

Registration number: 07673903

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023



Runwell Community
Primary School



Edmund Carr LLP
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
146 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0AN

FRIDAY



ACWZC3ZT

A11

16/02/2024

#168

COMPANIES HOUSE

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Contents

Reference and administrative details	1 to 2
Trustees' Report	3 to 10
Governance statement	11 to 14
Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance	15
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	16
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements	17 to 20
Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity	21 to 22
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)	23 to 24
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023	25
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023	26
Notes to the Financial Statements	27 to 49

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Reference and administrative details

Members	Michael Graham Kate Hursthouse, Lisa Philips
Governors (Trustees)	Dawn Hutson, Chair of Governors (appointed 29 September 2022) Rachel Anthony Darren Berrecloth (appointed 28 September 2022) Sarah Brown Michael Graham Kate Hursthouse, Chair of Governors (resigned 28 September 2022) Sarah Kinnaird Lisa Phillips Catherine Popplewell (appointed 28 September 2022) Clifford Slater Sukhvir Toot (appointed 28 September 2022) Natasha Hatfield (appointed 13 October 2022)
Company Secretary	Tina Gerard

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Reference and administrative details (continued)

Headteacher and Registered Office	Rachel Anthony Runwell Community Primary School Canewdon Gardens Runwell Wickford Essex SS11 7BJ
Company Registration Number	07673903
Senior Management Team	Lucy Seaman, Deputy Head Nikki Jupe, Assistant Headteacher / Inclusion Manager Tina Gerard, School Business Manager Natasha Hatfield, Subject Leader Juliet Coombes, EYFS Leader
Auditors	Edmund Carr LLP Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor 146 New London Road Chelmsford Essex CM2 0AW
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC PO Box 1000 Andover BX1 1LT
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP 44 Castle Gate Nottingham NG1 7BJ

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

All governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, financial statements and budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role.

During the year, governors are offered training or invitations to networking meetings and conferences organised by various bodies in order to ensure that their knowledge and understanding is fully up to date. These may be virtual or in person.

Organisational structure

The governors are responsible for setting and monitoring the overall strategic direction of the academy trust, approving decisions reserved for governors and appointing key members of staff. The Governing Body stipulates a minimum of 8 Community Governors, 3 Parent Governors, 1 Staff Governors (excluding the Headteacher) and 1 Headteacher.

The governors meet as a whole body at least three times each year. All decisions reserved for the governors are taken by the whole Governing Body. There is also two sub committees, a Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and a Curriculum and Standards Committee that meets at least three times a year. Staff Governors do not have voting rights during audit meetings, nor are they allowed to participate unless invited to and may be asked to leave the meeting.

Additionally, ad hoc groups of governors are established to consider specific issues and make recommendations to the full Governing Body.

Details of the Governing Body structure, governor responsibilities and delegated powers are set out in the Governor Handbook.

The Headteacher is the Accounting Officer and works closely with the other governors and the senior staff of RCPS.

The day-to-day management of RCPS rests with the Headteacher who has overall responsibility for the school. The Headteacher is responsible for establishing the Senior Leadership Team, including the School Business Manager and the Deputy Head.

SBM Services has continued to act as Responsible Officers and as such provide an oversight role in relation to the systems and processes of control and risk management that operate throughout RCPS.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel include those staff to whom the Governors have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day-to-day running of the Trust.

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel are decided by a variety of contributory factors, such as the school group size, ISR (Individual Salary Range), the pay scales for each role and the level of experience of each staff member. In addition, pay levels may be affected by nationally agreed pay awards and the ability to recruit and retain in post, all of which are in accordance with the Trust's appointment and pay policies.

All amendments to key management's pay and remuneration are approved by the pay committee and ratified by the full Governing Body.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Risk management

The governors have assessed the major risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed. A formal review of the risk management process is undertaken on an annual basis to identify financial, operational, regulatory and reputational risks. In addition, such risks are considered at each meeting of the full Governing Body. The governors are satisfied that appropriate systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to major risks, and that these are kept under regular review by the senior management team and the governors. However, it is recognised that such systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been managed adequately.

The key controls used by the Academy Trust to identify and manage risk include:

- formal agendas for all committee and board activity;
- terms of reference for all committees;
- comprehensive planning, budgeting and management reporting;
- an established organisation structure and clear lines of reporting;
- formal written policies;
- monitoring;
- clear authorisation and approval levels;
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable; and
- use of professional services where applicable.

The measures used by the governors to manage financial risk are included in the separate Statement of Internal Control.

The governors regularly assess the current key risks that RCPS faces. These risks, and the measures in place to manage them, are set out more fully in the Risk Register.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

The Academy Trust has no relationships to report other than those shown under the below 'Relationships and Related Parties' sections.

Objectives and Activities

The charitable objectives, for which the charitable company was established, are set down in its Articles of Association as follows:

(a) to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum; and

(b) to promote, for the benefit of individuals living in Runwell and the surrounding area who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said individuals.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Public Benefit

The governors have taken The Charity Commission's specific guidance on public benefit (contained within the guidance document "The Advancement of Education for the Public Benefit") into consideration in preparing their statements on public benefit contained within this governors' annual report.

Benefits & Beneficiaries:

In accordance with its charitable objectives, RCPS strives to advance the education of the pupils attending the school. The charitable company's primary beneficiaries are therefore the pupils, and benefits to pupils are provided through continuing to maintain a high standard of education throughout the school. In addition the school aims to benefit the wider community by making available resources, including the school facilities.

Governors' Assessment of Public Benefit:

To determine whether or not the charitable company has fulfilled its charitable objectives for public benefit, the governors gather evidence of the success of RCPS's activities. This information is gained in a variety of ways, including through monitoring and regular reports at Governing Body meetings. Examples of such evidence are set out below.

Impact of Activities & Events and Assessment of Public Benefit

As set out above, the principal activity of RCPS is to provide primary school education for children in Runwell and the surrounding area. The aim of RCPS, which is at the heart of all of its activities, is to be a school:

- where all pupils and staff are encouraged and enabled to reach their full potential in a safe, healthy, caring and stimulating environment;
- that promotes excellence and equality and has high expectations for all pupils and staff;
- where the teaching is of a consistently very high standard;
- that provides a rich, thematic curriculum, which is well planned and resourced;
- that challenges pupils to develop knowledge, skills and aspiring attitudes so they can become confident, independent lifelong learners;
- that maintains very high standards of behavior in a positive atmosphere;
- that develops mutual respect and tolerance;
- that promotes individual responsibility and accountability and which helps children to develop into thoughtful citizens; and
- that encourages parents to be actively involved in their child's education and the wider school community.

Our Vision and Values

Runwell Community Primary School will be: a place for children to **Aspire** for excellence - a place for children to **Believe** in their dreams – a place where children can **Connect** with their learning.

At Runwell we strive to equip all pupils with the skills needed to meet their full potential through an innovative, specialised and knowledge rich curriculum. We are committed to providing a positive, safe and stimulating environment for children to learn, where all are valued. We believe it takes teamwork to prepare our pupils for success, our teachers, staff, parents and community are committed to achieving this by working together with the pupils at the centre.

Our High 5 values of **kindness, bravery, hardworking, respect and honesty** promote the importance of being a global citizen and encourage a love for learning, enabling all children to succeed in their everyday lives.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Our A,B,C of Learning – Aspire, Believe, Connect

Our curriculum intent is for every learner to understand and appreciate what it means to be a 21st century citizen, we wish for our children to develop as globally aware, caring, healthy, creative and enterprising individuals, full of self-belief and confidence. We desire our children to be resilient, respectful and tolerant; all values we believe that our learners will need in order to be successful in meeting the demands of modern society and an ever changing world. We will implement this by providing a skills based, knowledge rich curriculum that centers on the development of 'Mind, Heart and Body'. Our curriculum will provide our children with the opportunity to explore and steer their learning based on the issues that matter to them. Teaching staff will act in the role of 'facilitators of learning', developing a connectedness with our children through meaningful consultation with them. We will seek to develop high quality oracy, literacy, numeracy, technical and creative skills throughout the primary phase by outlining a stepped approach to skills development in each of these areas. We will all go on this journey together with overarching half termly whole school foci for learning.

The impact of this will be that all of our children will experience a curriculum that is fit for purpose and become independent, empowered individuals who see the value of lifelong learning. Our children will develop an insatiable curiosity and the ability to learn from each other. Our learners will leave Runwell knowing the responsibility of their role as global citizens as we shall create collaborators, innovators, leaders and above all else; young people who understand what it means to be human.

Our Creative Curriculum

At Runwell Community Primary School we have designed a broad and balanced curriculum that inspires and engages our pupils whilst meeting the National Curriculum requirements. Our topic based curriculum is inspired by Cornerstones for Education. The curriculum is delivered through exciting knowledge-rich projects which provide a range of exciting and motivating learning activities that make links between all aspects of children's learning. Pupils will progress through four stages of learning in each project – Engage, Develop, Innovate and Express.

Achievements and performance

During 2022/2023 children in Year 1-6 completed internal standardised testing through the use of NFER papers. This information as well as the teaching judgement was used to assess the children. Children making less progress than their peers were identified through the use of pupil progress meetings with interventions taking place inside and outside of the classroom.

All children in Year 2 and Year 6 completed statutory SATs assessments. These took place in the summer term, and reported to the DFE and Local Authority. Statutory phonics assessments were also completed by children in year 1 and identified children in Year 2. Children in Year 4 also completed the statutory timetable assessment in the summer term.

KEY STAGE 2

The results are as follows:

Reading:

Expected = 67%

Greater depth = 18%

Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling:

Expected = 58%

Greater depth = 5%

Writing:

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Expected = 77%

Greater Depth = 15%

Maths:

Expected = 73%

Greater depth = 15%

Combined (reading, writing and maths):

Expected = 60%

Greater Depth = 5%

TIMES TABLE CHECK – YEAR 4

Scores out of 25

= 25	38%
24-25	50%
23-25	59%
22-25	64%
21-25	66%
20-25	69%

EYFS - TEACHER ASSESSMENT

This year the EYFS team ran a full profile assessment and the results are as follows:

78% of children reached the 'Good Level of Development'

PHONICS DATA

Year 1 - 76%

Ofsted

The school was inspected in July 2023 on a 2 day ungraded (section 8) inspection and received a letter confirming that we continue to be a good school. It is recommended that the next inspection be a graded assessment.

Relationships with Related Parties

RCPS works with the local and wider community in a number of ways, including:

• Kids Company

Kids Company is based at RCPS and uses its facilities to provide before/after school and holiday childcare that is used by children at RCPS and by those from other schools.

• Lettings

A variety of external clubs that serve the local community also use the school facilities. These include: Wham Theatre company and Seitou Ryu Karate.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

• Links with Parish Council

The Parish Council remain a keen supporter of the school and include news and updates in their newsletter 'Runwell Roundabout'.

• Other

The school is involved in many community events throughout the year. For example, every year the school provides harvest boxes for the local community and beyond. At harvest time the children bring in food donations. These donations were collected by the Salvation Army to be distributed with vulnerable families in the local area.

Trade union facility time

No employees of RCPS were trade union officials during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governing Body has a reasonable expectation that the Academy 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.

Financial review

The surplus for the Academy Trust in the year to 31 August 2023 was £93,517. Most of the Academy income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants the use of which is restricted to particular purposes.

During the year ended 31 August 2023, total expenditure was £2,906,685 and was covered by the recurrent grant funding from ESFA together with other incoming resources.

The excess expenditure over income for the unrestricted and restricted general funds (excluding FRS 17 adjustments for pension deficit gains and losses and costs, and capital movements) was £132,839 (2022: Total excess income over expenditure £188,980).

At 31 August 2023 the net book value of the fixed assets was £2,138,277 and movement in tangible assets are shown in the notes to the financial statements.

Reserves policy

The governors' policy is to generate reserves to provide funds to continue to enhance the educational facilities and services of the school and to fund future projects. The governors review the reserves policy annually to ensure that this aim can be achieved.

At the balance sheet date, the academy had total funds of £2,865,151 (2022: £2,771,634), of which of £268,287 (2022: £260,821) were free unrestricted reserves, and £8,608 (2022: £148,913) were general restricted reserves. Also within the total funds figure is £2,588,256 (2022: £2,716,900) representing the restricted fixed asset fund, and £Nil (2022: £355,000) for the pension scheme liability.

The school has tried to maintain the reserves by not drawing down on them due to the current ongoing uncertainties around school funding.

Investment policy

The governors' investment powers are set down in the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, which permit the investment of monies of the charitable company that are not immediately required for its purposes in such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit subject to any restrictions which may

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

from time to time be imposed or required by law.

During the first accounting period the charitable company's current policy was to hold all cash balances on a current account to ensure that the academy is able to meet its day to day cash flow requirements. This policy will continue to be regularly reviewed by the governing body.

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

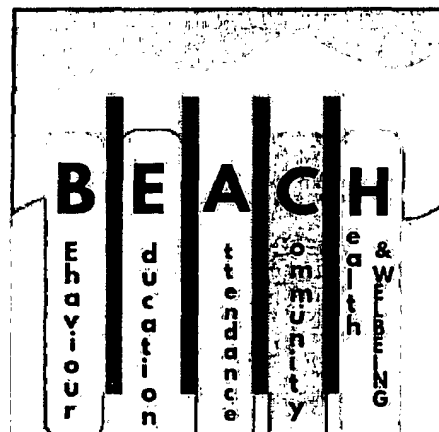
Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

Although the charitable company maintains restricted funds to deal with incoming resources that are earmarked for a particular purpose by donors and other funders, RCPS does not hold, and the governors do not anticipate that it will in the future hold, any funds as custodian for any third party.

Plans for future periods

School Development Plan Objectives:

1. To develop and embed an approach to understanding behaviour and supporting emotional wellbeing through trauma perceptive practice. (Behaviour consistency)
2. To ensure behaviour systems are used consistently by all staff (Ofsted 2023)
3. To continue to develop standards of quality first teaching so that it is never less than good and a significant proportion is 'outstanding'
4. To narrow the gender gap within the school with a particular focus on reading and writing for boys.
5. To Secure improvement in Reading and SPAG, leading to higher levels of attainment and progress in line with national expectations.
6. To embed a knowledge rich curriculum so that children's understanding and skills are transferable across all subjects
7. To strengthen the capacity and effectiveness of leadership and management across the school with a sharp focus on the development of middle leadership.
8. To embed attendance actions so that Pupils have high attendance in line with school target (96%). They come to school on time and are punctual to lessons.
9. To further develop community and parental partnerships building effective relationships between the school and parents. (Pupil numbers)
10. To ensure that there is clarity given to parents about the processes and practice that the school uses so that parents understand the provision for pupils with SEND. (Ofsted)
11. To adopt a whole school approach to positive mental health, emotional wellbeing and resilience amongst children and staff, leading to children and staff feeling mentally healthy with a good sense of wellbeing.
12. To develop Growth Mindset across the school community involving pupils, parents and staff to raise the aspirations of learners by



Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

developing resilience and self – belief.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, RCPS has purchased insurance to protect Governors and Officers from claims arising for negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on school business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000.

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

Auditor

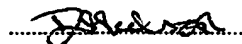
In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- 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.

Reappointment of auditor

Under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006 Edmund Carr LLP will be deemed to have been reappointed as auditor 28 days after these financial statements are sent to members or 28 days after the latest date prescribed for filing the accounts with the registrar, whichever is earlier.

Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 5 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Dawn Hutson
Chair of Governors

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

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

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to Rachel Anthony, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Full Governing Body met formally 6 times during the year and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee met formally 5 times each during the year. The Full Governing Body meetings were in person, but the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee met virtually.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Governing Body and sub-committee was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rachel Anthony (appointed 1 November 2021)	6	6
Natasha Hatfield (appointed 13 October 2022)	4	5
Darren Berrecloth (appointed 28 September 2022)	4	5
Catherine Popplewell (appointed 28 September 2022)	5	5
Michael Graham (re-appointed 16 July 2023)	6	6
Kate Hursthouse, (appointed 24 March 2020)	5	6
Dawn Hutson, Chair of Governors (appointed 29 September 2022)	6	6
Sarah Kinnaird (appointed 16 November 2021)	5	6
Sarah Brown (appointed 25 July 2022)	6	6
Lisa Phillips (appointed 24 March 2020)	6	6
Clifford Slater (appointed 13 December 2022)	6	6
Sukh Toot (appointed 28 September 2022)	3	5

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement (continued)

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to challenge all financial aspects of the school, approve expenditure as delegated through the financial regulations and ensure maintenance of the estate and monitor compliance with all Health and Safety regulations. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Michael Graham	5	5
Kate Hursthouse	4	5
Clifford Slater	4	5
Dawn Hutson	5	5
Darren Berrecloth	3	5
Rachel Anthony	5	5

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider social outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

Roof Work

The school has had parts of the roof replaced. This will ensure no leaks or ongoing costs. There was also a health and safety element due to the roofs and glass fixings deteriorating over the 30 years since they were installed.

Water Work

The school had new hot and cold water distribution pipework throughout the school ensuring health and safety requirements and prevent any future burst pipes.

Managing suppliers

To maintain effective working relationships with suppliers and avoid having an adverse effect on their ability to continue trading and maintain their cash flow, the school continued to meet payment terms and conditions on time. As contracts expire, it will be investigated as to whether there is a better value-for-money option available.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement (continued)

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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritize the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk.

The Governing Body has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Governing Body is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

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. It includes:

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

The Governing Body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- not to appoint an auditor for this purpose. However, the Trustees have appointed staff from SBM Services Limited responsible officer ('RO').

The Responsible Officer's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems. The checks carried out in the current period included:

- Risk management
- Payroll
- Balance sheet management
- Financial administration
- Purchasing and creditors
- Bank and cash

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement (continued)

Twice a year, the RO reports to the Governing Body on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Governing Body's financial responsibilities. The schedule of works was delivered as planned.


Review of effectiveness


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

- the work of the responsible officer.
- the work of the external auditor.
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process; and
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, delegation of authority and segregation of duties.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Resources Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 5 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


Dawn Hutson
Chair of Governors


Rachel Anthony
Accounting Officer & Headteacher

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As accounting officer of Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Governing Body and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust Governing Body are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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 Governing Body and ESFA.

R. Anthony

Rachel Anthony
Accounting officer

5 December 2023

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments 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; and
- 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 on 31/12/23 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Dawn Hutson
Chair of Governors

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account), Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023, Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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 trust's affairs at 31 August 2023 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education & 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 Auditor's 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 UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information (covers the Reference and administrative details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance statement)

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

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust (continued)

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 Trustees' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 16], the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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.

Auditor Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust (continued)

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

- The engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- We identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the academy sector.

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

- Considered the internal controls in place to mitigate the risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Understanding the design of the company's remuneration policies.

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

- Performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships.
- Tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions.

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

- Agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation
- Reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the 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 auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Academy Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

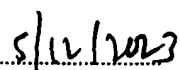
Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

**Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Runwell
Community Primary School Academy Trust (continued)**



Stewart Martin (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Edmund Carr LLP, Statutory Auditor

146 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0AW

Date: 

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 September 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Governing Body's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Governing Body's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 August 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, 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 2022 to 2023. 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 from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

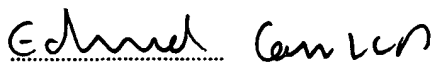
**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Runwell
Community Primary School Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding
Agency (continued)**

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- reviewing the minutes of the meetings of the board of trustees and other evidence made available to us, relevant to our consideration of regularity
- testing a sample of payments and receipts to documentation
- evaluating the internal control procedures and reporting lines, and testing as appropriate and making appropriate enquiries of the accounting officer.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Stewart Martin

For and on behalf of Edmund Carr LLP, Chartered Accountants

146 New London Road
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 0AW

Date: 5/12/23

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/23 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	-	1,080	432,003	433,083
Other trading activities	4	50,460	41,311	-	91,771
Investments	5	38	-	-	38
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	2,096,310	-	2,096,310
Total		50,498	2,138,701	432,003	2,621,202
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Academy trust educational operations	7	43,032	2,279,127	584,526	2,906,685
Net income/(expenditure)		7,466	(140,426)	(152,523)	(285,483)
Transfers between funds		-	(23,879)	23,879	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	379,000	-	379,000
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		7,466	214,695	(128,644)	93,517
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2022		260,821	(206,087)	2,716,900	2,771,634
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		268,287	8,608	2,588,256	2,865,151

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2022
(including Income and Expenditure Account)**


	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2021/22 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	4,200	4,806	576,738	585,744
Other trading activities	4	79,399	33,652	295,482	408,533
Investments	5	68	-	-	68
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	2,047,279	-	2,047,279
Total		83,667	2,085,737	872,220	3,041,624
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	20,440	2,160,714	602,655	2,783,809
Net income/(expenditure)		63,227	(74,977)	269,565	257,815
Transfers between funds		-	(5,270)	5,270	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	1,548,000	-	1,548,000
Net movement in funds		63,227	1,467,753	274,835	1,805,815
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021		197,594	(1,673,840)	2,442,065	965,819
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2022		260,821	(206,087)	2,716,900	2,771,634

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

(Registration number: 07673903)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	2,138,277	2,232,810
Current assets			
Debtors	12	123,736	96,807
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>813,739</u>	<u>1,030,513</u>
		937,475	1,127,320
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		<u>(210,601)</u>	<u>(233,496)</u>
Net current assets		<u>726,874</u>	<u>893,824</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>2,865,151</u>	<u>3,126,634</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		2,865,151	3,126,634
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	<u>-</u>	<u>(355,000)</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>2,865,151</u></u>	<u><u>2,771,634</u></u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	14	8,608	148,913
Restricted fixed asset fund	14	2,588,256	2,716,900
Pension reserve	14	<u>-</u>	<u>(355,000)</u>
		2,596,864	2,510,813
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	14	<u>268,287</u>	<u>260,821</u>
Total funds		<u><u>2,865,151</u></u>	<u><u>2,771,634</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 23 to 49 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 5/12/23 and signed on their behalf by:


Dawn Hutson
Governor

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	18	(158,822)	277,481
Cash flows from investing activities	19	<u>(57,952)</u>	<u>430,240</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(216,774)	707,721
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>1,030,513</u>	<u>322,792</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	20	<u>813,739</u>	<u>1,030,513</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

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

Income

All 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grants are reflected in the balance sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are spent on capital projects in line with the terms and conditions of the grant. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and 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.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Interest Receivable

Interest receivable is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis, and is stated inclusive of related tax credits.

Donated services and gifts in kind

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items, they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

Other income

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

Expenditure

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

This includes all expenditure incurred by the academy trust to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Charitable activities

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

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful lives, per the table below.

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

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.

Asset class

Long leasehold land
Long leasehold buildings
Fixtures, fittings and equipment

Depreciation method and rate

Over the life of the lease
Over 15 - 45 years
25% - 33% straight line

Liabilities

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

Provisions

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.

Leased assets

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

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note [X]. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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 [X]. 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. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

Taxation

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

Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Pension benefits

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 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 based on 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.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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 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.

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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 21, 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 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31/08/2023. 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.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Capital grants	-	-	432,003	432,003	576,738
Other donations	-	1,080	-	1,080	9,006
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,080</u>	<u>432,003</u>	<u>433,083</u>	<u>585,744</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	1,676,895	1,676,895	1,642,896
Other DfE Grants	-	108,221	108,221	111,880
UIFSM	-	59,070	59,070	53,568
Pupil Premium	-	97,515	97,515	91,788
	-	1,941,701	1,941,701	1,900,132
Other government grants				
SEN Funding	-	77,952	77,952	76,932
Other local authority funds	-	76,657	76,657	70,215
	-	154,609	154,609	147,147
Total grants	-	2,096,310	2,096,310	2,047,279

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Hire of facilities	10,185	-	10,185	22,921
Catering income	-	33,333	33,333	29,355
Trips and visits	22,537	-	22,537	13,844
Other sales	17,738	7,978	25,716	342,413
	<u>50,460</u>	<u>41,311</u>	<u>91,771</u>	<u>408,533</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Short term deposits	<u>38</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>68</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

6 Resources expended

	Non Pay Expenditure				
	Staff costs	Premises	Other costs	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£	£	Total	Total
				£	£
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	1,053,207	-	95,243	1,148,450	959,422
Allocated support costs	<u>841,209</u>	<u>778,477</u>	<u>138,549</u>	<u>1,758,235</u>	<u>1,824,387</u>
	<u>1,894,416</u>	<u>778,477</u>	<u>233,792</u>	<u>2,906,685</u>	<u>2,783,809</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Operating leases - plant and machinery	922	1,038
Profit/(loss) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	295,482
Audit - Edmund Carr LLP	7,375	7,100
Other services - Edmund Carr LLP	700	675
Depreciation	<u>118,412</u>	<u>114,396</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

7 Charitable activities

		2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Direct costs - educational operations		1,148,450	959,422
Support costs - educational operations		<u>1,758,235</u>	<u>1,824,387</u>
		<u>2,906,685</u>	<u>2,783,809</u>
	Educational operations £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	841,209	841,209	930,721
Depreciation	118,412	118,412	114,400
Premises costs	660,065	660,065	645,087
Legal costs	41,962	41,962	33,690
Other support costs	88,232	88,232	91,989
Governance costs	<u>8,355</u>	<u>8,355</u>	<u>8,500</u>
Total support costs	<u>1,758,235</u>	<u>1,758,235</u>	<u>1,824,387</u>

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	1,423,671	1,207,549
Social security costs	118,786	105,799
Pension costs	<u>343,224</u>	<u>488,794</u>
	1,885,681	1,802,142
Supply teacher costs	<u>8,735</u>	<u>15,847</u>
	<u>1,894,416</u>	<u>1,817,989</u>

Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year was as follows:

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

	2022/23	2021/22
	No	No
Teachers	20	18
Administration and support	72	51
Management	5	5
	<u>97</u>	<u>74</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	No	No
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

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 key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £427,910 (2022: £401,857).

9 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from 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, and not in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

Rachel Anthony (Headteacher):

Remuneration: £75,000 - £80,000 (2022 - £60,000 - £65,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £15,000 - £20,000 (2022 - £15,000 - £20,000)

Carleecann Barrett (Staff):

Remuneration: (2022 - £25,000 - £30,000)

Employer's pension contributions: (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

Natasha Hatfield (Staff):

Remuneration: £50,000 - £55,000 (2022 -)

Employer's pension contributions: £10,000 - £15,000 (2022 -)

During the year ended 31 August 2023, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil (2022 - £Nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to trustees (2022 -).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 23.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

The Academy Trust has opted into the Department for 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.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	2022/23 Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2022	2,913,172	136,115	3,049,287
Additions	-	23,879	23,879
At 31 August 2023	2,913,172	159,994	3,073,166
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2022	720,042	96,435	816,477
Charge for the year	92,353	26,059	118,412
At 31 August 2023	812,395	122,494	934,889
Net book value			
At 31 August 2023	2,100,777	37,500	2,138,277
At 31 August 2022	2,193,130	39,680	2,232,810

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	8,964	13,689
Prepayments and accrued income	24,346	36,730
VAT recoverable	4,171	12,070
Other debtors	86,255	34,318
	123,736	96,807

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	35,343	71,814
Other taxation and social security	31,174	23,369
Pension scheme creditor	35,261	31,588
Accruals	60,664	65,255
Deferred income	48,159	41,470
	<u>210,601</u>	<u>233,496</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	41,470	51,168
Resources deferred in the period	48,159	41,470
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(41,470)</u>	<u>(51,168)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	<u>48,159</u>	<u>41,470</u>

Included within deferred income is £36,174 (2022: £31,787) regarding free school meal funding for September onwards. The balance also includes £11,985 (2022: £6,667) relating to FEEE income for Autumn 2023 and the remaining balance of £Nil (2022: £3,016 relates to various miscellaneous items relating to September 2022 onwards.)

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	148,913	1,676,895	(1,793,321)	(23,879)	8,608
Other DfE grants	-	108,221	(108,221)	-	-
SEN Funding	-	77,952	(77,952)	-	-
Other donations and income	-	42,391	(42,391)	-	-
Other local authority funds	-	76,657	(76,657)	-	-
UIFSM	-	59,070	(59,070)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	97,515	(97,515)	-	-
Pension reserve	(355,000)	-	(24,000)	379,000	-
	<u>(206,087)</u>	<u>2,138,701</u>	<u>(2,279,127)</u>	<u>355,121</u>	<u>8,608</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer from local authority on conversion	1,104,782	-	(43,973)	-	1,060,809
DfE/ESFA capital grants	1,259,889	432,003	(535,299)	-	1,156,593
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds	5,270	-	(5,254)	23,879	23,895
Proceeds from sale of leasehold property	346,959	-	-	-	346,959
	<u>2,716,900</u>	<u>432,003</u>	<u>(584,526)</u>	<u>23,879</u>	<u>2,588,256</u>
Total restricted funds	2,510,813	2,570,704	(2,863,653)	379,000	2,596,864
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	260,821	50,498	(43,032)	-	268,287
Total funds	<u>2,771,634</u>	<u>2,621,202</u>	<u>(2,906,685)</u>	<u>379,000</u>	<u>2,865,151</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	1,642,896	(1,488,713)	(5,270)	148,913
Other DfE grants	7,314	33,546	(40,860)	-	-
SEN Funding	-	76,932	(76,932)	-	-
Other donations and income	-	38,458	(38,458)	-	-
Other local authority funds	-	148,549	(148,549)	-	-
UIFSM	-	53,568	(53,568)	-	-
Pupil Premium	15,846	91,788	(107,634)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,697,000)	-	(206,000)	1,548,000	(355,000)
	<u>(1,673,840)</u>	<u>2,085,737</u>	<u>(2,160,714)</u>	<u>1,542,730</u>	<u>(206,087)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer from local authority on conversion	1,200,232	295,483	(43,974)	(346,959)	1,104,782
DfE/ESFA capital grants	1,241,833	576,737	(558,681)	-	1,259,889
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds	-	-	-	5,270	5,270
Proceeds from sale of leasehold property	-	-	-	346,959	346,959
	<u>2,442,065</u>	<u>872,220</u>	<u>(602,655)</u>	<u>5,270</u>	<u>2,716,900</u>
Total restricted funds	768,225	2,957,957	(2,763,369)	1,548,000	2,510,813
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>197,594</u>	<u>83,667</u>	<u>(20,440)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>260,821</u>
Total funds	<u>965,819</u>	<u>3,041,624</u>	<u>(2,783,809)</u>	<u>1,548,000</u>	<u>2,771,634</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds (continued)

Unrestricted funds are applied to the general work of the academy to support activities inside and outside the curriculum.

Restricted funds are applied specifically in accordance with the rules of each grant and support the education provision delivered by the academy.

Restricted fixed asset funds are applied to the maintenance and improvement of all the academy's fixed assets.

The transfer of £23,879 represents capital expenditure funded from general restricted funds.

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,138,277	2,138,277
Current assets	268,287	219,209	449,979	937,475
Current liabilities	-	(210,601)	-	(210,601)
Total net assets	<u>268,287</u>	<u>8,608</u>	<u>2,588,256</u>	<u>2,865,151</u>

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,232,810	2,232,810
Current assets	260,821	382,409	484,090	1,127,320
Current liabilities	-	(233,496)	-	(233,496)
Pension scheme liability	-	(355,000)	-	(355,000)
Total net assets	<u>260,821</u>	<u>(206,087)</u>	<u>2,716,900</u>	<u>2,771,634</u>

16 Capital commitments

	2023 £	2022 £
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	<u>367,556</u>	<u>466,114</u>

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

17 Financial commitments

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts due within one year	-	922

18 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net (expenditure)/income	(285,483)	257,815
Depreciation	118,412	114,401
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(432,003)	(576,738)
Expenditure from capital funding	466,114	488,255
Interest receivable	(38)	(68)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	24,000	206,000
Increase in debtors	(26,929)	(26,607)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(22,895)	109,905
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(295,482)
Net cash (used in)/provided by Operating Activities	(158,822)	277,481

19 Cash flows from investing activities

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	38	68
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(23,879)	(5,270)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	-	346,959
Capital grants from DfE Group	432,003	576,738
Expenditure from capital funding	(466,114)	(488,255)
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(57,952)	430,240

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	813,739	1,030,513
Total cash and cash equivalents	813,739	1,030,513

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

22 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by . 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 2019.

Contributions amounting to £35,261 (2022 - £31,588) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

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 member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury 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.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £177,814 (2022: £158,512).

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.

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £Nil (2022 - £154,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £Nil (2022 - £124,000) and employees' contributions totalled £Nil (2022 - £30,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are per cent for employers and 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 an academy trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.90	4.00
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	3.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.30	4.30
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	2.90	3.00
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00	50.00

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

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

	2023	2022
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.70	21.00
Females retiring today	23.20	23.50
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	22.00	22.30
Females retiring in 20 years	<u>24.60</u>	<u>24.90</u>
Sensitivity analysis		
	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	1,733	1,874
Discount rate -0.1%	1,802	1,965
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	1,816	1,975
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	1,719	1,865
CPI rate +0.1%	1,801	1,962
CPI rate -0.1%	<u>1,733</u>	<u>1,877</u>

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	1,049,000	880,000
Gilts	23,000	30,000
Other bonds	-	69,000
Property	141,000	148,000
Cash and other liquid assets	53,000	47,000
Other	<u>501,000</u>	<u>390,000</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>1,767,000</u>	<u>1,564,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £77,000 (2022 - £5,000).

The Local Government Pension Scheme for the school was valued by an Actuary as an asset amounting to £36,000 (2022: £355,000 creditor). The asset has not been recognised in the accounts.

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Current service cost	156,000	302,000
Interest income	(68,000)	(24,000)
Interest cost	81,000	52,000
Admin expenses	1,000	1,000
Total amount recognized in the SOFA	<u>170,000</u>	<u>331,000</u>

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
At start of period	1,919,000	3,159,000
Current service cost	156,000	302,000
Interest cost	81,000	52,000
Employee contributions	34,000	30,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(381,000)	(1,568,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(42,000)</u>	<u>(56,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,767,000</u>	<u>1,919,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of academy's share of scheme assets:

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
At start of period	1,564,000	1,462,000
Interest income	68,000	24,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(2,000)	(20,000)
Employer contributions	145,000	124,000
Employee contributions	34,000	30,000
Benefits paid	<u>(42,000)</u>	<u>(56,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,767,000</u>	<u>1,564,000</u>

Local government pension schemes

Runwell Community Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 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. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.