRECT INCOME				
Teaching school grant	40,000		47,500	
Schools Direct grant	51,000		-	
OTHER INCOME	91,000		47,500	
Other teaching school income	3,150		12,448	
Total income		94,150		59,948
Expenditure				
DIRECT EXPENDITURE				
Direct staff costs	90,570		47,500	
Other direct costs	2,325		7,934	
Total direct expenditure	92,895		55,434	
OTHER EXPENDITURE				
Support staff costs	-		412	
Total other expenditure	-		412	
Total expenditure		92,895		55,846
Surplus from all sources		1,255		4,102
Teaching school balances at 1 September 2019		4,102		-
Teaching school balances at 31 August 2020		5,357		4,102