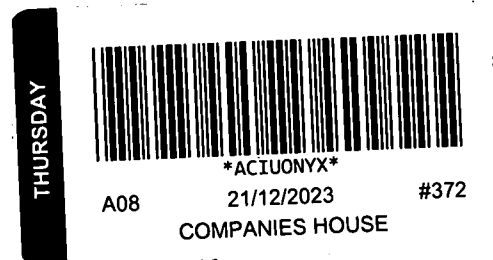


Amery Hill School Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 August 2023

Company Registration Number:
07760509 (England and Wales)



Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members

Z Canale
P Crow
D Holland
J Wilde

Trustees

L Bostelmann
S Cooney
D Hainsworth
R Jeckells, Headteacher (appointed 1 September 2023)
A Johnstone
R Kemp
J Lyle
M Oakley (appointed 13 December 2022)
C Scammell (appointed 13 December 2022)
L Vickery
S Yearley
P Canale (resigned 31 August 2023)
J Fawcett (resigned 17 July 2023)
J Le Roux (resigned 10 January 2023)
G Lister (resigned 31 August 2023)
S Mann (resigned 31 August 2023)

Company Secretary

J Edmunds (resigned 31 August 2023)
N Wells (appointed 1 September 2023)

Senior Management Team

S Mann, Headteacher (resigned 31 August 2023)
R Jeckells, Headteacher (appointed 1 September 2023)
M Gibbs, Deputy Headteacher
J Eacott, Assistant Headteacher
A Lee, Assistant Headteacher
B Pretsell, Assistant Headteacher (appointed 1 September 2022)
J Riley, Assistant Headteacher
J Edmunds, School Business Manager (resigned 31 August 2023)
N Wells, School Business Manager (appointed 5 June 2023)

Company Name

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Principal and Registered Office

Amery Hill
Alton
Hampshire
GU34 2BZ

Company Registration Number

07760509 (England and Wales)

Independent Auditor

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

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc
16a High Street
Cosham
Portsmouth
Hampshire
PO6 3BY

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson LLP
Mowbray House
Castle Meadow Road
Nottingham
NG2 1BJ

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates an academy for students aged 11 to 16 serving a catchment area in Alton and surrounding areas. Amery Hill has a student capacity of 1000. It had rolls of 995 in the school summer term census of May 2023 and 984 in the autumn term census of October 2023.

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 Amery Hill School Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Amery Hill School Academy Trust.

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

Trustees' third party indemnity is covered by a policy of insurance with RPA (Risk Protection Arrangement for academy trusts), procured under a government approved framework.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The Academy appoints Trustees in accordance with clauses 50 to 64 of its Articles of Association. Parent Trustee vacancies are filled through advertisement and election, whilst staff Trustee vacancies are notified internally and appointed on the basis of a staff vote. Other Trustee appointments are addressed through advertisement or personal recommendation and consideration by the whole Board of Trustees followed up, where appropriate, with an interview by senior Trustees.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

A fellow Trustee is appointed to act as mentor to a new Trustee. New Trustees are given a guided and detailed tour of the school, a comprehensive induction pack and access to a training programme provided by a third party.

Organisational Structure

In accordance with the Articles of Association, we have a tiered structure. The Trust functions in line with the Articles. The full Board of Trustees and its committees each have their own terms of reference which governs their remit and operation. The Headteacher has been appointed as Principal in line with clause 107 and also the Academy's Accounting Officer. This role is set out in the terms of reference of the full Board of Trustees.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Pay and remuneration for all staff are set in line with the Staff Pay Policy. The Board of Trustees will set salary ranges for staff on the leadership pay range having regard to the content of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document. Any salary determinations made are only permanent whilst the teacher remains employed at this school. All determinations made by the Board of Trustees in relation to setting the pay ranges of members of the leadership group will be formally recorded in minutes, along with the rationale for the determinations made.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
1	1

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	£105
Total pay bill	£4.73m
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	0.0022%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	0
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Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

We are a member of the i2i Teaching Partnership SCITT. This programme provides high-quality school based and centre based training enabling all trainees to develop into confident and competent professionals.

We have been appointed as a Regional Ambassador for the South Farnham Education Trust (SFET) Teaching School Hub. The government's new 'golden thread of teacher development' is at the heart of the most exciting reforms to teacher education, training and development in a generation, and we are proud to be supporting the roll-out of these changes across our region.

The Amery Hill School Trust is a registered charity to help raise money to support the work of Amery Hill School. The aim for the Trust is to provide students with state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and opportunities to allow them to develop, experience and achieve success.

We cooperate with Treloar's Trust in the pursuit of charitable activities.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

- (a) to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum ("the Academy"); and
- (b) to promote for the benefit of individuals living in Alton and the surrounding area who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said individuals.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The main objectives of the year 2022/23 are laid out in the School Improvement Plan for 2021-24.

Our Vision and Values are as follows: -

Vision – Amery Hill School is a welcoming and supportive learning community where all students are encouraged to become independent, creative and resilient learners, with the empathy to respond responsibly and morally to the challenges of this ever-changing world.

Belief – Education for Life. Our role is to instil in our students the ambition to continually improve in all aspects of the life they choose.

Delivering the vision –

- We aim for academic excellence and achievement for all of our students. We inspire and develop a genuine love of learning through the dedication of our staff in creating an ambitious educational environment that is exciting and accessible to all. This is supported by a wide range of extra-curricular activities and enrichment opportunities for students to explore and deepen their own interests. When our students leave Amery Hill, they are excited about the opportunities for further learning, direct their own educational journey and embrace life's lessons with resilience and creativity.
- We treat our students as individuals. We work hard to identify and enhance each student's strengths, focussing attention on personal development so that their time at Amery Hill is not just about a journey to academic success but also one of self-understanding. Our aim is that on leaving Amery Hill our students can think, learn and cope independently so that they have the confidence to seize life's opportunities and make a real contribution to the communities where they live and work.
- We create a culture that is happy, safe and supportive, to enable our students to be both confident in expressing their own individuality whilst also having the capacity to respect, foster and embrace new ideas and principles: to be willing to accept feelings, habits and beliefs that are different from their own.

Outcome – Students that are: -

- Independent young people with a strong sense of self
- Inspired, resilient learners
- Empathetic and respond responsibly and morally to those around them
- Ready to seize life's opportunities and realise both their academic and personal potential.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

Ofsted

OFSTED completed a Section 8 Inspection on the 15 and 16 February 2022. The rigorous two-day inspection highlighted many positive areas of the school and we were delighted with the findings which included:

- Pupils are proud to attend Amery Hill and are successful here.
- A safe and respectful culture permeates the school.
- Pupils behave well in class and rarely distract the learning of others.
- Relationships between pupils and adults are strong. Pupils know there are staff at the school who would listen to them and help them if needed.
- There is a strong culture of care.
- Leaders, including governors, are careful in how they oversee safeguarding arrangements.
- Diligent trustees make sure that the school is effectively led and managed. Parents are positive about the school. Staff are proud to work here. Leaders balance staff well-being with a focus on improving standards for pupils.
- Teachers support less-able pupils effectively so they quickly catch up on any work they find challenging.
- Specialist teachers present lessons in a way which helps pupils know more and remember more.
- Leaders are ambitious for pupils.
- What does the school need to do to improve? (Information for the school and appropriate authority)
 - Leaders recognise that the curriculum in some subjects is not yet embedded securely and consistently. This means that in some subjects, lessons are not sequenced sufficiently or effectively to enable pupils' learning to build on prior knowledge. Leaders need to focus their curriculum development work on ensuring that lesson activities closely reflect the intended plans in all subjects.
 - Some pupils do not understand fully what type of behaviour is defined as bullying or how this is addressed by the school. As a result, not all pupils are as confident and clear as they need to be in the school's processes. Leaders and staff need to take further steps to ensure that all pupils have a stronger understanding of what constitutes bullying and the school's response to it.

Exam Results 2023

Many congratulations must go to the Class of 2023 who have, yet again, achieved outstanding GCSE results. Against a backdrop of two years of disrupted secondary education due to the pandemic and then the Government's decision to engineer GCSE grades back to 2019 levels, our students have shown that tenacity, courage and hard work can overcome many obstacles when learning within a school environment which is supportive, caring and highly aspirational.

The school's core values of Independence, Creativity, Active Learning, Resilience and Empathy and our school motto 'Education for Life' has helped ensure that our students are well placed to embrace all the challenges of this ever-changing world, with each and every one of them in the very best place to take those positive next steps into college, apprenticeships or training.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Achievements and Performance (continued)

We are incredibly proud as a school community and the achievements of the Class of 2023. Our students are all exceptionally talented and inspiring young people who have demonstrated all the core values and qualities that Amery Hill School stands for. The resilience they have all shown over the last five years is remarkable and we wish them all every success, health and happiness for the future.

	Amery Hill School	2019 National*
Progress 8	0.03	-0.03
Total Attainment 8	47.9	46.7
English and Maths Standard Pass (9 - 4)	69%	64%
English and Maths Strong Pass (9 - 5)	46%	43%
English Baccalaureate Standard Pass (9 - 4)	32%	25%
English Baccalaureate Strong Pass (9 - 5)	25%	17%

* 2023 National Results have yet to be confirmed. 2019 figures are quoted as 2023 grading standards are returning to pre-pandemic level

Included below is a complete list of subject results for 2023.

	9 - 7 (A* - A)		9 - 4 (A* - C)	
	Amery Hill School	2023 National	Amery Hill School	2023 National
English Language	18%	16%	74%	64%
English Literature	16%	21%	69%	74%
Maths	20%	17%	76%	61%
Biology	30%	42%	98%	89%
Chemistry	43%	44%	98%	90%
Physics	45%	43%	98%	90%
Science (Double Award)	6%	9%	65%	57%
Geography	25%	24%	66%	65%
History	26%	25%	68%	63%
French	25%	26%	93%	70%
German	29%	28%	84%	77%
Art	25%	24%	93%	76%
Art Textiles	20%	24%	67%	76%
Computing	29%	24%	61%	65%
Design Technology	0%	21%	38%	65%
Drama	20%	26%	45%	76%
Food Preparation & Nutrition	5%	19%	56%	66%

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

	9 - 7 (A* - A)		9 - 4 (A* - C)	
	Amery Hill School	2023 National	Amery Hill School	2023 National
ICT: iMedia	0%	-	41%	-
Maths (Further)	61%	-	96%	-
Media Studies GCSE	14%	19%	86%	68%
Media Studies BTEC	15%	-	85%	-
Music	47%	33%	80%	76%
PE GCSE	15%	23%	75%	72%
PE BTEC	0%	-	44%	-
Religious Studies	34%	31%	89%	72%
Statistics	61%	21%	100%	70%

Eco Union

We are very proud that the school Eco Union has Green Flag status having been awarded the Bronze and Silver Award to recognise our achievement in working towards a sustainable lifestyle.

Covid-19

There continues to be a huge impact on the support service from our Student Hub, Student Services, Attendance and Welfare Officer, ELSA, School Counsellor and Pastoral Team who work tirelessly with students and parents who continue to find the return to school challenging.

Rights Respecting Schools Award

We are delighted and very proud to have gained the Silver Award with UNICEF's Rights Respecting Schools Award this year. Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school. This means that over the last year we have strived as a community to learn and understand our rights through various activities in the classroom and outside. Students have learned rights through the EFL programme, during lessons and tutor time, especially the article of the week. We have held events and challenges for the students to be involved to raise awareness of their rights and the different articles. Some of our students took part in a UNICEF Campaign and sent work to the Government.

Key Performance Indicators

The Academy has kept to within its annual budget approved by Trustees and retained a modest contingency. The majority of income is derived from GAG. The following financial performance indicators arise from 2022/23 expenditure.

<u>Budget Heading</u>	<u>As a percentage of total expenditure</u>
Teaching Staff	62%
Support Staff	10%
Staff Training and Expenses	1%
Premises	7%
Educational Supplies and Services	12%
Other Supplies and Services	8%

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

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.

The Accounting Officer for the Academy continues to:

- review the staffing expenditure and structure and to make individuals more accountable for their actions;
- review the curriculum and timetable to ensure efficiency;
- make each department more accountable for their allocated budgets; and
- review expenditure to ensure efficient and effective use of resources.

Financial Review

The main financial risk identified in the Risk Register is related to the amount of General Annual Grant (GAG) not being sufficient to cover the running cost of the school. The Academy Trustees and Senior Leadership Team are actively taking actions to increase the number of students on roll with a view to become an oversubscribed Academy. Our new Year 7 PAN (200) has been achieved for three out of the past four years.

We had a lower Year 7 intake in September 2022 due to the impact of Covid-19, however, the number of students increased over the Academic Year and we are almost full and have waiting lists for places in other year groups.

The school has continued to spend in several areas to ensure it remains 'Covid Safe'. This includes sanitation dispensers across the school site, sanitiser, sprays, paper towels, sanitising wipes, additional soap, additional medical supplies and PPE, water sampling and treatments and licences to operate virtual events for parents, students and staff etc.

It is pleasing that we continue to see an increase in community revenue as returning and new hirers extend their use of our facilities.

Covid-19 continues to have an impact on staff attendance resulting in an increased spend on supply teaching.

The school received Recovery Premium in 2022/23 which was used to help improve the attainment of our disadvantaged students through targeted academic support and wider strategies related to attendance, behaviour and wellbeing, as detailed in our Pupil Premium Strategy Statement. For example, we provided additional staffing in English and Maths to undertake in school intervention during the school day.

The school engaged with the National Tutoring Programme by providing School Led Tutoring to a significant cohort of students. The school received a School-Led Tutoring Grant.

The school is very grateful for the kind donations of the Amery Hill School Trust in relation to the development of two science labs during the summer break.

The Local Government Pension Scheme liability as at 31 August 2023, as calculated in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard No. 102, was £66,000 (2022: £290,000).

The in year surplus (excluding restricted pension and restricted fixed asset fund) as at 31 August 2023 was £394,723 (2022: £244,603).

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Reserves Policy

Although some academies maintain a policy of keeping a 1-2 months reserve, our Trustees feel strongly that, whilst acting prudently, our funding should largely be spent on the students on roll in any one year.

The reserves as at 31 August 2023 were as follows:

- Unrestricted (free) reserves of £628,948 (2022: £438,485)
- A restricted fixed asset fund of £14,362,162 (2022: £14,718,861), which can only be realised through disposal of tangible fixed assets
- A pension deficit of £66,000 (2022: £290,000)
- Other restricted funds of £326,093 (2022: £121,833)
- Total funds of £15,251,203 (2022: £14,989,179)

There is a £66,000 deficit in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme. This will result in increased employers' pension contributions over a period of years. We have reflected the effect of increased pension costs in our future budgets. Increased pension contributions will be met from the Academy Trust's budgeted annual income, and whilst the deficit might not be eliminated, there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the fund, or direct impact on the free reserves of the Academy Trust as a result of recognising the deficit.

Investment Policy

The school aims to manage its cash balances to provide for the day-to-day working capital requirements of its operations, whilst protecting the real long-term value of any surplus cash balances against inflation. In addition, the school aims to invest surplus cash funds to optimise returns but ensuring the investment instruments are such that there is no tangible risk to the loss of these cash funds. Our Investment Policy provides details on type of investments we can do.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Risks are managed in accordance with our Risk Management Policy. A Risk Register has been compiled by Trustees and Senior Leadership and is reviewed regularly. Currently the main four risk categories identified are:

- a) Risks associated with fluctuation of student numbers and available funding
- b) Risks associated with infrastructure and facilities failure or cyber/ransomware attack
- c) Risks associated with GAG funding not being sufficient to cover the running cost of the school
- d) Risks associated with the management of ongoing pressures in the SEND Department

Control procedures are in place to mitigate all risks.

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 year ending 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Fundraising

As part of its work within the community, the Academy Trust undertakes fundraising activities, for example through sponsored activities, cake sales, non-uniform days, charity days (e.g. Children in Need, Comic Relief), quiz nights 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

Fundraising activities have increased during the past year. Friends of Amery Hill School, who have continued to be successful in fundraising at school events, have kindly donated towards a refurbishment of the Library in order to make it fully accessible.

The school was approved a donation from the Eggar's Trust to enable the refurbishment of two science labs during the summer break 2023.

The Amery Hill School Trust has also kindly donated funds towards this project.

Plans for Future Periods

Our School Improvement Plan 2021/24 details our priorities under the following headings:

- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- Student outcomes
- Leadership and management
- Student personal development, welfare and behaviour

Within these headings our main priorities are: -

- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment
 1. To see excellence prevail consistently in teaching practice across the school
 2. To develop a culture of excellence and aspiration for everyone at Amery Hill School
 3. To develop department data systems which inform teachers and students to improve teaching and learning
- Student outcomes
 1. To secure consistently good progress for all students in all year groups
 2. Target setting and reporting supports greater progress for all
- Leadership and management
 1. To ensure that learning opportunities for wider stakeholders are exceptional
 2. To promote community engagement and long-term wellbeing for all stakeholders
 3. To ensure that the physical environment is continually developing and resources are managed efficiently and effectively
 4. To ensure that systems that manage risk in the school are robust and reviewed regularly
- Student personal development, welfare and behaviour
 1. To develop student leadership and character
 2. To embed Student Voice and active participation across school life
 3. To ensure student health and wellbeing is at the forefront of all planning and intervention
 4. To support all students in post Covid-19 social and emotional recovery

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Plans for Future Periods (continued)

The Board of Trustees and Senior Leadership Team are dedicated to achieving these priorities within the set timeframe.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

No funds are held by the Academy Trust as Custodian Trustee 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 12 December 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:

A Scammell

A Scammell

Chair of Trustees

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Amery Hill School Academy Trust
Governance

We acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Amery Hill School Academy Trust has a sound and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to assist rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable 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 Amery Hill School Academy Trust 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 six times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Meetings attended</u>	<u>Out of a possible</u>
Mrs L Bostelmann	4	6
Mr P Canale (resigned 31 August 2023)	6	6
Mr S Cooney	5	6
Mrs J Fawcett (resigned 17 July 2023)	2	6
Mr D Hainsworth	5	6
Mr A Johnstone	6	6
Mr R Kemp	6	6
Mr J Le Roux (resigned 10 January 2023)	1	2
Ms G Lister (resigned 31 August 2023)	4	6
Mr J Lyle	6	6
Mr S Mann, Headteacher (resigned 31 August 2023)	6	6
Mr M Oakley (appointed 13 December 2022)	3	4
Mr A Scammell (appointed 13 December 2022)	3	4
Mrs L Vickery	6	6
Mrs S Yearley	3	6

The Trust Board was successful in recruiting two new Trustees in autumn 2022.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Governance (continued)

The Chair of Trustees's review of the year acknowledged the following successes:

- Changes in membership of Trustees and the roles that Trustees have taken on so competently.
- Recruitment of new Headteacher for September 2023, included targeted marketing campaign; attracted a good number of candidates; featured a two-day assessment centre; received good feedback from candidates and had a successful outcome. The onboarding and handover period to the new Headteacher was comprehensive and engaging.
- Recruitment of new School Business Manager (SBM) for June 2023 which included a smooth and productive 3-month handover with the existing SBM.
- Recruitment of new Clerk to the Trustees for September 2023, a very important role that was successfully filled.
- Whole Trustee board training on Inclusion, Attendance and Wellbeing took place in February 2023.
- Trustees Curriculum Day in October 2022. Trustees were in agreement that the event was very useful and provided a great insight into the workings of Amery Hill School.

Conflicts of interest

The Trust holds an up to date register of relevant business and pecuniary interests of Members, Trustees and senior employees.

Declarations of conflicts of interest are a standing agenda item for all Trust Board and committee meetings.

The Trusts' website includes details of the relevant business and pecuniary interests of Members, Trustees and the Accounting Officer.

Governance reviews

The Trust Board has recently updated the Articles of Association based on the DfE model articles and has adopted the most recent funding agreement.

Committee Terms of Reference are regularly reviewed and updated where necessary.

The Trust Board reflects on its own performance and effectiveness in delivering its strategic objectives. Where possible, recruitment is focussed on areas of need to fill skills gaps identified. Trustees engage with their own training linked to their role and full Trust Board training is undertaken.

Academy Trust

Amery H. Governance

Governance The Resources Committee within the to all

sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to oversee the finances of the Full Board of Trustees and to receive reports, monitor and make recommendations

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Resources Committee was as follows:

	<u>Meetings attended</u>	<u>Out of a possible</u>
Mr P Canale – resigned 31 August 2023	6	6
Mr S Cooney	3	6
Mr A Johnstone	6	6
Mr J Le Roux – resigned 10 January 2023	2	2
Ms G Lister – resigned 31 August 2023	6	6
Mr J Lyle	5	6
Mr S Mann, Headteacher – resigned 31 August 2023	6	6
Mr A Scammell – appointed 13 December 2022	3	4
Mrs L Vickery	5	6

The Audit and Risk Committee (A&RC) is a sub-committee of the Resources Committee. Its purpose is to maintain an oversight of the Academy Trust's financial, governance, risk management and internal control systems and to report its findings to the Board of Trustees and Accounting Officer.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Audit and Risk Committee was as follows:

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Meetings attended</u>	<u>Out of a possible</u>
Mr P Canale – resigned 31 August 2023	4	4
Mr S Cooney	4	4
Mr A Johnstone	3	4
Ms G Lister – resigned 31 August 2023	1	4
Mr S Mann, Headteacher – resigned 31 August 2023	4	4
Mr A Scammell – appointed 13 December 2022	2	2
Mrs L Vickery	3	4

Throughout the academic year 2022/23, all Trust meetings took place as planned and in accordance with the published calendar. All committee meetings took place virtually with document sharing via GovernorHub. All Full Trust Board meetings took place in school.

Due to the continuing success of virtual meetings, the Trust Board has decided that for 2023/24 only Full Trust Board meetings will be held in school (with the option to join virtually) with all other committees continuing virtually.

Amery Hill Governance

The Accounting Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value for money as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational outcomes achieved for the taxpayer. The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money in the use of its resources and where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

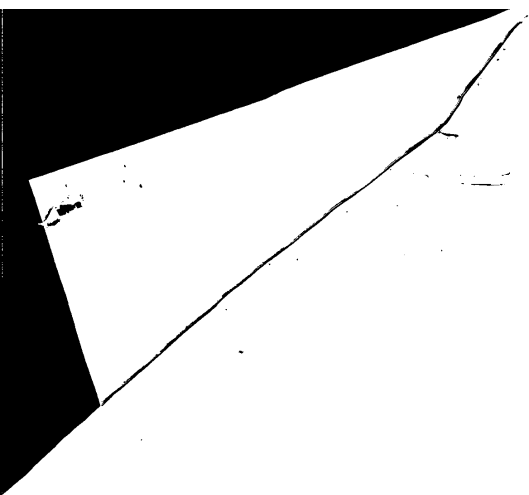
- Reviewing the staffing needs and structure.
- Making each department more accountable for their allocated budgets.
- Reviewing Service Level Agreements and contracts to ensure best value.

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 Amery Hill School Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.



Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Governance Statement

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 Resources 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 not to appoint an auditor for this purpose. However, the Trustees appointed S Cooney, a Trustee, to carry out a programme of internal checks as Internal Scrutineer for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

The Internal Scrutineer's (IS) 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:

- reviewing Safeguarding
- reviewing SEN provision

On a regular basis, the IS reports to the Board of Trustees, through the Audit and Risk Committee, 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.

The IS has delivered their schedule of works as planned and reported for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

There were no material control issues arising as a result of the Internal Scrutineer's work.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Estates Management

The academy trust's estate is both an asset and a mechanism to deliver outcomes for pupils. The Board of Trustees manage their school estate strategically and effectively and maintain their estate in a safe working condition. This includes complying with statutory duties to ensure the health and safety of building occupants.

The Board of Trustees ensure they are aware of and are applying the following guidance relevant to estates safety and management:

- Advice, standards and tools for academy trusts at Good Estate Management for Schools including guidance on an estates strategy and asset management plan, and the Estate management competency framework for standards on the skills and knowledge needed for individuals at all levels.
- The Condition Data Collection (CDC) process which helps the DfE understand the condition of government funded schools across England for the purposes of targeting funding where it is needed most.
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/reinforced-autoclaved-aerated-concrete-estates-guidance>
RAAC is a weaker form of concrete used in floors, walls, and roofs of buildings constructed or modified between the 1950s and mid-1990s and could pose a particular risk.
- School Capital Funding guidance - who it's for, current and past allocations, how it's calculated and spending guidance.
- Condition Improvement Fund including links to terms and conditions.

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 Scrutineer
- 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 ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 12 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A Scammell

A Scammell

Chair of Trustees

R Jeckells

R Jeckells

Accounting Officer

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of Amery Hill School Academy Trust 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, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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

R Jeckells

R Jeckells

Accounting Officer

12 December 2023

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education & 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 2022 to 2023
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- 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 12 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

A Scammell

A Scammell

Chair of Trustees

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Amery Hill School Academy Trust ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2023 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 2022 to 2023 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 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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.

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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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 the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022, and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.
- We obtained an understanding of how the Academy Trust is complying with these frameworks through discussions with management.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Amery Hill School Academy Trust

- 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.

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.



G Brown FCCA (Senior statutory auditor)

For and on behalf of Hopper Williams & Bell Limited

Statutory Auditor

Highland House, Mayflower Close, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4AR

Date 14 Dec 2023

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Amery Hill School Academy Trust and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1 September 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Amery Hill School Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Amery Hill School Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Amery Hill School Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 October 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Amery Hill School Academy Trust 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 Academy Trust Handbook (effective from 1 September 2022) (ATH).
- Review of any special payments to staff, including compromise agreements, to consider whether prior approval was sought where required by the ATH 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 ATH.
- 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 ATH.
- Review of governance arrangements to determine whether the requirements of the ATH 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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Amery Hill School Academy Trust 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



G Brown FCCA
Reporting Accountant
Hopper Williams & Bell Limited
Chartered Accountants
Highland House, Mayflower Close, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4AR

Date14 Dec 2023.....

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

	Note	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Pension Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and capital grants	2	7,090	-	-	148,965	156,055	44,183
Other trading activities	4	185,940	-	-	-	185,940	154,500
Investments	5	138	-	-	-	138	99
Charitable activities:							
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	3	-	6,514,805	-	-	6,514,805	5,788,651
Total		193,168	6,514,805	-	148,965	6,856,938	5,987,433
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	6	2,705	-	-	-	2,705	6,369
Charitable activities:							
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	6,300,354	70,000	515,855	6,886,209	6,466,566
Total		2,705	6,300,354	70,000	515,855	6,888,914	6,472,935
Net income / (expenditure)		190,463	214,451	(70,000)	(366,890)	(31,976)	(485,502)
Transfers between funds	15	-	(10,191)	-	10,191	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses):							
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	-	294,000	-	294,000	2,121,000
Net movement in funds		190,463	204,260	224,000	(356,699)	262,024	1,635,498
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		438,485	121,833	(290,000)	14,718,861	14,989,179	13,353,681
Total funds carried forward		628,948	326,093	(66,000)	14,362,162	15,251,203	14,989,179

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Company Number 07760509

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		14,340,262		14,669,763
Current assets					
Debtors	12	323,048		127,140	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,141,130		937,332	
		<u>1,464,178</u>		<u>1,064,472</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(465,809)</u>		<u>(422,912)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>998,369</u>		<u>641,560</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>15,338,631</u>		<u>15,311,323</u>
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		<u>(21,428)</u>		<u>(32,144)</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>15,317,203</u>		<u>15,279,179</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23		(66,000)		(290,000)
Total net assets			<u>15,251,203</u>		<u>14,989,179</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	15	14,362,162		14,718,861	
Restricted income fund	15	326,093		121,833	
Pension reserve	15	<u>(66,000)</u>		<u>(290,000)</u>	
Total restricted funds			<u>14,622,255</u>		<u>14,550,694</u>
Unrestricted income funds	15		628,948		438,485
Total funds			<u>15,251,203</u>		<u>14,989,179</u>

The financial statements on pages 28 to 53 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 12 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

A Scammell
A Scammell
 Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	18	180,747	307,613
Cash flows from investing activities	19	23,051	3,800
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		203,798	311,413
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2022		937,332	625,919
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2023	20	1,141,130	937,332

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the Academy Trust and are rounded to the nearest £1.

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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

Income (continued)

- **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'.

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding Transfers on conversion/into the Academy Trust)**

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

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.

- **Expenditure on Raising Funds**

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

- **Charitable Activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

Tangible Fixed Assets

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. 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.

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 Land and Buildings	Shorter of 35 years straight line or length of lease
Furniture and Equipment	4 years straight line
Computer Equipment	3 years straight line
Motor Vehicles	5 years straight line

No depreciation has been provided on long leasehold land 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.

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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The assumptions used are disclosed in note 23.

Critical areas of judgement

There are no other critical areas of judgement.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Capital grants	-	148,965	148,965	30,897
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	8,190
Other donations	7,090	-	7,090	5,096
	7,090	148,965	156,055	44,183
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>5,096</i>	<i>39,087</i>	<i>44,183</i>	

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
DfE / ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,325,618	5,325,618	5,206,451
Pupil Premium	-	184,075	184,075	162,879
Rates reclaim	-	27,196	27,196	24,678
Other DfE grants	-	327,250	327,250	115,828
	-	5,864,139	5,864,139	5,509,836
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	361,212	361,212	147,188
Other government grants	-	18,142	18,142	16,595
	-	379,354	379,354	163,783
COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)				
Other Coronavirus funding	-	-	-	20,095
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations				
Trip income	-	161,386	161,386	39,452
Tuition fee income	-	31,532	31,532	34,602
Other income	-	78,394	78,394	20,883
	-	271,312	271,312	94,937
	-	6,514,805	6,514,805	5,788,651
Total 2022	-	5,788,651	5,788,651	

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Hire of facilities	21,005	-	21,005	14,031
Sales of goods and services	164,935	-	164,935	140,469
	185,940	-	185,940	154,500
Total 2022	154,500	-	154,500	

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022/23 Total	2021/22 Total
	£	£	£	£
Short term deposits	138	-	138	99
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>99</i>	

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs	Non Pay Expenditure		Total 2022/23	Total 2021/22
	£	Premises	Other	£	£
		£	£		
Expenditure on raising funds	-	-	2,705	2,705	6,369
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	4,302,669	-	925,716	5,228,385	4,699,976
Allocated support costs	715,402	461,893	480,529	1,657,824	1,766,590
	5,018,071	461,893	1,408,950	6,888,914	6,472,935
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>4,853,142</i>	<i>447,111</i>	<i>1,172,682</i>	<i>6,472,935</i>	

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	43,605	76,588
Depreciation	455,553	448,556
Fees payable to auditor for:		
Audit	8,310	7,500
Other services	4,300	5,705

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

7 Charitable activities

	2022/23	2021/22
	Total	Total
	£	£
Direct costs – educational operations	5,228,385	4,699,976
Support costs – educational operations	1,657,824	1,766,590
	6,886,209	6,466,566

Analysis of support costs:

	Educational operations	2022/23	2021/22
		Total	Total
	£	£	£
Support staff costs	715,402	715,402	884,066
Depreciation	88,069	88,069	81,072
Technology costs	52,200	52,200	57,352
Premises costs	461,893	461,893	447,111
Other support costs	326,990	326,990	287,611
Governance costs	13,270	13,270	9,378
Total support costs	1,657,824	1,657,824	1,766,590

<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>1,766,590</i>	<i>1,766,590</i>
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Premises costs includes £60,302 (2022: £10,832) in respect of expenditure on capital projects, which were funded by capital grants from the ESFA.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

8 Staff

a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the period were:

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,754,281	3,411,077
Social security costs	372,622	338,922
Pension costs	862,655	1,046,169
	<u>4,989,558</u>	<u>4,796,168</u>
Agency staff costs	28,513	47,733
Staff restructuring costs	-	9,241
	<u>5,018,071</u>	<u>4,853,142</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments	-	9,241
	<u>-</u>	<u>9,241</u>

b) Staff numbers

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	No.	No.
Teachers	58	55
Administration and support	54	53
Management	8	6
	<u>120</u>	<u>114</u>

c) Higher paid staff

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	3	4
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	1

d) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £688,809 (2022: £578,420).

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

9 Related Party Transactions – Trustees’ remuneration and expenses

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

The value of Trustees’ remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2022/23	2021/22
		£000	£000
D Hainsworth	Remuneration	50-55	45-50
(Staff trustee)	Employer’s pension contributions paid	10-15	10-15
J Lyle	Remuneration	50-55	45-50
(Staff trustee)	Employer’s pension contributions paid	5-10	5-10
S Mann	Remuneration	95-100	90-95
(Staff trustee)	Employer’s pension contributions paid	20-25	20-25

During the period ended 31 August 2023, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £35 were reimbursed or paid directly to one Trustee (2022: none).

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Computer Equipment £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	18,253,951	1,691,711	329,409	2,000	20,277,071
Acquisitions	-	88,524	37,528	-	126,052
At 31 August 2023	18,253,951	1,780,235	366,937	2,000	20,403,123
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	3,740,617	1,602,729	261,962	2,000	5,607,308
Charged in year	367,484	47,837	40,232	-	455,553
At 31 August 2023	4,108,101	1,650,566	302,194	2,000	6,062,861
Net book values					
At 31 August 2022	14,513,334	88,982	67,447	-	14,669,763
At 31 August 2023	14,145,850	129,669	64,743	-	14,340,262

12 Debtors

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Trade debtors	-	515
VAT recoverable	28,638	13,392
Other debtors	945	416
Prepayments and accrued income	293,465	112,817
	323,048	127,140

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Trade creditors	158,541	121,112
Other taxation and social security	90,750	80,809
Other creditors falling due within one year	110,696	93,873
Accruals and deferred income	105,822	127,118
	<u>465,809</u>	<u>422,912</u>

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	54,563	71,276
Released from previous years	(54,563)	(71,276)
Resources deferred in the year	46,201	54,563
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	<u>46,201</u>	<u>54,563</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for school trips, minibuses and music tuition booked for the forthcoming autumn term, and rates income relating to the forthcoming financial year.

14 Creditors: amounts falling due in greater than one year

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income falling due in greater than one year	<u>21,428</u>	<u>32,144</u>

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	121,833	5,325,618	(5,085,206)	(36,152)	-	326,093
Pupil premium	-	184,075	(184,075)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	27,196	(27,196)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	327,250	(327,250)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	361,212	(361,212)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	18,142	(18,142)	-	-	-
Other educational activities	-	271,312	(297,273)	25,961	-	-
	121,833	6,514,805	(6,300,354)	(10,191)	-	326,093
Pension reserve	(290,000)	-	(70,000)	-	294,000	(66,000)
	(168,167)	6,514,805	(6,370,354)	(10,191)	294,000	260,093
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	14,669,763	-	(455,553)	126,052	-	14,340,262
ESFA capital grants (DFC)	23,137	59,065	(60,302)	-	-	21,900
Other capital grants	25,961	89,900	-	(115,861)	-	-
	14,718,861	148,965	(515,855)	10,191	-	14,362,162
Total restricted funds	14,550,694	6,663,770	(6,886,209)	-	294,000	14,622,255
Total unrestricted funds	438,485	193,168	(2,705)	-	-	628,948
Total funds	14,989,179	6,856,938	(6,888,914)	-	294,000	15,251,203

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

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 capital improvements.

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.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

15 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	30,556	5,206,451	(5,087,978)	(27,196)	-	121,833
Pupil premium	-	162,879	(162,879)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	24,678	(24,678)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	115,828	(115,828)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	147,188	(147,188)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	16,595	(16,595)	-	-	-
Other Coronavirus funding	-	20,095	(20,095)	-	-	-
Other educational activities	-	94,937	(94,937)	-	-	-
	30,556	5,788,651	(5,670,178)	(27,196)	-	121,833
Pension reserve	(2,074,000)	-	(337,000)	-	2,121,000	(290,000)
	(2,043,444)	5,788,651	(6,007,178)	(27,196)	2,121,000	(168,167)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	15,082,933	-	(448,556)	35,386	-	14,669,763
ESFA capital grants (DFC)	13,786	20,183	(10,832)	-	-	23,137
Other capital grants	15,247	10,714	-	-	-	25,961
Donated fixed assets	-	8,190	-	(8,190)	-	-
	15,111,966	39,087	(459,388)	27,196	-	14,718,861
Total restricted funds	13,068,522	5,827,738	(6,466,566)	-	2,121,000	14,550,694
Total unrestricted funds	285,159	159,695	(6,369)	-	-	438,485
Total funds	13,353,681	5,987,433	(6,472,935)	-	2,121,000	14,989,179

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

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	-	-	-	14,340,262	14,340,262
Current assets	628,948	813,330	-	21,900	1,464,178
Current liabilities	-	(465,809)	-	-	(465,809)
Non-current liabilities	-	(21,428)	-	-	(21,428)
Pension scheme liability	-	-	(66,000)	-	(66,000)
Total net assets	628,948	326,093	(66,000)	14,362,162	15,251,203

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	-	-	-	14,669,763	14,669,763
Current assets	438,485	576,889	-	49,098	1,064,472
Current liabilities	-	(422,912)	-	-	(422,912)
Non-current liabilities	-	(32,144)	-	-	(32,144)
Pension scheme liability	-	-	(290,000)	-	(290,000)
Total net assets	438,485	121,833	(290,000)	14,718,861	14,989,179

17 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	42,248	54,552
Amounts due between one and five years	69,999	26,136
	112,247	80,688

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(31,976)	(485,502)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation	455,553	448,556
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(148,965)	(39,087)
Interest receivable	(138)	(99)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	57,000	303,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	13,000	34,000
Increase in debtors	(195,908)	(5,103)
Increase in creditors	32,181	51,848
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>180,747</u>	<u>307,613</u>

19 Cash flows from investing activities

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	138	99
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(126,052)	(27,196)
Capital grants from DfE Group	59,065	20,183
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	89,900	10,714
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>23,051</u>	<u>3,800</u>

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

20 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>1,141,130</u>	<u>937,332</u>

21 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	Acquisition/ disposal of subsidiaries £	New finance leases £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash	937,332	203,798	-	-	-	1,141,130
Total	937,332	203,798	-	-	-	1,141,130

22 Member 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.

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

23 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 Hampshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £93,661 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £84,798) 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 31 March 2016 TPS actuarial valuation results were implemented from 1 September 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation were:

- 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. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The latest actuarial TPS valuation results, as at 31 March 2020, were released in October 2023. The revised employer contribution rate, arising from this valuation, is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

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

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £631,039 (2022: £581,698).

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 2023 was as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Employer's contributions	164,000	166,000
Employees' contributions	49,000	58,000
	213,000	224,000

The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.9% 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 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	2022
Rate of increase in salaries	4.0%	3.7%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.0%	2.7%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.2%	4.1%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	3.0%	2.7%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	70.0%	70.0%

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

	2023	2022
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	22.1	22.9
Females	24.7	25.4
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.6	24.7
Females	25.7	27.1

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

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	Increase/(reduction) in defined benefit obligation	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	(69,000)	(79,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	69,000	82,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	135,000	93,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	(135,000)	(93,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	67,000	72,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(67,000)	(72,000)

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	1,957,000	1,817,000
Gilts	1,061,000	477,000
Property	199,000	245,000
Cash and other liquid assets	100,000	28,000
Other	-	572,000
Total market value of assets	3,317,000	3,139,000

The actual return on scheme assets was a gain of £12,000 (2022: a loss of £208,000).

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Current service cost	221,000	469,000
Interest income	(132,000)	(56,000)
Interest cost	145,000	90,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	234,000	503,000

Amery Hill School Academy Trust

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

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
At 1 September	3,429,000	5,327,000
Current service cost	221,000	469,000
Interest cost	145,000	90,000
Employee contributions	49,000	58,000
Actuarial gain	(414,000)	(2,385,000)
Benefits paid	(47,000)	(130,000)
At 31 August	3,383,000	3,429,000

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

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
At 1 September	3,139,000	3,253,000
Interest income	132,000	56,000
Actuarial loss	(120,000)	(264,000)
Employer contributions	164,000	166,000
Employee contributions	49,000	58,000
Benefits paid	(47,000)	(130,000)
At 31 August	3,317,000	3,139,000

24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trustees have an interest. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period:

Expenditure Related Party Transactions:

During the year, close family members of two key management personnel were employed by the Academy Trust. The total remuneration was £61,618 (2022: £54,488) and pension contributions were £14,665 (2022: £12,191).