St Catherine's Catholic School (A Company Limited by Guarantee) Annual Report and Financial Statements Year ended 31 August 2021

Company Registration Number: 07694573 (England and Wales)

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Reference and Administrative Details

Members - The Trustees for the Anglo Hibernian Province of the La Sainte Union Congregation:

Sr M Totman - LSU Trustee

Sr J Wheatley - LSU Leadership

M Williams - LSU Schools Liaison

L Bourne - Executive Headteacher at LSU St Anne's

The Congregation of La Sainte Union as a Corporate Member

Trustees:

P Barber* - Chair of Directors

A Moffatt*

J Nelms*

K Ngugen-Quan (appointed March 2021)

R Clarke (appointed October 2020)

D Hackett (appointed May 2021)

N Mascarenhas (appointed October 2020)

A Soubrier (Staff governor)

* Members of the Business and Compliance (including finance, audit & risk) Committee

Senior Management Team:

N Watkiss – Interim Part Time Executive Headteacher / CEO

U Norbert - Interim Headteacher

S Ward – Deputy Headteacher (resigned 31 December 2020)

D O'Leary - Acting Deputy Headteacher

D Cunningham - Chaplain (Assistant Headteacher)

J Looney - Assistant Headteacher

N Gill - Assistant Headteacher

R Childs - SLT Data and Examinations Manager

J Griffith - Interim Business Manager

Company Name

St Catherine's Catholic School

Principal and Registered Office

St Catherine's Catholic School

Watling Street

Bexleyheath

Kent

DA6 7QJ

Company Registration Number

07694573 (England and Wales)

Reference and Administrative Details

Independent Auditor

Hopper Williams & Bell Limited Statutory Auditor Highland House Mayflower Close Chandlers Ford Eastleigh Hampshire SO53 4AR

Bankers

Lloyds Bank PLC 78 New Road Gravesend Kent DA11 0AR

Solicitors

Winkworth Sherwood LLP Minerva House 5 Montegue Close London SE1 9BB

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The principal activity of the company is the operation of a state-funded Catholic Academy, St. Catherine's Catholic School, providing a state education for students aged 11 to 16 (Yr7 - 11). The standard number of admissions is 210 in each year group, with a total PAN of 1050.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of St Catherine's Catholic School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as St Catherine's Catholic School for Girls.

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

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

The academy trust has not provided any indemnity to any third parties on behalf of any Trustees.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

In accordance with the articles, the trustees of the charitable company are the governors. They are appointed as follows;

- a) Up to three initial governors appointed on incorporation;
- b) Up to eight governors appointed by the Governors;
- c) Up to three staff governors elected by the staff;
- d) Up to three parent governors elected by parents;
- e) The Headteacher is an ex-officio Governor;
- f) Further governors may be appointed by the Secretary of State.

In respect of those appointed by the governors, ((b), above) when a vacancy arises, the governors seek to make an appointment that would maximise the relevant skills and experience on the board as a whole.

Trustees' Report

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new governors will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary, induction will provide training in charity, educational, legal and financial matters. All governors are provided with the information needed (including policies, minutes, budgets, etc) to undertake their role as governors. The Academy also purchases the Governor Training Scheme run by the local authority.

Organisational Structure

The Governing Body of St Catherine's Catholic School devolves the responsibility of the day to day running of the Academy to the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team. Their activities and decisions are monitored through a number of Governor Committees. The main committees as of 1 September 2021 are:

- Finance and Resources with Audit, Risk and Compliance
- Curriculum and Standards
- Pay and Staffing
- Admissions
- Head Teachers' Performance Review

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The senior leadership team (SLT) are the key management personnel of the trust. Trustees are also senior management although they receive no pay or other remuneration in respect of their role as Trustees. Where staff Trustees are in place, they receive remuneration for their role as staff and their pay is determined in the same way as applicable to all other staff. Further details of remuneration paid to staff who are trustees is set out within the notes to the accounts.

The pay of the Headteacher is set annually by the Headteacher Performance Management Committee, having regards to performance against objectives set the previous year. Pay of other SLT members is set by the Pay and staffing Committee again having regard to performance against previously agreed objectives and any recommendations made by the Headteacher.

Trade union facility time

The school had two Union Officials for this reporting period that fulfilled their union duties outside of the working school day.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Academy has no connected organisations.

Trustees' Report

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The principal object of the company is the advancement of education in the United Kingdom. It achieves this object principally through the operation of St. Catherine's Catholic School, the aim being to provide the highest possible standard of education and pastoral care, maximising the life-chances of its students.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The main objectives during the year were:

- · For all students to make exceptional progress in all areas of the curriculum
- For the Quality of Education to be outstanding
- For the ethos and culture of the school to be strong and conducive to the best form of Catholic Education
- For leaders and governors to secure high standards and excellence
- To nurture students to become aspirational women with an awareness of the world and the positive contribution they can make to it
- To minimise the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and staff.

Students engage in fundraising for specific charities identified by the student council, these include:

- Any natural disaster or crisis in the world.
- Breast cancer charities
- The LSU school in Tanzania
- Manna Centre for the homeless in London

Public Benefit

In setting the objectives and planning the associated activities, governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance and Key Performance Indicators

2020/21 has been a much more stable year for St Catherine's Catholic School and the new Trustees and interim leaders have done much to secure the future of the school after uncertain times.

The Catholic Life of the School has gone from strength to strength, even when the community was working remotely and this has galvanised the ethos and culture of the school and positively impacted on students, families and staff alike.

The COVID-19 pandemic has added to the pressures faced by the school for a second year, however despite this, the school has remained open for vulnerable students and has provided high quality remote education for other students during the national lockdown.

Trustees' Report

Achievements and Performance and Key Performance Indicators (continued)

The organisation of the school assessed GCSE grades for Year 11 students was highly effective, rigorous and well managed. Attendance of staff and students during the year was exceptionally high. Significant measures were put in place to ensure the well-being of students and staff during this phase of the pandemic and remained of the highest priority. Academic performance of students gave rise to another very successful year.

The Attainment 8 score is 58.43. 87% of students achieved a Standard pass (grade 4+) for English and maths. 69% achieved a Strong pass (grade 5+) for English and maths. The EBacc figure for a Standard pass is 49.54% and 32.87% for a Strong pass. 35.6% of all grades are grades 7 to 9.

The Progress 8 figure, as calculated by 4Matrix, is +0.74, a very strong result in comparison with the national average and an upward trajectory in comparison with previous years' examination results.

The school performs very highly year-on-year in comparison with the other 49 schools in the Education Endowment Fund family of similar schools.

Pupil attendance for the year remained strong. This is evidenced through the only available comparable data, which is for the autumn term prior to the pandemic. Overall attendance at the school was 97% compared to national 95%. Persistent absence was 6.27% compared to the national of 13.1%. For students eligible for the Pupil Premium, attendance is strong.

Governors managed to recruit a brand new substantive Headteacher and additional permanent members of the leadership team now that the major school recovery projects have been completed. The new team have established themselves well and are making excellent progress.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees 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

During the year St Catherine's Catholic School received income of £6,356,690 (2020: £5,992,410) from the Dfe in respect of the General Annual Grant and other revenue grants to fund the Academy's operations. Total income (excluding restricted fixed asset funds) amounted to £6,663,013 (2020: £6,173,425). Expenditure (excluding restricted pension and fixed asset funds) amounted to £6,569,713 (2020: £6,123,047) in respect of operating St Catherine's Catholic School.

Trustees' Report

Financial Review (continued)

When considering the impact of Covid on the school's financial performance during the year 2020-21, the most significant areas of impact include:

- Income lost from lettings and school trips
- Income gained from local authority and government grants
- Increased expenditure for cleaning requirements
- adaptations to the buildings to increase safety
- staffing for lunchtimes and managing the site to maintain the Covid bubbles
- staffing for pastoral care to tackle issues following the lockdowns and related isolation
- staffing for testing regime
- IT infrastructure costs to facilitate home learning
- Covering the absence of staff with COVID and/or who were required to isolate.

The additional Covid funding received from the ESFA for Covid Catch-up Premium and the local authority for Covid Outbreak Management was spent in the following way:

- Teaching staff to deliver catch up curriculum
- Splitting some teaching sets so that class sizes were smaller and more adaptable for the needs
 of learners
- Increasing staff with the ability to offer wrap around care (academic and pastoral)
- Therapists to tackle a multitude of mental health issues which were displayed after the lockdowns
- IT equipment for those in need
- Broadband assistance for those in need
- A professional COVID testing regime
- Advice and guidance on health and safety in the uncertain times
- Increased cleaning costs to maintain a safe environment
- Training for staff and students in order to maximise the impact of IT based home learning.

Due to the additional Covid grant funding the school was able to maintain its unrestricted and restricted general reserves levels and no changes needed to be made to the revenue plans for the school.

The financial statements show a significant reduction in the cash at bank and in hand balance at the year end, which is as a result of:

- Large Capital improvement fund expenditure incurred during the year on a project to replace part of the School's roof, for which £269,493 of funding was received from the ESFA after the year end
- VAT totalling £269,326 was owed to the school at the year-end. This balance accumulated due
 to issues with submitting claims during the year; however this has been resolved since the year
 end and the funds are due to be received imminently.

Trustees' Report

Reserves Policy

The principal policy on reserves is that accumulation of unspent GAG balances should not breach any limits thereon set out in the Funding agreement. The level of reserves should never be in deficit.

Each year the Governors review the resource requirements and grant and other income that is forecast for the coming year and an annual budget is formulated and approved.

The reserves as at 31 August 2021 were as follows:

- Unrestricted (free) reserves of £626,239 (2020: £622,015)
- A restricted fixed asset fund of £7,838,511 (2020: £8,387,309), which can only be realised through disposal of tangible fixed assets
- A pension deficit of £2,241,000 (2020: £2,090,000)
- Other restricted funds of £246,012 (2020: £232,704)
- Total funds of £6,469,762 (2020: £7,152,028)

Investment Policy

There are no investments held beyond cash deposits retained with the major UK clearing banks. Speculative investments are not permitted. A new investment policy will be in place by January 2022.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the company is exposed, in particular those relating to academic performance/finances/child welfare. The governors have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the company faces, and have developed policies and procedures to mitigate those risks. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The company has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement.

The risk management process has been codified in a risk register implemented by the Senior Leadership Team and overseen by Trustees.

The principal financial risk faced by the company is that ongoing pressure on funding results in a risk that deficits may be experienced. The budgeting and reporting process, including scrutiny by the governors of actual financial performance, mitigates the risk.

As the nature of the financial instruments dealt with by the company is relatively simple (bank balances, debtors and "trade" creditors), governors consider the associated risk in this area to be minimal.

The risk resulting from the company's share of the LGPS deficit is managed by following the advice of the scheme's actuaries, specifically as regards the level of contributions payable, ensuring that annual budgets are drawn up to reflect the actuary's advice.

Trustees' Report

Principal Risks and Uncertainties (continued)

Most of the company's income is obtained from the DfE (via the Education and Skills Funding Agency) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Fundraising

As part of its work within the community, the Academy Trust undertakes fundraising activities, for example through fetes, cake sales, non-uniform days etc. The Academy Trust raises funds in order to support its own operations and also to make donations to local and national charities. The Academy Trust undertakes all such activities itself, with the help of its students and their families. We confirm that when fundraising:

- No unsolicited approaches are made to members of the public.
- No commercial participators are used.
- No regularity schemes or standards are applicable.
- No complaints were made to the Academy Trust during the year.

All fundraising is undertaken by the school in a manner that seeks to ensure that it is not unreasonably intrusive or persistent. Contact is made through email, school newsletters, our website, and via students. All fundraising material contains clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

As the trust has not consumed more than 40,000 kWh of energy in this reporting period, it qualifies as a low energy user under these regulations and is not required to report on its emissions, energy consumption or energy efficiency activities.

Plans for Future Periods

The principal tasks facing the company are to:

- Maintain and continue to improve excellent educational standards and managing the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Achieve Outstanding in the Section 48 Inspection
- Achieve Outstanding in the OfSTED inspection
- Ensure the transition programme for the new substantive headteacher and new governing body is successful
- Ensure that the school is equipped to deliver outstanding outcomes and pastoral care digitally, as well as face to face through the upgrading and replacement of IT based resources and hardware.
- Ensure that the estate and buildings are ready for social distancing measures and the impact on groupings of students and staff.
- Review the curriculum in light of the school's current position and any gaps identified as a consequence of COVID-19.

Trustees' Report

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

At the period ended 31st August 2021, the Academy held no monies as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 8 December 2021 and signed on the board's behalf by:

A, W . H . H Anthony Moffatt (Dec 15, 2021 15:14 GMT)

A Moffatt

Chair of Trustees

Governance Statement

Scope of Responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that St Catherine's Catholic School 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.

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 St Catherine's Catholic School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

<u>Trustee</u>	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
P Barber	5	5
A Moffatt	4	5
J Nelms	4	5
K Nguyen-Quan	3	3
R Clarke	3	3
D Hackett	3	3
N Mascarenhas	3	3
A Soubrier	3	3

As the board met less than six times in the year, effective oversight was maintained through the work of The Business & Compliance Committee.

Governance reviews:

The three original Directors and former Clerk to Governors are National Leaders of Governors and carried out effectiveness reviews in the previous school year. They then spent this academic year recruiting and training new governors/Trustees in order to implement a full, functioning Board prior to the exit of the interim leaders and the arrival of the new Headteacher in September 2021.

Governance Statement

Review of the SLT

As part of the development of the school, the Board along with the Interim part time Headteacher reviewed the structure and cost of the senior leadership team. The newly planned leadership team was in place ready for September 2021 with the arrival of the new Headteacher.

CIF Roofing Project

The project was successfully completed during this financial year with minimal impact on students and staff.

SRMA Commissioned Review

The governors commissioned an SRMA review in order to benchmark previous expenditure patterns of the school and evaluate the changes already implemented by the Board and the interim part time executive Headteacher/CEO. This was a very effective exercise. It gave excellent feedback on the work carried out so far by new Board members and Interim Leaders and identified sources of further savings, which are either being implemented already or carefully considered for the future.

Budget Monitoring Process

The school commissioned an expert consultancy firm to implement a new monthly budget monitoring process. This started in February and the impact has been excellent and allowed leaders and governors to make decisions in order to best use public funds by monitoring and evaluating expenditure.

Effect of COVID on Governance arrangements

The vast majority of meetings took place remotely and papers were distributed digitally. In person meetings resumed in the autumn term 2020 and then in the summer term 2021 after the national lockdowns.

The Business & Compliance Committee (including finance, risk & audit) is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees and is responsible for all areas of Business & Compliance, including finance, audit and risk. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<u>Trustee</u>	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Moffatt	6	7
P Barber	7	7
J Nelms	6	7

Governance Statement

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 societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

The Accounting Officer of St Catherine's Catholic School accepts is responsible and accountable for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The AO is aware of the Guide to Academy Value for Money Statements published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The AO has set out below how the Academy Trust's economic, efficient and effective use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

Improving educational results - (see above for evidence of strong outcomes)

Financial governance and oversight - The Academy continues to have its financial procedures reviewed regularly by a Responsible Officer who carries out internal audits and control checks and provides a report to the Governors. The Academy receives support throughout the year from its External Auditors on compliance and accounting issues and is audited annually.

The Finance Committee meets termly and receive regular monitoring reports. The Full Governing Body approves the budget each year and is mindful of the need to balance expenditure against income to ensure the Academy Trust remains a 'going concern'. The Academy works with other local academies to undertake cost comparison and benchmarking.

Reviewing controls and managing risks - Staff with budget responsibilities receive regular monthly reports and ensure they stay within their allocated budgets. Any issues that arise are dealt with by the Business and Finance Manager/Headteacher as and when required. Any concerns or anticipated extraordinary expenses are reported to the Governing Finance Committee, who will scrutinise them fully before approving.

Governance Statement

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 St Catherine's Catholic School for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- 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 programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Strictly Education.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial and other systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- · testing of control account/bank reconciliations
- testing of compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook

Governance Statement

The Risk and Control Framework (continued)

The internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

This year, the auditor focused on three specific areas: risk management and finance management. These were completed remotely due to restrictions brought on by the pandemic. They were completed by the end of the academic year 2020-2021, with the report for finance management being published to the school into the new academic year.

The rating of risk management audit was "high assurance" and that "Risks are generally being mitigated to an acceptable level with an adequate and effective control environment in operation. Where an improvement in processes is identified, it is not indicative of a weakness in process or control but will result in improved efficiencies." They recommended a number of minor actions which have been considered and will be actioned.

Finance Management review showed there is a medium assurance level that "Risks are being mitigated to an acceptable level, except for the weaknesses identified, and improvements are required to provide an adequate and effective financial control environment. Weaknesses in controls or processes identified are not considered to be significant but the recommended actions will result in improved processes and controls." They recommended a number of actions including:

- the trustees and management review the options to minimise costs and optimise revenue in order to avoid in-year deficit;
- the monthly management accounts and budget monitors must be accompanied with cashflows and balance sheet to be shared with the Trust's Chairperson every month;
- appropriate adjustments be made to align and agree the academy's yearend finance ledgers with its audited account balances.

All actions recommended by the internal auditors have been considered and in the process of being actioned.

Governance Statement

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 internal auditor, 'Strictly Education'
- the work of the external auditor
- the school resource management self-assessment tool
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the audit and risk 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 Board of Trustees on 8 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

A, W .H .H Anthony Moffatt (Dec 15, 2021 15:14 GMT)

N. Thompson (Dec 15, 2021 15:48 GMT)

A Moffatt

Chair of Trustees

N Thompson

Accounting Officer

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of St Catherine's Catholic School I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, under the funding agreement in place 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

N. Thompson (Dec 15, 2021 15:48 GMT)

N Thompson

Accounting Officer

8 December 2021

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 & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021
- 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
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 8 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

A, White H Anthony Moffatt (Dec 15, 2021 15:14 GMT)

A Moffatt

Chair of Trustees

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Catherine's Catholic School

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St Catherine's Catholic School ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, 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, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019, and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021
 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 properly prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Catherine's Catholic School

Emphasis of matter - land and buildings valuation

We draw attention to note 1 in the financial statements which highlights, under "Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement", that since the date of conversion, the Academy Trust has included an original estimate of £9.4m for the replacement value of the buildings occupied under a long lease by St Catherine's Catholic School. The original estimate was made by the Trustees and the basis for this estimate is set out in note 1. In order to address this, the Academy Trust will request a valuation from the ESFA or other suitably qualified entity so that the carrying value in the financial statements can be reviewed.

Should the valuation prove to be materially higher or lower than the estimate of the value currently included in the accounts an adjustment will be required to the Balance Sheet and Statement of Financial Activities to recognise the increase or decrease in the valuation. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. It includes the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report), and the Governance Statement. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Catherine's Catholic School

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

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

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

Responsibilities of the Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, 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 to 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Catherine's Catholic School

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

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

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to
 the Academy Trust, and the sector in which it operates. These include but are not limited to
 compliance with the Companies Act 2006, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United
 Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102
 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities
 SORP 2019, the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, and the Academies Accounts Direction
 2020 to 2021.
- We obtained an understanding of how the Academy Trust is complying with these frameworks through discussions with management.
- We enquired with management whether there were any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. These enquiries are corroborated through follow-up audit procedures including but not limited to a review of legal and professional costs, correspondence and a review of board minutes.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Academy Trust's financial statements to material
 misstatement, including the risk of fraud and management override of controls. We designed
 our audit procedures to respond to this assessment, including the identification and testing of
 any related party transactions and the testing of journal transactions that arise from
 management estimates, that are determined to be of significant value or unusual in their
 nature.
- We assessed the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team, including consideration of the engagement team's knowledge and understanding of the sector in which the Academy Trust operates in, and their practical experience through training and participation with audit engagements of a similar nature.

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

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Catherine's Catholic School

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

James Flood	
James Flood (Dec 15, 2021 16:20 GMT)	

J Flood ACA
For and on behalf of Hopper Williams & Bell Limited
Statutory Auditor
Highland House, Mayflower Close, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4AR

	15/12/2021
Date	

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St Catherine's Catholic School and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 24 June 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St Catherine's Catholic School during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to St Catherine's Catholic School and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to St Catherine's Catholic School 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 the St Catherine's Catholic School and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of St Catherine's Catholic School's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of St Catherine's Catholic School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 December 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St Catherine's Catholic School and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Consideration as to whether prior approval was sought from the Secretary of State where it is required by the Academies Financial Handbook (effective from 1 September 2020) (AFH).
- Review of any special payments to staff, including compromise agreements, to consider whether prior approval was sought where required by the AFH and that any payments are in line with the severance guidance published by ESFA.
- Consideration as to whether any borrowings have been made in accordance with the AFH.
- Review of any 'minded to' letters or Notices to Improve which have been issued to the Academy Trust.
- Review of any transactions with related parties to ensure that they have been carried out in accordance with the AFH.
- Review of governance arrangements to determine whether the requirements of the AFH have been met.
- Review of the Academy Trust's internal controls, including whether the general control
 environment has regard to the regularity of underlying transactions, including fraud
 management.
- Review of the Academy Trust's procurement policies to determine effectiveness and testing a sample of purchases to confirm that the policies have been correctly implemented.
- Identifying any conditions associated with specialist grant income and determining whether it has been spent as the purposes intended.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St Catherine's Catholic School and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

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 period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

James Flood
James Flood (Dec 15, 2021 16:20 GMT)

J Flood ACA
Reporting Accountant
Hopper Williams & Bell Limited
Chartered Accountants
Highland House, Mayflower Close, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4AR

Date15/12/2021

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

		Un-	Restricted	Restricted	Restricted	2020/21	2010/20
	Note	restricted funds	General Funds	Funds	Fixed Asset Funds	2020/21 Total	2019/20 Total
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	-	(11,320)	(11,320)	290,057
Charitable activities: Funding for the academy							
trust's educational operations	4	3,606	6,658,789	-	-	6,662,395	6,154,998
Other trading activities	5	130	-	-	-	130	10,436
Investments	6	488	-	-	-	488	7,991
Total	-	4,224	6,658,789		(11,320)	6,651,693	6,463,482
	-	<u> </u>			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities: Academy trust educational							
operations	8 _	-	6,569,713	185,000	613,246	7,367,959	6,770,454
Net income / (expenditure)		4,224	89,076	(185,000)	(624,566)	(716,266)	(306,972)
Transfers between funds	15	-	(75,768)	-	75,768	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses): Actuarial gains on defined benefit							
pension schemes	24	-	_	34,000	_	34,000	215,000
Net movement in funds		4,224	13,308	(151,000)	(548,798)	(682,266)	(91,972)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	_	622,015	232,704	(2,090,000)	8,387,309	7,152,028	7,244,000
Total funds carried forward		626,239	246,012	(2,241,000)	7,838,511	6,469,762	7,152,028

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

Company Number 07694573

	Note	2021	2021	2020	2020
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		7,838,511		8,125,490
Current assets	42	720 005		F40 4 4 4	
Debtors	13	729,025	• •	549,144	
Cash at bank and in hand		591,374		1,099,130	
		1,320,399		1,648,274	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(448,148)		(531,736)	
Nick command condu			072 251		1 116 520
Net current assets		-	872,251	-	1,116,538
Total assets less current liabilities			8,710,762		9,242,028
					. ,
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24		(2,241,000)		(2,090,000)
				-	
Total net assets			6,469,762		7,152,028
Conductate and construct					
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	4.5	7 020 544		0.207.200	
Fixed asset fund	15	7,838,511		8,387,309	
Restricted income fund	15	246,012		232,704	
Pension reserve	15	(2,241,000)		(2,090,000)	
Total restricted funds			5,843,523		6,530,013
Unrestricted income funds	15		626,239		622,015
Total funds			6,469,762		7,152,028

The financial statements on pages 27 to 53 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 8 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

A. Whigh off Anthony Moffatt (Dec 15, 2021 15:14 GMT)

A Moffatt

Chair of Trustees

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	19	(428,857)	(434,324)
Cash flows from investing activities	20	(78,899)	254,671
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(507,756)	(179,653)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2020		1,099,130	1,278,783
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2021	21	591,374	1,099,130

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

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 2020 to 2021 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.

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.

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 recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Income (continued)

• Government Grants

The following government grants have been received during the year:

Coronavirus exceptional support

The accrual model has been used to recognise the grant when it is received or becomes receivable, as there are no future related costs or performance conditions.

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.

· Donated goods, facilities and services

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'.

Expenditure

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

Charitable Activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Tangible Fixed Assets

Assets costing £4,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

As described in note 12, the Trust occupies school land and buildings under a lease with The Trustees of Anglo-Hibernian Province of the Congregation of La Sainte Unison Des Scres Coeurs Registered.

The Trustees have considered the license arrangements for each school's land and buildings in the context of the accounting requirement set out in the Academies Accounts Direct 2020 to 2021 and have determined that the conditions required to conclude that the Trust has control over the school's land is not met and consequently the land is not recognised in the financial statements. The license arrangements allow the Trust to occupy the land free of charge and no income or expenditure is recognised for the rent free occupation because the Trustees do not consider that a reliable measure of the amount the Trust would otherwise have to pay to secure the land can be made.

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

Leasehold Buildings Buildings 15 to 50 years straight line; not provided on land

Leasehold Improvements 2% or 20% straight line

Furniture and Equipment 20% straight line
Computer Equipment 33% straight line
Motor Vehicles 20% straight line

Long leasehold land has not been depreciated as it is similar to freehold land, which does not require depreciation.

Where the Academy Trust can identify the value of major components of freehold or leasehold buildings based upon additions following conversion to academy status, the Academy Trust reviews whether one or more such components have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits. In such cases, the Academy Trust allocates the cost of the asset to its major components and depreciates each component separately over its useful life.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

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.

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. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value. An investment is treated as a cash equivalent when it has a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Financial liabilities

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

Taxation

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Pensions 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 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.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

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.

Since the date of conversion, the Academy Trust has included an original estimate of £9.4m for the replacement value of the buildings occupied under a long lease by St Catherine's Catholic School. The Academy will request a valuation from the ESFA or other suitably qualified entity in order to assess the carrying value of the buildings included in the financial statements; should the valuation prove to be materially higher or lower than the estimate of the value currently included in the accounts, an adjustment will be required to the Balance Sheet and Statement of Financial Activities to recognise the increase or decrease in the valuation.

The replacement value of the buildings has been estimated by the trust based on their original cost, less an estimate for depreciation based on the age of the buildings at the date of conversion. This estimate has been used in the accounts whilst the Trustees obtain an up to date valuation from the ESFA or other suitably qualified entity.

Land is included in the accounts at a nominal value of £1 to reflect the legal restrictions on its use.

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 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 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The assumptions used are disclosed in note 24.

Critical areas of judgement

There are no other critical areas of judgement.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

2 General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was subject to limits at 31 August 2021 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% of GAG could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes.

The Academy Trust has not exceeded these limits during the year ended 31 August 2021.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2020/21 Total	2019/20 Total
	£	£	£	£
Capital grants		(11,320)	(11,320)	290,057
Total 2020		290,057	290,057	

The negative capital grants reflects a clawback due to an underspend on capital improvement funds that were granted in 2019/20, and the repayment of 2015/16 capital grant funding that was also underspent.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

4 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
DfE / ESFA grants	_	_	_	_
General Annual Grant (GAG)	_	5,775,090	5,775,090	5,400,387
Pupil Premium	-	216,461	216,461	236,722
Rates reclaim	-	40,698	40,698	53,071
Teachers' pay grant	-	79,461	79,461	79,001
Teachers' pension grant	-	224,530	224,530	223,229
Other DfE grants	-	20,450	20,450	-
•	-	6,356,690	6,356,690	5,992,410
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	71,836	71,836	55,887
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA) Catch-up premium Coronavirus exceptional support	-	83,480	83,480	- 25,067
Summer schools programme fund	_	63,827	63,827	-
Other DfE/ESFA Coronavirus funding	_	62,371	62,371	_
other biz/zor/r boronavirab ramania		209,678	209,678	25,067
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational ope	rations			
Trip income	-	13,181	13,181	35,200
Other income	3,606	7,404	11,010	46,434
	3,606	20,585	24,191	81,634
	3,606	6,658,789	6,662,395	6,154,998
Total 2020	3,963	6,151,035	6,154,998	

Following the reclassification of some grants received from the Department for Education and the ESFA in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21, the Academy Trust's funding for Rates reclaim, Teachers' pay grant, and Teachers' pension grant are no longer reported under the Other DfE grants heading, but as separate lines under the DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

The Academy Trust received £83,480 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding also totalled £83,480, with £nil to be spent in 2021/22.

The Academy Trust received other Coronavirus funding in respect of mass testing, Covid Workforce Fund, and Coronavirus emergency support payments.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

5 Other trading activities

			Unrestricted	Restricted	2020/21	2019/20
			funds	funds	Total	Total
	Hitter of facilities		£	£	£	£
	Hire of facilities		130		130	10,436
	Total 2020		10,436	_	10,436	
	75147 2525	•			20,100	
6	Investment income					
			Unrestricted	Restricted	2020/21	2019/20
			funds	funds	Total	Total
	Ch and the same days as the		£	£	£	£
	Short term deposits		488	-	488	7,991
	Total 2020		7,991	_	7,991	
	70107 2020	•	7,551			
7	Expenditure					
			Non Pay Exp		Total	Total
		Staff costs	Premises	Other	2020/21	2019/20
		£	£	£	£	£
	Andered advertised annuations					
	Academy's educational operations: Direct costs	4,246,348		980,966	5,227,314	4,969,022
	Allocated support costs	1,256,404	534,199	350,042	2,140,645	1,801,432
	Anocated support costs	5,502,752	534,199	1,331,008	7,367,959	6,770,454
				2,502,000	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	3,7,0,13,1
	Total 2020	5,412,341	263,272	1,094,841	6,770,454	
	Net income/(expenditure) for the period inc	ludes:				
					2020/21	2019/20
					£	£
	Operating lease rentals				7,087	7,000
	Depreciation				381,035	288,032
	•				•	•
	Fees payable to auditor for:					
	•				8,450 5,830	9,000 18,000

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

8 Charitable activities

		2020/21	2019/20
		Total	Total
		£	£
Direct costs		5,227,314	4,969,022
Support costs	_	2,140,645	1,801,432
	_	7,367,959	6,770,454
Analysis of support costs:			
	Educational	2020/21	2019/20
	operations	Total	Total
	£	£	£
Support staff costs	1,256,404	1,256,404	1,109,283
Depreciation	76,207	76,207	57,606
Premises costs	534,199	534,199	263,272
Legal costs - other	19,129	19,129	53,066
Other support costs	222,003	222,003	291,499
Governance costs	32,703	32,703	26,706
Total support costs	2,140,645	2,140,645	1,801,432
Total 2020	1,801,432	1,801,432	

Premises costs includes £232,211 (2020: £nil) in respect of expenditure on capital projects, which were funded by capital grants from the ESFA.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

9 Staff

a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the period were:

Start costs during the period were.	2020/24	2010/20
	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,913,275	3,825,221
Social security costs	399,610	371,892
Pension costs	925,458	980,142
	5,238,343	5,177,255
Agency staff costs	187,811	235,086
Staff restructuring costs	76,598	
	5,502,752	5,412,341
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	76,598	-
	76,598	_

b) Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £76,598 (2020: £nil). Individually, the payments were: £26,648 and £49,950.

c) Staff numbers

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	No.	No.
Teachers	60	55
Administration and support	41	46
Management	7	12
	108	113

d) Higher paid staff

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	5	3
£70,001 - £80,000	1	3
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£90,001 - £100,000	1 ,	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£120,001 - £130,000	1	-

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

9 Staff (continued)

e) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £914,484 (2020: £1,114,325).

10 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.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£000	£000
Remuneration	85-90	100-105
Employer's pension contributions paid	5-10	20-25
Remuneration	-	25-30
Employer's pension contributions paid	-	5-10
Remuneration	45-50	35-40
Employer's pension contributions paid	10-15	5-10
	Employer's pension contributions paid Remuneration Employer's pension contributions paid Remuneration	Remuneration 85-90 Employer's pension contributions paid 5-10 Remuneration - Employer's pension contributions paid - Remuneration 45-50

During the period ended 31 August 2021, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £658 were reimbursed or paid directly to two trustees (2020: £1,906 to four trustees).

11 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 £10m. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Land and Buildings	Leasehold Improve- ments	Furniture and Equipment	Computer Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	10,453,051	-	23,421	64,300	15,228	10,556,000
Acquisitions	-	33,176	3,926	56,954	-	94,056
Reclassifications	(976,568)	976,568	_			
At 31 August 2021	9,476,483	1,009,744	27,347	121,254	15,228	10,650,056
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	2,331,923	-	22,369	60,990	15,228	2,430,510
Charged in year	260,147	109,470	2,509	8,909	-	381,035
Reclassifications	(67,335)	67,335	-	_		
At 31 August 2021	2,524,735	176,805	24,878	69,899	15,228	2,811,545
Net book values						
At 31 August 2020	8,121,128	_	1,052	3,310	-	8,125,490
At 31 August 2021	6,951,748	832,939	2,469	51,355	-	7,838,511

The land on which the buildings are situated is recognised in the financial statements at a nominal value of £1 to reflect to legal restrictions on its use. The land is controlled by the Trustees of Anglo-Hibernian Province of the Congregation of Sainte-Union des Sacrés-Coeurs, who are the legal owners.

13 Debtors

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Trade debtors	2,615	3,639
VAT recoverable	269,326	17,273
Prepayments and accrued income	457,084	528,232
	729,025	549,144

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Trade creditors	166,541	116,400
Other taxation and social security	105,617	102,368
Other creditors falling due within one year	86,900	107,914
Accruals and deferred income	89,090	205,054
	448,148	531,736
	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	94,275	61,086
Released from previous years	(94,275)	(61,086)
Resources deferred in the year	-	94,275
Deferred income at 31 August 2021		94,275

At 31 August 2020 the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for lettings and trips that relate to the forthcoming financial year.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

15 Funds

	Balance at					Balance at
	1 September				Gains and	31 August
	2020	Income	•	Transfers	losses	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,775,090	(5,706,599)	-	-	68,491
Pupil premium	-	216,461	(216,461)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	40,698	(40,698)	-	-	-
Teachers' pay grant	-	79,461	(79,461)	-	-	-
Teachers' pension grant	-	224,530	(224,530)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	20,450	(20,450)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	71,836	(71,836)	-	=	-
Catch-up premium	-	83,480	(83,480)	-	-	-
Summer schools programme	-	63,827	(63,827)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA C-19 funding		62,371	(62,371)	-	-	-
Other educational activities	232,704	20,585	· · · · -	(75,768)	-	177,521
	232,704	6,658,789	(6,569,713)	(75,768)	-	246,012
Pension reserve	(2,090,000)	-	(185,000)	-	34,000	(2,241,000)
	(1,857,296)	6,658,789	(6,754,713)	(75,768)	34,000	(1,994,988)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	8,125,490	-	(381,035)	94,056	_	7,838,511
ESFA capital grants (DFC)	, , , <u>-</u>	21,373	-	(21,373)	-	-
ESFA capital grants (CIF)	261,819	(32,693)	(232,211)	3,085	-	-
	8,387,309	(11,320)	(613,246)	75,768	-	7,838,511
Total restricted funds	6,530,013	6,647,469	(7,367,959)	<u> </u>	34,000	5,843,523
Total unrestricted funds	622,015	4,224				626,239
Total funds	7 152 029	6 651 602	/7 267 0E0\		34,000	6,469,762
rotal fullus	7,152,028	6,651,693	(7,367,959)		54,000	0,409,702

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

15 Funds (continued)

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

General annual grant

This includes all funding received from the ESFA to carry out the objectives of the academy. It includes the school budget share; minimum funding guarantee; education services grant; insurance; rates; and pre-16 high needs funding streams.

Other DfE/ESFA grants

This is funding received from the ESFA for specific purposes.

Local authority grants

This is funding received from the local authority for specific purposes, for example Special Educational Needs funding.

Other educational activities

This includes all other educational income/expenditure.

Pension reserve

This represents the negative reserve in respect of the liability on the LGPS pension scheme which was transferred to the Academy Trust on conversion.

Fixed asset fund

The fund includes the value of the tangible fixed assets of the academy on conversion, and amounts transferred from GAG or other restricted funds specifically for expenditure on tangible fixed assets, and the annual charges for depreciation of these assets.

DfE/ESFA capital grants

This is funding received from the DfE/ESFA specifically for expenditure on tangible fixed assets.

Transfers between funds

Transfers to the restricted fixed asset fund represent the cost of fixed asset additions which have been funded from restricted or unrestricted general funds.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

15 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,400,387	(5,396,103)	(4,284)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	236,722	(236,722)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	53,071	(53,071)	-	-	-
Teachers' pay grant	-	79,001	(79,001)	-	-	-
Teachers' pension grant	-	223,229	(223,229)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	55,887	(55,887)	-	-	-
Coronavirus exceptional supt.	-	25,067	(25,067)	-	-	-
Other educational activities	209,000	77,671	(53,967)	-	-	232,704
	209,000	6,151,035	(6,123,047)	(4,284)	-	232,704
Pension reserve	(2,125,000)	-	(180,000)		215,000	(2,090,000)
	(1,916,000)	6,151,035	(6,303,047)	(4,284)	215,000	(1,857,296)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	8,356,145	-	(288,032)	57,377	-	8,125,490
ESFA capital grants (DFC)	24,855	7,313	-	(32,168)	-	-
ESFA capital grants (CIF)	-	282,744	-	(20,925)	-	261,819
	8,381,000	290,057	(288,032)	4,284		8,387,309
Total restricted funds	6,465,000	6,441,092	(6,591,079)		215,000	6,530,013
Total unrestricted funds	779,000	22,390	(179,375)		-	622,015
Total funds	7,244,000	6,463,482	(6,770,454)		215,000	7,152,028

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Un- restricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted pension funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	7,838,511	7,838,511
Current assets	626,239	694,160	-	-	1,320,399
Current liabilities	-	(448,148)	-	-	(448,148)
Pension scheme liability			(2,241,000)		(2,241,000)
Total net assets	626,239	246,012	(2,241,000)	7,838,511	6,469,762

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

	Un- restricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted pension funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	8,125,490	8,125,490
Current assets	622,015	764,440	-	261,819	1,648,274
Current liabilities	-	(531,736)	-	-	(531,736)
Pension scheme liability		_	(2,090,000)	_	(2,090,000)
Total net assets	622,015	232,704	(2,090,000)	8,387,309	7,152,028

17 Capital commitments

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements		249,000

18 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	7,087	7,000
Amounts due between one and five years	5,740	14,000
	12,827	21,000

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

19 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(716,266)	(306,972)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation	381,035	288,032
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(14,669)	(290,057)
Interest receivable	(488)	(7,991)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	141,000	138,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	44,000	42,000
Increase in debtors	(179,881)	(387,612)
(Decrease) / increase in creditors	(83,588)	90,276
Net cash used in Operating Activities	(428,857)	(434,324)

20 Cash flows from investing activities

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	488	7,991
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(94,056)	(57,377)
Capital grants from DfE Group	34,111	304,057
Repayment of previous capital grant funding	(19,442)	
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities	(78,899)	254,671



Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

21 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	591,374	1,099,130

22 Analysis of changes in net debt

•	At 1		Acquisition/	New	Other	At 31
	September	Cash	disposal of	finance	non-cash	August
	2020	flows	subsidiaries	leases	changes	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cash	1,099,130	(507,756)	-	-	-	591,374
Total	1,099,130	(507,756)	-	-	-	591,374

23 Members liability

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

24 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 London Borough of Bexley. 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 £86,900 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020: £96,199) 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 the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £552,000 (2020: £605,000).

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 pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Employer's contributions	223,000	229,000
Employees' contributions	60,000	56,000
·	283,000	285,000

The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.9% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2021	2020
Rate of increase in salaries	4.2%	3.9%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.8%	2.5%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7%	1.8%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7%	2.4%

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

•	2021	2020
Retiring today		
Males	22.5	22.4
Females	25.2	25.1
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.1	24.0
Females	27.2	27.1

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Total amount recognised in the SOFA

Sensitivity analysis	Increase/(reduction) in defined benefit obligation	
	2021	2020
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	(118,000)	(103,000)
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	200,000	157,000
CPI rate +0.1%	121,000	15,000
The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme were:		
·	2021	2020
	£	£
Equities	1,240,000	1,698,000
Gilts	565,000	407,000
Corporate bonds	756,000	577,000
Property	443,000	340,000
Cash	411,000	34,000
Other	652,000	339,000
Total market value of assets	4,067,000	3,395,000
The actual return on scheme assets was £462,000 (2020: £14,000).		
Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities		
	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Current service cost	364,000	332,000
Past service cost	-	35,000
Interest income	(63,000)	(59,000)
Interest cost	98,000	93,000
Benefit changes, gain/(loss) on curtailment and gain/(loss) on settlement	9,000	8,000

408,000

409,000

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
At 1 September	5,485,000	5,276,000
Current service cost	364,000	332,000
Interest cost	98,000	93,000
Employee contributions	60,000	56,000
Actuarial loss / (gain)	365,000	(260,000)
Benefits paid	(64,000)	(47,000)
Past service cost		35,000
At 31 August	6,308,000	5,485,000

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
At 1 September	3,395,000	3,151,000
Interest income	63,000	59,000
Actuarial gain / (loss)	399,000	(45,000)
Employer contributions	223,000	229,000
Employee contributions	60,000	56,000
Benefits paid	(64,000)	(47,000)
Effect of non-routine settlements	(9,000)	(8,000)
At 31 August	4,067,000	3,395,000

25 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.