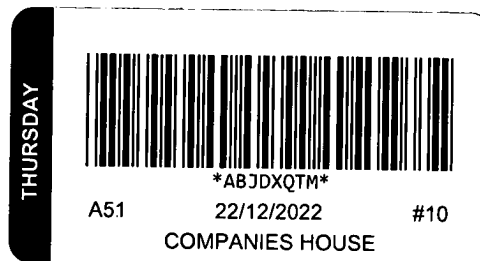




WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022



WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1 - 2
Directors' Report	3 - 16
Governance Statement	17 - 20
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	21
Statement of Directors' Responsibilities	22
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements	23 - 26
Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity	27 - 28
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account	29 - 30
Balance Sheet	31 - 32
Statement of Cash Flows	33
Notes to the Financial Statements	34 - 64

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Luminate Education Group (Sponsor) - (formerly Leeds City College)
C Booth OBE
P Brennan (appointed 1 June 2022)
B Levick (resigned 7 March 2022)
A McMaster (appointed 27 September 2022)
C Abbott (appointed 22 September 2022)
H Philips (resigned 6 April 2022)
J Sanders (appointed 7 November 2022)

Directors

H Philips, Chair (resigned 6 April 2022)
C Booth OBE (resigned 25 February 2022)
L Devenny (resigned 1 January 2022)¹
Cllr C Gruen
P Morrissey (resigned 11 October 2021)
M Parkes (resigned 17 June 2022)
K A Pearlman-Shaw (resigned 1 August 2022)
D Strachan¹
A Whitaker
C Williams¹
A McMaster, Interim Chair
P Wheeliker (appointed 28 April 2022, resigned 26 September 2022)
J T Leach (appointed 22 September 2022)
E Sandwith (appointed 15 October 2022)
S Harper (appointed 6 October 2022)
S Flowers (appointed 13 October 2022)
K Newby (appointed 14 November 2022)
C Daniel (appointed 28 November 2022)
K Burns (appointed 30 November 2022)
F Al Fadhili (appointed 30 November 2022)

¹ Audit and finance committee

Company registered number

07958615

Company name

White Rose Academies Trust

Registered office

Leeds City Academy, Woodhouse Cliff, Leeds, LS6 2LG

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Principal operating office

Bedford Field, Woodhouse Cliff, Leeds, LS6 2LG

Accounting officer

A Whitaker
S Carrie (interim)

Senior management team

Chief Executive Officer, A Whitaker (accounting officer)
Chief Financial Officer, S Jolley (resigned 1 April 2022)
Interim Chief Financial Officer/Trust Business Director, S Bradley (appointed 1 April 2022)
Executive Principal, C Wilcocks (resigned 1 May 2022)
Principal - Leeds East Academy, S Carrie (resigned 9 May 2022)
Principal - Leeds East Academy, D Bullock (appointed 9 May 2022)
Principal - Leeds City Academy, R Chattoe
Principal - Leeds West Academy, D Whielden
Principal - Alder Tree Primary Academy, K Burton
Interim Chief Executive Officer, S Carrie (appointed 1 September 2022)
Executive Principal, S Carrie (appointed 9 May 2022)

Independent auditors

BHP LLP, New Chartford House, Centurion Way, Cleckheaton, BD19 3QB

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc, Leeds City Centre Branch, PO Box 1000, Leeds, BX1 1LT

Solicitors

Stone King LLP, 1 Park Row, Leeds, LS1 5HN

Eversheds Sutherland, Bridgewater Place, Water Lane, Leeds, LS11 5DR

Internal Auditor

Moorlands Learning Trust, Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 8TR

Clive Owen LLP, 140 Coniscliffe Road, Darlington, County Durham, DL3 7RT

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Directors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Directors' report and a trustees' report under company law.

White Rose Academies Trust was incorporated on 21 February 2012 and took control of Leeds City Academy, formerly City of Leeds School, a Local Authority maintained school, on 1 August 2014 at conversion to Academy status. On the 1 September 2014 Leeds West Academy and Leeds East Academy joined the Trust, transferring from E-ACT, a sponsor for a national chain of academies. On 1 December 2020 Alder Tree Primary Academy (formerly known as Mill Field Primary Academy) joined the Trust.

The Academy Trust operates three secondary academies for pupils aged 11 to 16 serving the Bramley, Seacroft and Woodhouse areas of Leeds and one primary academy for pupils aged 3 to 11 serving the Potternewton area of Leeds. The combined pupil capacity of the academies during the year was 3,450. At the school census in October 2021, the four academies that were in the Trust had a total roll of 3,408.

Structure, governance and management

● ***Constitution***

The Academy Trust is a charitable 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 Directors of White Rose Academies Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as White Rose Academies Trust.

Details of the Directors 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.

● ***Directors' indemnities***

The Academy Trust has purchased cover to protect directors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. This is provided under the DfE's Risk Protection Arrangement.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

• ***Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Directors***

Directors are appointed to the board of the White Rose Academies Trust in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

- Up to 10 directors, 7 of which to be appointed by the sponsor and the remainder to be appointed by the members.
- Chief Executive Officer (if any).
- Up to 3 Co-opted Directors appointed by the Directors.
- 2 Parent Directors unless there are Local Governing Bodies or Accountability Boards which include at least two Parent Members.

Co-opted directors are persons appointed to be a director by being co-opted by directors who have not themselves been so appointed. The directors may not co-opt an employee of the company as a co-opted director if thereby the number of directors who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of directors including the Chief Executive Officer.

Parent directors and parent members of the local bodies shall be elected or appointed, in accordance with the terms of reference determined by the directors from time to time, by parents of registered pupils at one or more of the academies. A parent director must be a parent of a pupil at one of the academies at the time when they are elected and appointed. The directors shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of the parent directors or parent members of the local Bodies, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered student at one of the academies. Any election of the parent directors or parent members of the local bodies which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.

• ***Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Directors***

White Rose Academies Trust provides each new director with an induction pack and has an annual training programme to provide continuing development of the board members. The Academy Trust subscribes to the National Governors Association and The Key for School Leaders/Governors, which exists to provide support and training for school and academy leaders.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

● **Organisational structure**

The Academy Trust has defined the responsibilities of each person involved in the administration of the academies operations to avoid the duplication or omission of functions and to provide a framework of accountability for directors and staff. The reporting structure is illustrated below:

The Trust Board

The Trust Board has overall responsibility for the administration of the Trust's operations. The main responsibilities of the Trust Board are prescribed in the Funding Agreement between the Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and in the Trust's scheme of governance.

The main responsibilities of the Trust Board include:

- ensuring that grant from the ESFA is used only for the purposes intended
- approval of the annual budget
- the regular monitoring of management accounts
- appointment of the Accounting Officer
- appointment of the Chief Financial Officer
- appointment of the Principals
- ensuring the annual accounts are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the ESFA guidance issued to academies; and
- maintaining effective oversight of financial procedures and controls

The Local Accountability Boards

A Local Accountability Board has been established for each academy in the Trust with the Chair of each Local Accountability Board being a Director on the Trust Board. The Local Accountability Boards Terms of Reference are:

- to monitor delivery of the core education vision;
- to monitor the admissions process;
- to set annual Academy performance targets;
- to assist in the recruitment of staff other than the Principal and Senior Post Holders;
- to agree and propose a draft budget for approval by the Trust Board;
- to implement and monitor policies with regard to staffing matters including performance management; and
- to oversee arrangements for director involvement in the Academy Development Plan and Academy Self Evaluations

The Accounting Officer (Chief Executive Officer)

Within the framework of the Trust's Scheme of Delegation as approved by the Trust Board, the Accounting Officer has personal responsibility for:

- the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which they are answerable;
- the keeping of proper accounts;
- prudent and economical administration;
- the avoidance of waste and extravagance;
- ensuring value for money; and
- the efficient use of all resources in their charge

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Much of the day to day financial responsibility has been delegated to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) but the Accounting Officer still retains responsibility for:

- approving new staff appointments within the authorised establishment, except for any Senior Post Holders which the Trust Board have determined should be approved by them;
- authorising contracts between £50,000 and £100,000 in conjunction with the CFO;
- signing cheques in conjunction with other authorised signatories; and
- authorising electronic payments in conjunction with other authorised personnel

The Accounting Officer must advise the Board in writing, whether at any time, in their opinion, any action or policy under consideration by the Local Accountability Board is incompatible with the terms of the Academy's Funding Agreement or the Academies Trust Handbook.

The Chief Financial Officer

The Chief Financial Officer works in close collaboration with the Accounting Officer through whom they are responsible to the board.

The main responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer are:

- the day to day management of financial issues including the establishment and operation of a suitable accounting system;
- the management of the Trust's financial position at a strategic and operational level within the framework for financial control determined by the Trust Board;
- the maintenance of effective systems of internal control;
- ensuring that the annual accounts are properly presented and adequately supported by the underlying books and records of the Trust;
- the preparation of monthly management accounts;
- ensuring forms and returns are sent to the ESFA in line with the timetable in the ESFA guidance; and
- additional roles, some of which are not directly finance related, as outlined in the Chief Financial Officer job description.

All staff are responsible for the security of Trust property, for avoiding loss or damage, for ensuring economy and efficiency in the use of resources, and for conformity with the requirements of the Trust's financial procedures.

• Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The pay and remuneration of the senior management team was set in accordance with the Senior Post-Holder pay policy with any pay and remuneration adjustment being subject to the annual performance review cycle. The trustees ensure a robust and transparent performance management process, including an assessment of individual performance and setting of benchmarked salary levels where appropriate.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

● **Trade union facility time**

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	7
Full-time equivalent employee number	7

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	7
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time **£000**

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	20,638
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	- %
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● **Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)**

The Trust encourages the involvement of its employees through an established meeting cycle throughout the year including line management, department meetings, specific group forums, and whole staff briefings. There is close collaboration through various platforms and forums between the academies with Principals, curriculum leaders and other professionals sharing best practice. New colleagues are fully inducted, and all staff take part in CPD throughout the academic year. The Trust also employs 'wellbeing champions' in each of the academies to work collaboratively with the Trust wellbeing team to co-ordinate events and support in line with the wellbeing strategy.

In accordance with the Academy Trust's equal opportunities policy, the Academy Trust has long-established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff.

Full details of these policies are available from the Academy Trust's offices.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

● ***Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Academy Trust***

Each academy in the Trust has engaged with pupils and their parents on an active basis throughout the year using a variety of means such as letters and using digital platforms designed to efficiently communicate with parents/carers. Key personal within the academies also communicate with parents/carers directly through email in line with communication policy. In addition, the Trust maintains an active suite of social media accounts that are updated to share latest information.

The Trust engages with suppliers in a number of ways including procurement processes and key supplier review meetings. The Trust continues to develop its relationships with key supply chain partners to ensure quality and value for money are secured.

The Trust has a large number of stakeholders that it engages with from the city of Leeds and the wider area. The Trust continues to develop its relationship with key stakeholders such as the DfE, ESFA and Leeds City Council through regular meetings and networks. The Trust has also developed relationships with a range of educational and charitable organisations have have similar aims in order to work together to address areas of need.

● ***Related parties and other connected charities and organisations***

Luminate Education Group, who is a member, is also the sponsor of White Rose Academies Trust. A number of Luminate Education Group governors and employees were directors of the Academy Trust. During the year Luminate Education Group provided a range of services including ITSS services on a not for profit basis. The value of these services was £818k (2021 - £830k) and are detailed in note 29.

The role of the sponsor is to provide a governance framework to ensure the appropriate and effective operation of the Trust. The sponsor contributes by providing oversight in governance issues and challenge to the Trust executive.

Objectives and activities

● ***Objects and aims***

The principal object set out in our Articles of Association is:

- 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 schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum or educational institutions which are principally concerned with providing full-time or part-time education for children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless alternative provision is made for them or 16 to 19 academies offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students or schools specially organised to make special educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Academy Trust has adopted "Governance Arrangements and a Scheme of Delegation". The Trust has adopted policies for its operations including, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the White Rose Academies Trust, and that the curriculum should comply with the substance of the national curriculum.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities (continued)

The main aims of the White Rose Academies Trust are summarised below;

- To provide outstanding education, principally in the city of Leeds and surrounding areas, for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4 and 19 with an emphasis on particular specialisms;
- To ensure that every child enjoys the same safe, secure environment and high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care;
- To raise the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- To improve the effectiveness of White Rose Academies Trust by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- To provide value for money for the funds expended;
- To comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- To maintain links with industry and commerce and the international community;
- To conduct the White Rose Academies Trust business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness; and
- To provide facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large, in the interests of social welfare and with the interest of improving the life of the said community.

● **Objectives, strategies and activities**

The White Rose Academies Trust's vision is to be an exceptional and responsive academy group providing life changing education, skills and experiences for individuals in our academies and in their communities.

Our objective is to prepare our learners for the next stage of their education or to move into the world of work so that they are successful in their chosen destination and realise their full potential.

The academies in the Trust aim to deliver inclusive and personalised curriculums which include opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities. All academies are compliant with national legislation in relation to the delivery of Sex Relationship Education.

● **Public benefit**

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Directors have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

● **Key performance indicators**

The Board considers that the following are key performance indicators for the Trust:

- * Pupil numbers (leading directly to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) funding level);
- * Ofsted inspection outcomes;
- * Student attendance;
- * Academic outcomes for students;
- * Students' positive and sustained destinations, post16.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

- * General financial stability;
- * Staff costs as a percentage of total costs;

Building on the success of the previous years the following key achievements were made in 2021/22

High quality leadership and management

- A new Executive Principal has been appointed to further develop and enhance the strategic leadership and oversight of all four academies, the central School Improvement Team and any new academies into a single leadership structure.
- Strategic leadership of the operational aspects of the Trust is now secured through the appointment of a Trust Business Director.
- Migration to a new Management Information System was completed in September 2021. The new cloudbased system provides architecture designed specifically for Multi Academy Trusts to enable more effective use of data to drive and monitor academy performance.

Timely and skilful support for academies

- A clear framework through which effective school to school support has been introduced and established. The school improvement function is structured under ten entitlements which all professionals across the organisation have access to.
- Deployment of expertise from within the Trust School Improvement team and from all academies as required, are ongoing and leading to measurable improvement in targeted areas. The process of Peer and Collaborative Review has been established to drive quality and collaboration across the Trust.
- An augmented central school improvement team has been fully deployed to drive key strategic priorities within specific academies and also more widely across the Trust.
- Leadership structure as described above has enabled the development of a refined deployment model to support strategic areas for improvement based on identified risk.
- Leaders from across the Trust continue to fulfil their designation as Visiting Fellows in support of the new National Professional Qualification (NPQ) Framework, facilitating on the NPQ for Senior Leadership, Leading Teaching and Learning and Leading Behaviour and Culture. The development of a WRAT wide network of expert practitioners, both operationally and educationally, is ongoing and aims to provide appropriate capacity for a growing demand for school improvement support.
- All the secondary academies are full, with significant waiting lists.

High quality learning

- All secondary academies within the Trust are judged as 'good' schools by Ofsted. The fourth school is currently undesignated and is due its first inspection in 2022/23.
- Board appointed Academy Improvement Partner completed key quality visits and reported to the board, including a series of curriculum deep dives. All reports indicated the quality of education at all three academies remains 'good' with some areas of exceptional practice. The Academy Improvement Partner noted significant improvement at the new primary provision, a view that has been validated by external review by leaders from a local Teaching School Hub.
- High Performance Learning, as a key strategic catalyst for Trust wide continuous improvement, is currently in its second year across all academies, with world class accreditation scheduled to be completed at the end of this academic year.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

- Outcomes continue to improve for students progressing from WRAT academies. Across all the secondary academies attainment has improved when compared to the last set of published examination data in 2019. In some subjects attainment was better in the 2022 public examinations than the results achieved in the Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG) process.
- The proportion of students leaving in 2022 securing positive destinations, is testament to the quality of teaching, careers education, advice and guidance delivered across the Trust. The rate at which students from White Rose Academies secure positive destinations post16 stands at 97%.

Grow sustainability to scale

- The WRAT remains a small Trust with ambition and a clear mandate for growth supported by the Regional Director.
- The Trust remains committed to growth and continuously explores opportunity to exert further positive impact on the quality of education in the region.
- Each Secondary academy continues to grow in popularity within their respective communities, evident in the number of students on roll, which has grown materially in recent years.
- Leaders have worked in partnership with Leeds City Council to consult on a permanent expansion to Leeds City Academy's admission number taking overall capacity from 750 to 1050. This partnership with the council includes a £9M capital investment to expand the academy building.
- Leeds West Academy is also nearing completion of its £5M expansion project, increasing capacity from 1200 to 1500.
- The Trust continues to explore and extend partnerships across the region. Ongoing high-level engagement with Local Authority partners, and through partnership with the Leeds Learning Alliance and through collaboration with the Luminate Education Group.

Invest in the Workforce

The WRAT CPD programme continues to invest in the professional development of colleagues from all academies, underpinning effective induction, embracing the principles of the Early Career Framework and ensuring development is appropriate for all career stages, up to and including Principal level.

● **Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the Financial Statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Financial review

The majority of income for educational operations received by White Rose Academies Trust during the year was from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants. The grants received to support the four academies in the Trust are restricted in their use to the purposes defined in the master funding agreement and deed of grant.

The White Rose Academies Trust also receives capital grants from the ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

During the year ended 31 August 2022, total income was £35,950k (2021 - £30,707k).

The operational surplus, excluding depreciation, pension liabilities and amounts inherited on conversion, shown in the General fund has decreased by £47k in the year ended 31 August 2022 to £647k (2021 - £579k) in the Restricted General fund and £194k (2021 - £309k) in the Unrestricted General fund.

The net book value of tangible fixed assets at 31 August 2022 was £62,127k (2021 - £60,660k).

As at the 31 August 2022 the Trust had cash reserves and cash balances on deposit of £1,943k (2021 - £1,370k).

● **Reserves policy**

The directors review the reserve levels of the White Rose Academies Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

The unrestricted reserves at 31 August 2022 of £194k (2021 - £309k) are freely available for general purposes.

Restricted funds of £647k (2021 - £579k) include those designated for a particular purpose such as unspent start-up grants which are disclosed in note 19 to these accounts. These funds will be expended as required dependent upon the level of core funding over the next three years.

● **Investment policy**

Investments must be made only in accordance with written procedures approved by the board. In balancing risk against return the policy of White Rose Academies Trust is geared to risk reduction. Investment decisions take account of cash flows required to cover financial commitments.

All investments must be recorded in sufficient detail to identify the investment and to enable the current market value to be calculated. The information will normally be the date of purchase, the cost and description of the investment.

● **Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Trust is exposed to a range of risks and these risks are monitored and managed through the Risk Management Policy and Procedure that is in place at the Trust. Through this procedure, risk registers are maintained by each academy and a single risk register is maintained capturing the strategic risks for the whole Trust. The strategic risk register is regularly reviewed by the senior leadership team and is also scrutinised by the Audit & Finance Committee. The Board receives the strategic risk register at least annually and more frequently if necessary. The Trust has a range of internal controls that enable risks to be monitored and prompt mitigating action to be taken.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trust also utilises the services of external professionals, in areas such as health and safety, safeguarding and school improvement, who provide independent reports to Trustees on the Trust's work to mitigate and alleviate risks in these key areas.

The principal risks to the Trust include:

1. **Funding** - The majority of the funding for the Trust's activities is in the form of grant funding from the ESFA, based predominantly on student numbers. There can be no assurances that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or keep pace with inflation or salary costs. The Trust is therefore exposed to risk of changes over which it has no direct influence. The Trust minimises this risk by ensuring student numbers at each academy are protected or grown where capacity permits, and manages its financial commitments based on student number projections.
2. **Growth** - In response to the Government's White Paper in March 2022, there has been direction for Trusts to grow by 2030. Any growth opportunities will be subject to a rigorous due diligence process and the Trust will continually review its level of capacity in terms of personnel, processes and systems to ensure that the growth is managed in a controlled and sustainable manner.
3. **Pensions** - The Trust continues to be exposed to the risk of future increases in the employer pension contributions arising from triennial revaluations in future years. The West Yorkshire Pension Fund continues to have a strong funding position (106% as at 31 March 2019). The potential financial impact of future increase in employers pension contributions for the two pension schemes will be kept under review.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Use Data for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022	2021-22	2020-21
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions		
Energy consumption breakdown <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas Electricity Transport Fuel 	3,202,368 kWh 2,283,970 kWh 33,769 miles	3,285,593 kWh 2,003,638 kWh 16,330 miles
Scope 1 – Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas consumption Owned Transport – Mini Buses 	587 10	604 5
Scope 2 – Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchased Electricity 	580	467
Scope 3 – Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business travel in employee owned vehicles 	1.9	2.0
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	1,178.0	1,078.0
Intensity Ratio Tonnes CO2e per pupil (Oct 2022 census = 3,089 pupils)	0.331	0.349

Quantification and Reporting Methodology

We have followed the 2020 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard and have used the 2020 UK Government's conversion factors for company reporting.

Intensity Measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting (continued)

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have an ongoing programme to improve energy efficiency across our academies:

- replace lighting units with energy efficient LED units
- upgrade existing boilers and heating infrastructure at Leeds City Academy
- installation of solar panels at Leeds West Academy
- Electric car charging stations at Leeds West Academy
- Use of biomass as energy source
- Use of combined heating power units at Leeds East Academy

Plans for future periods

The Trust has established a clear set of aligned strategic priorities across all the academy's which are clearly featured in each of the Academy Development and Improvement Plans. The aligned areas of focus relate to developing expertise and improving practice in relation to the following critical areas of School Improvement: The experience of SEND and Pupil Premium Disadvantaged students, the deliberate and cohesive teaching of literacy including the enjoyment of reading and attendance. The Trusts work in relation to High Performance Learning continues and by the end of the 2023 academic year all the academies across the Trust should have secured World Class HPL accreditation. At the start of this academic year a framework for effective cross trust school improvement has been launched which facilitates opportunities for cross trust collaboration and a calendared programme of peer and school to school support.

Fundraising

The Academy Trust has not actively participated in fundraising practices in the financial year. However, the directors are aware of the requirements of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 in relation to fundraising practices.

Employee involvement

The Trust actively engages with all its employees on a continual basis and during the past year has:

- Conducted a staff survey on where 89% of staff agreed that they are 'proud to work for the Trust and would recommend it to friends/family'.
- Created a Trust wide wellbeing group to develop a range of wellbeing initiatives, including the appointment of wellbeing representatives at each academy
- Undertaken an extensive programme of communications to provide support to staff including the creation of a confidential staff welfare e-mail address for staff to raise concerns
- Continued used of staff bulletins and briefings to share information and celebrate achievement

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Directors are aware:

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

The Directors' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Directors, as the company directors, on Dec 16, 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
A McMaster
(Interim Chair of Directors)

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for ensuring that White Rose Academies Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control - financial and otherwise.

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

The board delegates the day-to-day responsibility for running the Trust to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer is also the Trust's Accounting Officer and is responsible for ensuring that financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and comply with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between White Rose Academies Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

The information provided in this section supplements that which is referred to in the Directors' Report and in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities.

Board of directors

The board of directors have formally met 8 times during the year.

Attendance by directors at meetings of the Board was as follows:

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
H Philips, chair (resigned 6 April 2022)	3	4
C Booth OBE (resigned 25 February 2022)	3	4
L Devenny (resigned 1 January 2022)	3	3
CLlr C Gruen	6	8
P Morrissey (resigned 11 October 2021)	0	0
M Parkes (resigned 17 June 2022)	2	5
K A Pearlman-Shaw (resigned 1 August 2022)	7	8
D Strachan	5	8
A Whitaker	6	8
C Williams	8	8
A McMaster, Interim Chair	8	8
P Wheeliker (appointed 28 April 2022, resigned 26 September 2022)	3	3
J T Leach (appointed 22 September 2022)	0	0
E Sandwith (appointed 15 October 2022)	0	0
S Harper (appointed 6 October 2022)	0	0
S Flowers (appointed 13 October 2022)	0	0
K Newby (appointed 14 November 2022)	0	0
C Daniel (appointed 28 November 2022)	0	0
K Burns (appointed 30 November 2022)	0	0
F Al Fadhili (appointed 30 November 2022)	0	0

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Board of directors (continued)

Conflicts of interest

Trustees have systems in place to identify conflicts of interest to ensure decisions are taken in the best interests of the Trust. All trustees and governors declare their business and pecuniary interests on joining the trust and are required to refresh this information annually. A register of interests is maintained for the Trust board and Local Accountability Boards and is published on the Trust website. This approach ensures conflicts can be identified in advance. In addition, declarations in relation to any agenda items are requested at the start of each board and Local Accountability Board meeting.

As the Trust has matured, data and other information provided to the Board, Board Committee and Local Accountability Boards has been subject to ongoing review and enhancement.

All Terms of Reference and other constitutional documents and arrangements have been reviewed, with the aim of further increasing the range and rigour of information provided throughout the governance structure.

Audit Risk and Finance Committee

The Audit Risk and Finance Committee is a committee of the Trust Board, established under the terms of Article 101 of the Trust's Articles of Association. The purpose of the committee is to assist the decision making of the Trust by providing a process for independent checking of financial controls, systems, transactions and risks, independent of management.

The Academy Trust Handbook published by the Education Funding Agency (ESFA) requires that the Audit Risk and Finance Committee's work must focus on providing assurance to the Board of Directors that risks are being adequately identified and managed by reviewing the risks to internal financial control at the Trust; and agreeing a programme of work to address, and provide assurance on, those risks.

As part of a multi-academy trust (MAT), the Committee's oversight extends to the financial controls and risks at constituent academies.

The committee's oversight includes information submitted to DfE and ESFA that affects funding, including pupil number returns and funding claims completed by the Trust and its constituent academies, is accurate and in compliance with funding criteria.

The terms of reference for the committee are reviewed and approved annually.

The committee met formally 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
L Devenny, Chair (resigned 1 January 2022)	2	2
D Strachan, Interim Chair	4	5
C Williams	5	5
C Blythe, co-opted (resigned)	1	5

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer is personally responsible and publicly accountable for achieving the best possible value in the use of public resource. This includes ensuring the economic, efficient, and effective use of all resources in their charge, ensuring all financial transactions represent value for money and avoiding waste and extravagance. The Accounting Officer has delivered value for money during the year by:

- utilising the Central Trust Team to provide support in academy improvement and various support services including Finance, HR, ICT, Marketing, Professional Development and Governance;
- recruitment to shared posts across a number of academies and the secondment of staff across the Trust;
- the adoption of common processes and systems in the academies across the Trust;
- the appointment of service providers or contractors via recognised public sector frameworks or via competitive tendering process;
- the re-negotiation or procurement of services to ensure best value such as utility, telephony, and transport services;
- collaborative working with other academy trusts to run joint-procurement exercises;
- working with professional bodies within the public finance and business sector such as CIPFA and ISBL to recognise current procurement guidance;
- income generation through the hire of school facilities to benefit of local community groups.

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 White Rose Academies Trust for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of directors 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 directors is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of directors.

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 directors
- regular reviews by the Audit Risk and Finance 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

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

The Board of Directors has decided to employ Moorlands Learning Trust as internal auditor.

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

- Estates Management
- Finance and procurement

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of directors through the Audit Risk and Finance Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the 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 internal auditor delivered their programme of work as planned and highlighted the following areas as areas for improvement:

- One classroom with machinery was unlocked and unattended at the date of the visit.
- No data sheet was available for two of three chemicals selected from the store room

All above areas have been reviewed by the Trust and appropriate action/staff training has been undertaken to ensure these matters do not occur in the future.

From 1 September 2022, the Board of Directors decided to employ Clive Owen LLP as internal auditor.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of both the internal and external auditors;

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Directors and signed on their behalf by:



.....
A McMaster
Interim Chair of Directors



.....
S Carrie
Interim Accounting Officer

Date: Dec 16, 2022

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of White Rose Academies Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust board of Directors and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust board of Directors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the board of Directors and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of Directors and ESFA:

Non-financial issues

In July 2020 the Academy Trust board approved that the Academy Trust enter into a new contract for the provision of IT support services by Luminate Education Group, the trust sponsor, on the same basis as the previously existing arrangement.

Following approval by the Academy Trust board, approval to enter into this related party transaction was requested from the ESFA prior to commencement of the new contract on 1 September 2020. Following the rejection from the ESFA regarding the related party transaction submission for IT services, both the Trust and Luminate Education Group agreed to terminate the contract with effect from 31st December 2022. Until then the contract with Luminate Education Group will continue. On 1st January 2023 the Trust will enter into a new contract with non-related parties for all services previously supplied by Luminate Education Group.

I have notified the board of Directors of instances of alleged financial irregularity and impropriety regarding a few financial transactions. I have supplied the Board of Directors and the ESFA with all required information and appropriate steps are being taken.

At this date, the Trust board are continuing their discussions with the ESFA in regard to:

- Governance
- Structure, roles and responsibilities
- Conflicts of interest and dual roles
- Use of Trust resources
- Procurement and related parties

The Academy Trust continues to supply all requested information to assist the ESFA.

S. Carrie
S. Carrie (Dec 16, 2022 13:56 GMT)

.....
S Carrie

Interim Accounting Officer

Date: Dec 16, 2022

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Directors (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Directors 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 Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- 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 Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors and signed on its behalf by:



.....
A McMaster
Interim Chair of Directors

Date: Dec 16, 2022

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of White Rose Academies Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST (CONTINUED)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Directors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. 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 Directors' Report incorporating the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report.

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

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

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities, the Directors (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Directors 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Academy Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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:

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

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the academy trust through discussions with management, and from our knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the academy trust, including the Charities Act 2011 and the guidance issued by the ESFA;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence with the regulators; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the academy trust's accounts to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

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

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST (CONTINUED)

- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

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

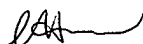
- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reviewing correspondence with regulators and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

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

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

Use of our report

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



Lesley Kendrew (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

BHP LLP

Chartered Accountants

New Chartford House

Centurion Way

Cleckheaton

BD19 3QB

Date: Dec 16, 2022

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 9 July 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by White Rose Academies Trust during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 White Rose Academies Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to White Rose Academies Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than White Rose Academies Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of White Rose Academies Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of White Rose Academies Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 July 2014 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- checking that the academy trust's activities are consistent with its framework and its charitable objectives,
- checking that the governors and key staff have disclosed their interest in related parties, discussing the same with management and reviewing transactions during the period for undisclosed related party transactions,
- checking that any related party transactions during the period are conducted at normal commercial rates,
- checking that academy trust expenditure is permitted by its funding agreement,
- checking that any borrowings entered into, including leases, are in accordance with the Academies Handbook,
- checking that any land and building transactions, especially disposals, are in line with the funding agreement and Academies Handbook.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

In July 2020 the Academy Trust board approved that the Academy Trust enter into a new contract for the provision of IT support services by Luminate Education Group, the trust sponsor, on the same basis as the previously existing arrangement.

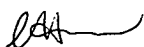
Following approval by the Academy Trust board, approval to enter into this related party transaction was requested from the ESFA prior to commencement of the new contract on 1 September 2020. Following the rejection from the ESFA regarding the related party transaction submission for IT services, both the Trust and Luminate Education Group agreed to terminate the contract with effect from 31st December 2022. Until then the contract with Luminate Education Group will continue. On 1st January 2023 the Trust will enter into a new contract with non-related parties for all services previously supplied by Luminate Education Group.

The Accounting Officer has notified the board of Directors of instances of alleged financial irregularity and impropriety regarding a few financial transactions. The Accounting Officer has supplied the Board of Directors and the ESFA with all required information and appropriate steps are being taken.

At this date, the Trust board are continuing their discussions with the ESFA in regard to:

- Governance
- Structure, roles and responsibilities
- Conflicts of interest and dual roles
- Use of Trust resources
- Procurement and related parties

The Academy Trust continues to supply all requested information to assist the ESFA.



Lesley Kendrew
Reporting Accountant
BHP LLP
Chartered Accountants

New Chartford House
Centurion Way
Cleckheaton
BD19 3QB

Date: Dec 16, 2022

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

		Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
	Note					
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants:	3					
Transfer from local authority on conversion		-	-	-	-	2,851
Other donations and capital grants		1	-	7,178	7,179	1,596
Other trading activities	5	1,063	-	-	1,063	544
Charitable activities		-	27,708	-	27,708	25,716
Total income		1,064	27,708	7,178	35,950	30,707
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		1,179	29,586	1,951	32,716	28,943
Total expenditure		1,179	29,586	1,951	32,716	28,943
Net (expenditure)/income		(115)	(1,878)	5,227	3,234	1,764
Transfers between funds	19	-	(192)	192	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(115)	(2,070)	5,419	3,234	1,764
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	13,239	-	13,239	(168)
Net movement in funds		(115)	11,169	5,419	16,473	1,596
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		309	(12,119)	61,291	49,481	47,885
Net movement in funds		(115)	11,169	5,419	16,473	1,596

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted fixed	Total	Total
	funds	funds	asset funds	funds	funds
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2021
Note	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Total funds carried forward	194	(950)	66,710	65,954	49,481

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

The notes on pages 34 to 64 form part of these financial statements.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07958615

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £000	2021 £000
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	13	-	-
Tangible assets	14	62,127	60,660
		<u>62,127</u>	<u>60,660</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	15	68	61
Debtors	16	5,988	2,209
Cash at bank and in hand		1,943	1,370
		<u>7,999</u>	<u>3,640</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(2,550)	(2,101)
Net current assets		<u>5,449</u>	<u>1,539</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>67,576</u>	<u>62,199</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(25)	(20)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>67,551</u>	<u>62,179</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	26	(1,597)	(12,698)
Total net assets		<u>65,954</u>	<u>49,481</u>
Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	19	66,710	61,291
Restricted income funds	19	647	579
Pension reserve	19	(1,597)	(12,698)
Total restricted funds	19	<u>65,760</u>	<u>49,172</u>
Unrestricted income funds	19	<u>194</u>	<u>309</u>
Total funds		<u>65,954</u>	<u>49,481</u>

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

The financial statements on pages 29 to 64 were approved and authorised for issue by the Directors and are signed on their behalf, by:



.....
A McMaster
Interim Chair of Directors

Date: Dec 16, 2022

The notes on pages 34 to 64 form part of these financial statements.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £000	2021 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	21	(3,181)	(38)
Cash flows from investing activities	22	3,754	81
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		573	43
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,370	1,327
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	23, 24	1,943	1,370

The notes on pages 34 to 64 form part of these financial statements

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic 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 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The directors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy Trust to continue as a going concern. The directors 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 no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

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

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is 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.

• **Sponsorship income**

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the year in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions) where receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income (continued)

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year 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 'Stocks' 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'.

- **Transfer on conversion**

Where assets and liabilities are received by the Academy Trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Academy Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets received.

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or 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 Capital Grants' 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

- **Charitable activities**

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.

1.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

1.6 Taxation

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

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.

Amortisation is provided on the following basis:

Computer software	- 33 % straight line basis
-------------------	----------------------------

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £2,500 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. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land 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:

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	- 2% straight line basis
Furniture and equipment	- 20% straight line basis
Motor vehicles	- 20% straight line basis
Computer hardware	- 33% straight line basis

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.12 Liabilities and provisions

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

1.13 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 17 and 18. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.14 Operating leases

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Pensions

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

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance Sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus 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 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.

1.16 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 Directors.

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education (Group).

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. 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.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Transfer from local authority on conversion	-	-	-	-	2,851
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	-	(155)
Donations	1	-	-	1	118
Capital grants	-	-	7,178	7,178	1,633
Total 2022	1	-	7,178	7,179	4,447
Total 2021	118	(899)	5,228	4,447	

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Education			
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	23,552	23,552	21,313
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Start up grants	-	-	50
Pupil Premium	1,823	1,823	1,650
Rates relief	87	87	94
Others	1,043	1,043	1,868
	26,505	26,505	24,975
Other Government grants			
Special Education Needs	336	336	337
Local authority grants	867	867	404
	1,203	1,203	741
	27,708	27,708	25,716
Total 2021	25,716	25,716	

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Hire of facilities	99	99	6
Catering	459	459	196
Trip income	7	7	-
Insurance claims	49	49	20
Other income	449	449	322
Total 2022	1,063	1,063	544
Total 2021	544	544	

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £000	Premises 2022 £000	Other 2022 £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
Education:					
Direct costs	17,691	-	5,149	22,840	21,009
Allocated support costs	5,085	2,138	2,653	9,876	7,934
Total 2022	22,776	2,138	7,802	32,716	28,943
Total 2021	20,281	1,487	7,175	28,943	

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £000	Support costs 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Education	22,840	9,876	32,716	28,943
Total 2021	21,009	7,934	28,943	

Analysis of support costs

	Education 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Staff costs	5,085	5,085	3,644
Depreciation	-	-	1
Other costs	1,897	1,897	2,510
Maintenance of premises and equipment	2,138	2,138	1,487
Technology costs	732	732	272
Governance	24	24	20
Total 2022	9,876	9,876	7,934
Total 2021	7,934	7,934	

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

8. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,952	1,832
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	15	13
- other assurance services	4	5
	1,971	1,850

9. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	15,296	14,077
Social security costs	1,609	1,392
Pension costs	5,142	4,290
	22,047	19,759
Agency staff costs	622	379
Staff restructuring costs	107	143
	22,776	20,281

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Redundancy payments	60	55
Severance payments	47	88
	107	143

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

9. Staff (continued)

b. Severance payments

The Academy Trust paid 7 severance payments in the year (2021 - 19), disclosed in the following bands:

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
£0 - £25,000	7	18
£25,001 - £50,000	-	1
	=====	=====

c. Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £47k (2021 - £88k). Individually the payments were: £10,000, £2,117, £5,642, £3,467, £450, £16,750, £2,000 and £6,123.

d. Staff numbers

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

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Teachers	249	247
Administration and support	215	210
Management	7	7
	=====	=====
	471	464
	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

9. Staff (continued)

e. Higher paid staff

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

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	10	13
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	4	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	2
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	2	-
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	-	1
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	1	1

f. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Directors and the senior management team as listed on page 2. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £1,025k (2021 - £955k).

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

10. Central services

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

- Financial Services
- HR Services
- Marketing and Communication
- School Improvement Services
- Continuing professional development

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

Flat percentage of 5% of total income

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Leeds City Academy	360	370
Leeds East Academy	351	362
Leeds West Academy	431	443
Alder Tree Primary Academy	86	73
Total	1,228	1,248

11. Directors' remuneration and expenses

One or more Directors has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Directors 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 Directors' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2022	2021
		£000	£000
A Whitaker - Chief Executive Officer	Remuneration	145 - 150	145 - 150
	Pension contributions paid	30 - 35	30 - 35

During the year, retirement benefits were accruing to 1 Director (2021 - 1) in respect of defined benefit pension schemes.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no Director expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL).

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12. Directors' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect directors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000k on any one claim and the costs for the year ended 31 August 2022 are not separable as the RPA charge is based on student numbers. The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

13. Intangible assets

	Computer software £000
Cost	
At 1 September 2021	74
At 31 August 2022	74
Amortisation	
At 1 September 2021	74
At 31 August 2022	74
Net book value	
At 31 August 2022	-
At 31 August 2021	-

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £000	Furniture and equipment £000	Computer equipment £000	Motor vehicles £000	Total £000
<i>Cost or valuation</i>					
At 1 September 2021	68,081	4,118	1,861	52	74,112
Additions	2,929	403	87	-	3,419
At 31 August 2022	71,010	4,521	1,948	52	77,531
<i>Depreciation</i>					
At 1 September 2021	8,665	3,208	1,527	52	13,452
Charge for the year	1,374	413	165	-	1,952
At 31 August 2022	10,039	3,621	1,692	52	15,404
<i>Net book value</i>					
At 31 August 2022	60,971	900	256	-	62,127
At 31 August 2021	59,416	910	334	-	60,660

The academy trust's transactions relating to land and buildings included:

- the acquisition of the freehold land and buildings which were donated to the academy trust at a value of £62,254k

15. Stocks

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Uniform, planners, exercise books etc.	68	61

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

16. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
<i>Due within one year</i>		
Trade debtors	164	150
Other debtors	237	255
Prepayments and accrued income	5,587	1,804
	5,988	2,209

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Other loans	5	5
Trade creditors	1,457	1,181
Other creditors	107	64
Accruals and deferred income	981	851
	2,550	2,101

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	55	53
Resources deferred during the year	60	55
Amounts released from previous periods	(55)	(53)
	60	55

At the balance sheet date, the Academy Trust was holding rates rebates received in advance of £60k.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Salix loan	15	20
Other creditors	10	-
	25	20

The Salix loan balance above is repayable over a period of 8 years commencing September 2018 and is an interest free loan from the DfE for roofing improvement works at Leeds City Academy, and will be repaid in August 2026.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	309	1,064	(1,179)	-	-	194
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	579	23,553	(23,293)	(192)	-	647
Pupil Premium	-	1,823	(1,823)	-	-	-
Rates relief	-	87	(87)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,910	(1,910)	-	-	-
Special Education Needs	-	335	(335)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(12,698)	-	(2,138)	-	13,239	(1,597)
	(12,119)	27,708	(29,586)	(192)	13,239	(950)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed assets transferred on conversion	51,682	-	(1,202)	-	-	50,480
ESFA capital grants	2,057	7,178	(297)	-	-	8,938
Revaluation	5,687	-	(142)	-	-	5,545
Capital expenditure from GAG	806	-	(279)	192	-	719
Donated assets	1,059	-	(31)	-	-	1,028
	61,291	7,178	(1,951)	192	-	66,710

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
Total Restricted funds	49,172	34,886	(31,537)	-	13,239	65,760
Total funds	49,481	35,950	(32,716)	-	13,239	65,954

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) has been provided by the ESFA in order to fund the normal running costs of the academy trust. The carried forward balance will be applied in future years to enable the establishment of a minimum prudent level of reserves to manage risks and unforeseen costs.

Start Up Grant represents funding from the ESFA to support the management structure of Leeds City Academy during the period of student number growth.

The reserves transferred from the previous sponsor represent grants held to support Leeds West and Leeds East academies during the transition from the estimated funding model to lagged funding whilst still in the period of student number growth.

Other ESFA grants are allocated against the particular purpose for which they are provided.

The restricted pension reserve represents the deficit on the four academies in the trust's share of the Local Government Pension Scheme as at 31 August 2021.

Restricted fixed asset funds represent the undepreciated value of the tangible fixed assets and funds allocated for future capital projects.

Other restricted funds related to funds held on behalf of White Rose Academies Trust for specific activities governed by the terms of the grant.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000
<i>Unrestricted funds</i>					
General Funds	-	662	(1,602)	1,249	309
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	158	21,313	(19,232)	(1,660)	579
Start up grant	315	50	(365)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,650	(1,650)	-	-
Rates relief	-	94	(94)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,868	(1,868)	-	-
Special Education Needs	-	337	(337)	-	-
Local authority grants	-	404	(404)	-	-
Pension reserve	(10,072)	(899)	(1,559)	(168)	(12,698)
	(9,599)	24,817	(25,509)	(1,828)	(12,119)
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Fixed assets transferred on conversion	49,103	3,750	(1,171)	-	51,682
ESFA capital grants	678	1,633	(254)	-	2,057
Revaluation	5,826	-	(139)	-	5,687
Capital expenditure from GAG	633	-	(238)	411	806
Donated assets	1,244	(155)	(30)	-	1,059
	57,484	5,228	(1,832)	411	61,291
<i>Total Restricted funds</i>	47,885	30,045	(27,341)	(1,417)	49,172
<i>Total funds</i>	47,885	30,707	(28,943)	(168)	49,481

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Leeds City Academy	1,276	1,190
Leeds East Academy	143	(24)
Leeds West Academy	42	(106)
Alder Tree Primary Academy	(291)	(186)
Central Trust	(329)	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	841	888
Restricted fixed asset fund	66,710	61,291
Pension reserve	(1,597)	(12,698)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	65,954	49,481
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
		Deficit
		£000
Alder Tree Primary Academy		(291)
Central Trust		(329)
		<hr/> <hr/>

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £000	Other support staff costs £000	Educational supplies £000	Other costs excluding depreciation £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
Leeds City Academy	4,809	747	664	2,111	8,331	6,591
Leeds East Academy	4,901	548	683	1,676	7,808	7,054
Leeds West Academy	5,981	677	943	1,942	9,543	8,520

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £000	Other support staff costs £000	Educational supplies £000	Other costs excluding depreciation £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
Alder Tree Primary Academy	1,401	297	147	486	2,331	1,914
Central Trust	599	784	56	(825)	614	3,032
Academy Trust	17,691	3,053	2,493	5,390	28,627	27,111

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	62,127	62,127
Current assets	194	3,222	4,583	7,999
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,550)	-	(2,550)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(25)	-	(25)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(1,597)	-	(1,597)
Total	194	(950)	66,710	65,954

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

20. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £000	Restricted funds 2021 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	60,660	60,660
Current assets	309	2,700	631	3,640
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,101)	-	(2,101)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(20)	-	(20)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(12,698)	-	(12,698)
Total	309	(12,119)	61,291	49,481

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

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	3,234	1,764
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,952	1,832
Capital grants from ESFA and other capital income	(7,178)	(1,478)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	-	899
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	1,930	1,382
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	208	177
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	(7)	(41)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(3,779)	(461)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	459	(362)
Fixed assets transferred on conversion	-	(3,750)
Net cash used in operating activities	(3,181)	(38)

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

22. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(3,419)	(1,392)
Capital grants from ESFA and other capital income	7,178	1,478
Repayment of Salix loan	(5)	(5)
<i>Net cash provided by investing activities</i>	3,754	81

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Cash in hand and at bank	1,943	1,370
<i>Total cash and cash equivalents</i>	1,943	1,370

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £000	Cash flows £000	At 31 August 2022 £000
Cash at bank and in hand	1,370	573	1,943
Debt due within 1 year	(5)	-	(5)
Debt due after 1 year	(20)	5	(15)
	1,345	578	1,923

25. Capital commitments

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	5,031	526

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

26. Pension commitments

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 West Yorkshire Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time 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 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

26. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £2,180k (2021 - £2,046k).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx>).

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 2022 was £1,093k (2021 - £947k), of which employer's contributions totalled £790k (2021 - £681k) and employees' contributions totalled £303k (2021 - £266k). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 16.4 per cent for employers and 12.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy Trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Academy Trust at the balance sheet date.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.95	3.85
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.70	2.60
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.1	1.70
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.70	2.60
Inflation assumption (RPI)	2.70	2.60

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

26. Pension commitments (continued)

Allowance for high inflation between 30 September 2021 and 31 August 2022

A gain (or loss) is recognised in the Defined Benefit Obligation (DBO) when actual pension increases are lower (or higher) than those assumed. The policy to date has been to recognise the pension increase order laid during the relevant accounting period. The last pension increase order was 3.1% in April 2022, and this has been allowed for in these figures. However, due to current levels of high inflation the actuary has been instructed to also make an allowance in the DBO for the expected impact of CPI inflation on the pension increase order for April 2023. This is a change in accounting policy from previous years. It is expected that the April 2023 pension increase order will reflect CPI inflation for the year ending 30 September 2022.

Therefore the actuary has allowed for a loss arising due to high inflation since 30 September 2021, in addition to the loss arising from the April 2022 pension increase order. They have allowed for actual CPI inflation for the period 30 September 2021 to 30 June 2022 of 8.4%, noting that the CPI inflation assumption at the accounting date is lagged 2 months so captures inflation for July and August 2022.

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.8	21.9
Females	24.6	24.7
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.5	22.6
Females	25.7	25.8

Sensitivity analysis

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	16,804	26,677
Discount rate -0.1%	17,697	28,095
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	17,725	28,416
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	16,759	26,333
CPI rate +0.1%	17,292	27,451
CPI rate -0.1%	17,192	27,295

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

26. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022 £000	At 31 August 2021 £000
Equities	12,500	11,770
Gilts	1,001	1,174
Corporate bonds	672	646
Property	610	558
Cash and other liquid assets	626	322
Other	236	205
Total market value of assets	15,645	14,675

The actual return on scheme assets was £214k (2021 - £2,498k).

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

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Current service cost	(1,875)	(2,048)
Past service cost	(55)	(15)
Interest income	257	196
Interest cost	(465)	(373)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(2,138)	(2,240)

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

26. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
At 1 September	27,373	20,460
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	-	2,086
Interest cost	465	373
Employee contributions	303	266
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(13,282)	2,470
Benefits paid	(384)	(345)
Past service costs	55	15
Current service cost	2,712	2,048
At 31 August	17,242	27,373

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

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
At 1 September	14,675	10,388
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	-	1,187
Interest income	257	196
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(43)	2,302
Employer contributions	837	681
Employee contributions	303	266
Benefits paid	(384)	(345)
At 31 August	15,645	14,675

WHITE ROSE ACADEMIES TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

27. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Not later than 1 year	70	132
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	193	20
	263	152

28. Members' liability

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

29. Related party transactions

During the year, the Academy Trust has charged The Luminate Education Group a total of £181k (2021 - £87k) in relation to recharges of staff costs and expenses incurred. At the year end, the Academy Trust was owed £121k (2021 - £18k) from The Luminate Education Group.

During the year, The Luminate Education Group has charged the Trust £818k (2021 - £830k) in relation to IT and other services. At the year end, the academy trust owed The Luminate Education Group £249k (2021 - £82k)

The academy trust board believed that all transactions involving related parties were conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The request for ESFA approval was submitted by the Academy Trust on 21 January 2021 and the ESFA responded on 15 February 2022 that it did not give approval to the IT and other services transactions mentioned above.