Company Registration Number: 08183461 (England & Wales)

# **BEACON HILL ACADEMY**

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023



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#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

K Summers R Milligan T Hammond

**Trustees** 

A Fish, Chair of Trustees<sup>2</sup> S Hewitt, Principal and Trustee<sup>1</sup> V Loganathan, Vice Chair<sup>1</sup> J Paddick, Trustee<sup>1</sup>

E Brant, Trustee (appointed 16 November 2022)2

S Hand, Staff Trustee2 K Soni, Trustee1 J Drew, Staff Trustee1

L Bostock, Trustee2

<sup>1</sup> Member of the Finance and Audit Committee

<sup>2</sup> Member of the Learning and Achievement Committee

Company registered

number

08183461

Company name

Beacon Hill Academy

Principal and registered

office

Erriff Drive
South Ockendon

Essex RM15 5AY

Company secretary

L Cook

**Accounting Officer** 

S Hewitt

Senior leadership

team

S Hewitt, Principal

J.Bull, Vice Principal (until April 2023) L. Podstawka, Assistant Headteacher L. Bloomfield, Nursery and EYFS Leader

A. Bradley, Sensory and Communication Team Leader

K. Poppy, EYFS/Outreach Lead A. Bull, Post 16 Operational Leader J. Drew, HLTA Learning Leader

(A company limited by guarantee)

# REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Independent auditors

MWS Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditor Kingsridge House 601 London Road Westcliff-on-Sea

Essex SS0 9PE

**Bankers** 

Lloyds Bank plc

1-3 Market Place

Romford RM1 3AA

**Solicitors** 

**Anthony Collins Solicitors** 

134 Edmund Street

Birmingham B3 2ES

# TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

Beacon Hill Academy provides education to children aged between 2 and 19 in the Thurrock area. The current capacity of the academy is 75 with the number on roll of 73 as per the census at October 2022. Pupils join the Academy from the age of 2yr 6 months so will start at different points in the school year.

# Structure, governance and management

#### a. Constitution

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the Academy Trust. The company registration number is 08183461.

The Governors act as the Trustees for the charitable activities of Beacon Hill Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as Beacon Hill Academy.

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

The Academy's principal activity is to provide education to children and students between the ages of 2 and 19, without prejudice, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum, as set out in the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Academy is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 13 August 2012.

# b. 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.

#### c. Trustees' indemnities

The Academy through its Articles has indemnified its Trustees to the fullest extent permissible by law. During the period the Academy also purchased and maintained liability insurance for its Trustees.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management (continued)

# d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Governor recruitment is through a combination of approaches, including the co option of those with necessary skills from people with an interest in the school community. There are 2 dedicated places on the Governing Body for parents of children at the Academy. Nominations for Governors will be requested by a specific date. These nominations must include the reasons why the nominee wishes to become a Governor and the attributes they can bring to the Governing Body. These nominations will be considered by the members of the Academy Trust who will decide the successful candidate. Where no nominations are forthcoming, the Governing Body will identify possible future Governors to approach. Where our self audit reveals a significant gap in skills within the Governing Body, an active recruitment drive will take place for people with the relevant skillset.

If a Parent Governor vacancy becomes available, then information is circulated to all parents/carers. Prospective Governors can then be nominated and seconded. If more than one applicant applies, voting papers are sent out to all parent/carers. Staff Governor elections follow a similar procedure. If there is only one nomination the candidate may be elected unopposed.

The Chair and Vice Chair are elected to the positions annually by the Governing Body, as are the Chairs of Sub Committees.

### e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The School provides all new Governors with a comprehensive induction package covering a comprehensive range of issues and topics. This is to ensure they gain a better understanding of the role and responsibilities of being a school Governor so they can fulfil their role with confidence.

The Governing Body is committed to providing training for Governors specific to their roles and the requirements of the Academy and to aid this, the Academy purchases training from appropriate bodies. The Governing Body operates a shadowing system for new governors. All governors are members of NGA and access relevant training via this.

### f. Organisational structure

The Beacon Hill Academy is governed by the Governing Body and is constituted under a Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association.

The Governing Body is responsible for the strategic management of the school; deciding and setting key aspects such as the strategic direction, annual budgets, senior staff appointments, policy development and changes and ensuring compliance with legal requirements.

The Principal is the Accounting Officer and is supported by the senior leadership team. The Governing Body has delegated the day to day running of the Academy to the Principal and while it has retained responsibility for certain aspects of governance, the majority of roles and responsibilities are delegated to the Committees, as defined in the Academy's Standing Orders.

There are two Governors sub-committees, each with its own terms of reference; the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and the Learning and Achievement Committee. In addition, there is a Pay Committee that meets once a year to decide on teachers' pay awards.

There are additional sub committees that convene as and when required.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### Structure, governance and management (continued)

# g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The pay and remuneration for all key management personnel at Beacon Hill Academy is detailed in the Academy's Pay Policy which is reviewed annually by the Governing Body. Within this document there is provision for accelerated progress up the pay scales to reflect exceptional performance. The document is available from the Academy office.

# h. Related parties and other Connected Charities and organisations

Beacon Hill is currently a standalone academy and as such does not have any such connections

### Objectives and activities

### a. Objects and aims

Beacon Hill is a place where:

- · All pupils will get an education that is bespoke for their individual needs.
- Each pupil can achieve their own goals, tailored to their uniqueness.
- · Learning is continuous for all.
- There will be a range of rich opportunities to develop pupils' strengths and to equip them for adult life.
- There will be opportunities to excel.
- There is no limit in our expectations, we will empower pupils so that nothing can hold them back and anything is possible.
- It is fun to learn and play.
- · Pupils are happy and willing to learn.

### Beacon Hill staff will:

- Give students confidence, making them ready to embrace the world around them.
- Show the pupils that they do and can fit in. We will ensure that they are accepted by others and are a valued part of the community.
- · Challenge each student and push their boundaries. We will do the best for each pupil.
- · Work together to be creative and think outside of the box.
- · Be supported and support each other.
- Not give up, we share a 'can do' attitude.

We are proud of all of our pupils. No matter how small the steps, anything is a big achievement.

We will work with our community to encourage them to be actively involved and share in our successes. We will share outstanding practices and knowledge as we grow and succeed.

The Academy is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## Objectives and activities (continued)

# b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The Academy Development Plan has been tailored specifically to meet the overall objects and aims of the Academy, as outlined above. It is constantly reviewed and the key priorities are updated. It covers all aspects of achievements and standards across the curriculum; pupil progress, pupil health, behaviour and wellbeing; staff and management; premises and resources; community and promotion; and finance.

Priorities this year were set with stakeholders and mapped to the key Ofsted areas from the current inspection framework:

- Quality of education
- · Behaviour and attitudes
- Personal Development
- · Leadership and Management

### c. Public benefit

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

# d. Volunteers

The Academy is grateful for the unstinting efforts of its volunteers, mainly parents and carers, who are involved in supporting the teaching and learning of the children. The Academy does not record a financial value for this time within the accounts.

# Strategic report

# Achievements and performance

In November 2019, Beacon Hill was inspected by Ofsted and continued to maintain grading of Outstanding in all areas. All learning takes place on site but the option and skillset remains to provide remote learning links across the school for pupils who may be unable to attend (often due to medical reasons).

All pupils follow individual learning adventures and progress measures are set individually. These are set from discussions at person centred EHCP review meetings and are monitored by a team of staff who know the pupil well. The majority of pupils are learning at a level that is recorded using the Engagement Model. Analysis of this over the year showed that most pupils achieved or exceeded the personalised targets that were set for them. Where pupils are working towards targets, these are analysed in further depth through progress meetings. Targets are sensitively set for pupils who are regressing.

Individual pupil achievements are shared with governors through the Learning and Achievement Committee meetings.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### Strategic report (continued)

# Achievements and performance (continued)

### a. Key performance indicators

The Governors have selected specific KPIs which relate to Ofsted performance, fund balances, staffing costs, premises costs and pupil numbers.

These KPIs are regularly monitored regularly and reviewed by the finance, audit and risk committee and have continued to be met.

The Academy implemented a revised personalised curriculum model in Sept 2019 and was subjected to an Ofsted Inspection in November 2019. The curriculum model was highly praised, and the inspection resulted in a 4th consecutive Outstanding judgement for the school. The curriculum model has continued to be further developed this and refined to reflect the changing cohort and any new national content

Pupil numbers grew across the year due to in year intake and additional requests for places from other Local Authorities. It is anticipated that by the October 2023 census the school will be close to capacity (75) and will be full or over capacity during the next academic year. This is being monitored with the Local authority.

Managing the predicted fund balances is challenging and the Academies income is heavily reliant on the agreed amount of top up funding from the Local authority. As the base funding per pupil has continued to remain static at £10,000, the Local authority has recognised that a percentage increase to top ups need to factor this in as well

There has been a significant challenge this year with the support staff pay. All support staff are paid on The Thurrock Pay scales which were adjusted mid year to reflect the NJC settlement. This meant that there was a significant underbudget in support staff pay and a large amount of back pay was also needed. In order to address this moving forward, a consultation process took place and all support staff have now moved onto an agreed Academy pay scale. Increments and pay awards for support staff have been moved to September to be in line with the Academy budget setting.

The overspend in this area was taken from the Academys historic carry forward and contingency. These funds are now significantly depleted and it will be difficult to re-build them under the current funding position.

The increasing complexity of the pupils medical and developmental conditions has meant that a higher staff to pupil ratio continues to be needed across the school.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Key performance indicators	Aug 2021	Aug 2022	Aug 2023
Ofsted rating	Outstanding –	Outstanding —	Outstanding –
	inspected Nov	inspected Nov	inspected Nov
	2019	2019	2019
Total funds carried forward at end of year is positive	Yes	Yes	Yes
Total of unrestricted funds at end of year in surplus	Yes	Yes	Yes
	£466,364	£264,912	£282,521
Operating cash flows — Net incoming and outgoing resources for the year to be positive, prior to any depreciation charge and other recognised gains and losses	Yes	Yes	No
	£140,568	£123,615	(£33,923)
Net current assets/liabilities to be in a surplus ratio >1	6.98:1	3.24:1	4.04:1
	(808,118/115,718)	(697,855/215,529)	(581,197/143,800)
Direct staff costs as a % of all expenditure (excl. depreciation) Min 60%	76%	75%	69%
	(2,224,365)	(2,456,501)	(2,245,086)
Total staff costs as a % of income from educational operations Min 75%	87%	97%	88%
	(2,426,130)	(2,754,806	(2,749,695)
Premises costs – maintenance as a % of all expenditure (excl. depreciation)	3.3%	1.5%	1.6%
	(96,157)	(50,347)	(50,804)
Pupil number % of roll filled. Min 90%	91%	93%	97%

# b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue 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 accounting policies.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### Strategic report (continued)

#### Financial review

#### a. Reserves policy

The Governors review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the needs to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Governors take into consideration the future plans of the Academy, the uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks identified during the risk review – see recent financial and operational risks identified.

The Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be at least equivalent to 4 weeks expenditure, approximately £263,611. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipts of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies particularly urgent maintenance of specialist areas such as the pool. The Academy's current level of unrestricted reserves is £282,521.

The Trust's current level of unrestricted reserves are £18,910 above the appropriate level determined above. The significant change is this figure from last year is due to the unplanned unfunded rise in support staff pay. Although the Academy has responded to this by moving support staff onto an Academy pay scale, this is likely to continue to pose a significant challenge in the future. This is a national issue which affects all special schools disproportionally to mainstream settings. It is likely that there could be further significant building costs for our mainsite building, due to the unsuitability in design of both sites for the current and emerging cohorts. In addition the Trust has a restricted fund balance of £6,603,702 which consists predominantly of the leasehold land and buildings and a restricted pension fund reserve which is in surplus to the value of £58,000.

### b. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Academy Trust has a comprehensive Risk Register, which is reviewed regularly. A new format was introduced this year to make sure all current risks were included and updated. The Academy has added additional risks related to the building materials used for both sites. The Academy followed the new government guidance on RAAC but none was identified. The asbestos register is up to date and the academy has reviewed its building insurance cover.

Falling pupil numbers would impact on funding streams for the Academy, making a deficit budget a possibility and affecting long term viability. Consequently pupil forecasts are monitored carefully and appropriate action is taken.

A reduction in the amount of top up funding per pupil would also impact heavily on the provision.

The Academy is reliant on the amount of funding from central government and LA decisions on top up funding. Any changes to this which result in a reduction to either of these figures present the most significant risk to the academy.

The highest risk identified at present is that the Academy does not receive sufficient funding to be able to pay the number of support staff needed to manage the complex pupil cohort. In order to mitigate and gain some level of control, the Academy has moved to it's own support staff pay structure. The LA is aware of the situation and working closely with the Academy to support this as much as they are able through the top up figure.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### **Fundraising**

Beacon Hill Academy does not have a fund raising group directly attached to the Academy. We may be approached from time to time from outside agencies who wish to make a donation such as the local rotary club. Further exploration of fund raising sources and opportunities is planned next year.

The gifting and hospitality policy and financial regulations are adhered to in this situation. Donations are also received in memory of pupils who have died at the school.

If the Academy organises any internal fundraising then the relevant permissions and licences are obtained before this takes place.

#### **Future developments**

The Academy development plan for 2023 – 2024 identifies the following 3 key priorities:

Whole School Community – The Academy has changed a number of it's daily operational systems since the pandemic. Although pupils are achieving very well and have regained their confidence within class based group, there has been a reduction in whole school activities. The aim this year is to increase these opportunities alongside community activities and mainstream links.

Teacher Development – There has be a some changes in staffing over the last few years with new teachers from a mainstream background and some emerging Lead HLTAs. A new whole school teacher development model linked to training and appraisal will be introduced in order to share and grow expertise and promote professional discussion

Sustainability – Governors will be working with the Principal and School Improvement Partner to secure the short term financial future of the academy, work on succession planning and explore future partnerships within the current political agenda

The future of both buildings remains a ongoing concern. The lease has lapsed on the Post 16 building and no further alternatives have been identified. The main site building has needed considerable work to try and make areas suitable for changing needs of the pupil cohort.

#### Funds held as custodian

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

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 30 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

TON TO	Sue Hewilt
***************************************	
A Fish	S Hewitt
Chair of Trustees	Accounting Officer

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

### Scope of responsibility

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

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

The board of Trustees has delegated the day to day responsibility to the Principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Beacon Hill Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible	
A Fish, Chair of Trustees	6	6	
S Hewitt, Principal and Trustee	6	6	
V Loganathan, Vice Chair	5	6	
J Paddick, Trustee	6	6	
L Bostock, Trustee	5	6	
E Brant, Trustee	3 .	4	
S Hand, Staff Trustee	6	6	
K Soni, Trustee	3	6	
J Drew, Staff Trustee	5	6	

During the year ended 31 August 2023, 0 governors resigned.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### Governance (continued)

At present the board meets a minimum of 6 times a year. In between meetings, monthly finance reports are circulated to all governors and questions shared and responded to remotely to all. The chair of finance and audit also regularly meets with the finance and premises manager.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to approve the annual budget, monitor the financial affairs of the Academy, audit and manage risk and report thereon to the Board, arrange the audit of the Academy Accounts, monitor finance reporting to the Education and Skills Funding Agency, review the reports of the Responsible Officer and to provide guidance to the Board on financial matters. Although a staff governor may be present at this committee, they will withdraw during discussions relating to risk. The role of risk was added to this committee due to the small nature of the Academy, rather than create a further committee.

Governors have discussed the frequency of meetings and agreed that in additional to annual meetings, there will be financial reports sent to all members of Finance, Audit and Risk on a monthly basis. The Chair of the Finance, Audit and Risk committee will arrange further discussions with the Principal as necessary following these reports.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Hewitt	4	4
V Loganathan	3	4
J Paddick (Chair)	4	4
J Drew	4	4
K Soni	2	4

The Learning and Achievement Committee is also a sub committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to deal with all matters concerning the curriculum and pupil learning.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Fish	4	4
S Hand	4	.4
E Brant	4	4
L Bostock	4	.4

The meetings for the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and Learning and Achievement Committee usually take place at the same time and as a result Trustees may switch committee so that the meetings are quorate, which has an impact on the attendance figure.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### Review of value for money

The accounting officer considers how the Academy's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The accounting officer for the Academy has delivered improved value for money during the year by working with the finance team and chair of Finance, Audit and Risk committee to continually challenge and review purchases and services. There has also been a streamlining of admin roles when the previous HR manager retired at Easter.

Review of the effectiveness of contracts and companies used to provide services is ongoing. Specialist services are sourced which meet the specific needs of the pupils within the school and cost comparisons are carried out with potential providers in accordance with the financial regulations.

Energy efficiency has been reviewed and new measures introduced particularly around the school laundry process to reduce costs. A new cover has been purchased to retain heat in the hydrotherapy pool.

#### Financial Governance and oversight

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee has continued to scrutinise finance reports which are sent out on a monthly basis. Questions and information from this are analysed and responded to each month in addition to being discussed at the full governors meeting. The chair of Finance, Audit and Risk regularly meets with members of the finance team. Governors have identified and reviewed KPIs for future financial security.

#### Income generation

The external lettings for the hall, hydro pool and training suite have all fully resumed and the costings for these have been reviewed and increased by governors. New organisations have approached the Academy to explore letting opportunities.

#### 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 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 Beacon Hill Academy for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

# Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees. After receiving consultant advice a new Academy's risk register and management process was introduced this year.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### The risk and control framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees.
- Regular reviews by the Finance, Audit and Risk 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 guidelines
- Identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed Juniper to carry out Independent Internal Controls Evaluation visits which fulfil this role. This scrutiny takes place every term to an agreed schedule of works. The Academy can request additional areas be reviewed as part of this process and has used this to review practices at the split site.

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included banking, payroll and expenses, income and governance.

All reports from the ICE visits are reported to the full board of Trustees and discussed in depth at the Finance, Audit and Risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities.

The ICE reports were approved by the Governing Body during the year 2022-2023, and there were no material control issues arising.

On a quarterly basis, the reviewer reports to the board of Trustees through the finance and audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities.

## **Conflicts of interest**

All Governors are required to complete an annual Declaration of Interests form at the beginning of each academic year. At all subsequent meetings these are checked for any new interests. All members complete and update an annual declaration at the Trusts AGM. The register of interest is used to identify any potential, actual or perceived conflict of interest to enable the Trust to avoid or appropriately manage them. If there is a declared conflict of interest at any governors meeting, the governor concerned will withdraw from that part of that meeting.

#### Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the Principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditors;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the reviewer
- correspondence from ESFA e.g. FNtl/Ntl and 'minded to' letters.

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

# **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 30 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Sw. Hewitt

A Fish
Chair of Trustees

Sw. Hewitt
Accounting Officer

#### STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

I confirm that I and the Academy board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2022.

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

Sue Hewitt

S Hewitt

Accounting Officer Date: 30 November 2023

### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023:
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 30 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

TON A	Sue Hewilt
	***************************************
A Fish	S Hewitt
Chair of Trustees	Accounting Officer

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF BEACON HILL ACADEMY

## **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Beacon Hill Academy (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2023 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 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

## Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy 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 Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF BEACON HILL ACADEMY (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 Trustees 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 Trustees' report including the Strategic report for the financial year for which
  the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report and the Strategic report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

# Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

# Responsibilities of trustees

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

(A company limited by guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF BEACON HILL ACADEMY (CONTINUED)

#### 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:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the Academy Trust and the industry in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant:

The Companies Act 2006, Safeguarding (including statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education), employment law and public sector pay and conditions. We enquired of management to obtain an understanding of how the Academy Trust is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks and whether they had any knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. We corroborated the results of our enquiries through our review of the board minutes for the year. We did not identify any matters relating to non compliance with laws and regulation or matters in relation to fraud;

- We obtained an understanding of how the Company is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures;
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of the Company's operations, including its objectives and strategies to understand the expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement;
  - In assessing the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team, the engagement partner considered the engagement team's:
- understanding of, and practical experience with, audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation
- ° the specialist skills required and
- knowledge of the industry in which the client operates.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:
- ° assessing the design effectiveness of controls management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates;
- identifying and testing journal entries, in particular manual journal entries made at year end for financial statement preparation; and
- assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.

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 company limited by guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF BEACON HILL ACADEMY (CONTINUED)

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

## Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy'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'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 and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jonathan Gorridge

Mr. Jonathan Gorridge F.C.A. (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

## **MWS**

Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors Kingsridge House Westcliff-on-Sea Essex SS0 9PE

Date: 04 December 2023

(A company limited by guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BEACON HILL ACADEMY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 20th November 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Beacon Hill Academy during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Beacon Hill Academy and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Beacon Hill Academy 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 Beacon Hill Academy and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

# Respective responsibilities of Beacon Hill Academy's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Beacon Hill Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1st September 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

## **Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- · Assessing the risk of material irregularity in the Academy Trust
- Commissioning a self-assessment review of the Trustees' governance arrangements and consideration of any material non-compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook
- Investigating any areas of significant risk identified
- Consideration of the work performed under our audit engagement and any impact this may have on our regularity conclusion or regularity risk assessment
- A review of the internal controls and internal audit procedures for areas of significant risk and performing further substantive testing where necessary

(A company limited by guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BEACON HILL ACADEMY AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

### Conclusion

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

MWS

### **MWS**

**Chartered Accountants** Registered Auditors Kingsridge House Westcliff-on-Sea Essex SSO 9PE 04 December 2023

Date:

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Restricted funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Unrestricted	Total	Total
		2023	2023	funds 2023	funds 2023	funds 2022
•	Note	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	4	. <b>-</b>	33,332	3,756	37,088	60,915
Other trading activities		• •	-	32,383	32,383	16,762
Investments	7	•	•	54	. 54	74
Charitable activities		3,128,752	-	•	3,128,752	2,831,338
Total income		3,128,752	33,332	36,193	3,198,277	2,909,089
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		3,221,738	186,630	18,584	3,426,952	3,466,155
Total expenditure	-	3,221,738	186,630	18,584	3,426,952	3,466,155
Net (expenditure)/incom e		(92,986)	(153,298)	17,609	(228,675)	(557,066)
Transfers between funds	18	(26,467)	26,467	•	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised						
gains/(losses) Actuarial gains on		(119,453)	(126,831)	17,609	(228,675)	(557,066)
defined benefit pension schemes	25	771,000	<u>-</u>	-	771,000	3,711,000
Net movement in funds		651,547	(126,831)	17,609	542,325	3,153,934
Reconciliation of funds:	•	-			****	
Total funds brought forward		(437,016)	6,516 <u>,</u> 002	264,912	6,343,898	3,189,964
Net movement in funds		651,547	(126,831)	17,609	542,325	3,153,934
Total funds carried forward		214,531	6,389,171	282,521	6,886,223	6,343,898
	:					<del></del>

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 28 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

(A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 08183461

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note		2023 £		2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		6,393,094		6,521,494
		٠.	6,393,094	. •	6,521,494
Current assets					
Debtors	15	34,913		75,486	
Cash at bank and in hand		546,371		622,370	
		581,284		697,856	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(143,800)		(215,529)	
Net current assets			437,484		482,327
Total assets less current liabilities			6,830,578	•	7,003,821
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		(2,355)		(3,923)
Net assets excluding pension asset / liability			6,828,223	•	6,999,898
Defined benefit pension scheme asset /	25		58,000		(656,000)
Total net assets			6,886,223		6,343,898
				:	
Funds of the Academy					`.
Restricted funds:		•			
Fixed asset funds	18	6,389,171		6,516,002	٠
Restricted income funds	18	156,531		218,984	
Restricted funds excluding pension liability /	10	C E 4 E 702		6,734,986	
asset	18	6,545,702			
Pension reserve	18	58,000		(656,000)	
Total restricted funds	18		6,603,702		6,078,986
Unrestricted income funds	18		282,521	•	264,912
Total funds		•	6,886,223		6,343,898

The financial statements on pages 25 to 55 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 30 November 2023 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Sw ftwiff

TGパ現 A Fish Chair of Trustees

S Hewitt Accounting Officer

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	(33,923)	123,615
Cash flows from investing activities	22	(40,507)	(251,986)
Cash flows from financing activities	21	(1,569)	(1,569)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(75,999)	(129,940)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		622,370	752,310
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	23, 24	546,371	622,370
	-		

The notes on pages 28 to 55 form part of these financial statements

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 1. General information

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee, it was incorporated in England and Wales.

The registered office is:

Beacon Hill School, Erriff Drive, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 5AY

The registered number is 08183461

# 2. 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.

### 2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy, 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 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 2.2 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.3 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the Academy 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 which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of financial activities 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.

#### 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 has provided the goods or services.

# 2.4 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's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# 2. Accounting policies (continued)

### 2.5 Going concern

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

## 2.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property

- 2% straight line basis

Furniture and equipment

- 25% reducing balance

Computer equipment

- 33.33% 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.

# 2.7 Taxation

The Academy 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 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.

# 2.8 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.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 2.9 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.

### 2.10 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy 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.

#### 2.11 Financial instruments

The Academy only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy 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 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the Academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

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 16 and 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the Academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

### 2.12 Operating leases

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

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 2. Accounting policies (continued)

### 2.13 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy 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 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 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 cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

The Academy is a member of a multi-employer plan. Where it is not possible for the Academy to obtain sufficient information to enable it to account for the plan as a defined benefit plan, it accounts for the plan as a defined contribution plan.

### 2.14 Concessionary loans

As permitted by the Statement of Recommended Practice 2015 (FRS 102), it is the policy of the Academy to measure the loans at the amount received, with the carrying amount adjusted for any repayments and accrued interest (and adjusted if necessary to the settlement account if the loan or part of the loan is waived).

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 3. 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 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### Critical areas of judgment:

The only critical area of judgement other than the LGPS Pension scheme deficit is that of depreciation, rates of which are chosen where considered reasonable for the types of asset in question.

### 4. Income from donations and capital grants

	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations and educational trips	10,000	3,756	13,756	53,566
Capital grants	23,332	-	23,332	7,349
	33,332	3,756	37,088	60,915
Total 2022	57,349	3,566	60,915	

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# 5. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities

		Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Educational Operations	_		2
	DfE/ESFA grants			
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	750,000	750,000	750,000
	Other DfE/ESFA grants			
	Pupil Premium	26,190	26,190	26,759
	PE and Sports Grant	16,210	16,210	16,250
	Teachers pension and pay grants	49,500	49,500	49,500
	Supplementary Grant	36,931	36,931	35,406
	Others	31,421	31,421	16,350
		910,252	910,252	894,265
	Other Government grants			
	Local authority grants	2,218,500	2,218,500	1,933,939
		2,218,500	2,218,500	1,933,939
	COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
	Other COVID-19 funding	-	-	3,134
		-	-	3,134
•		3,128,752	3,128,752	2,831,338
		<del></del>		
6.	Income from other trading activities			
		Unrestricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds
		2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£
	Hire of facilities	11,380	11,380	4,286
	Catering income	9,473	9,473	7,331
	School sales	1,637	1,637	1,436
	Other income	9,893	9,893	3,7.09
	·	32,383	32,383	16,762

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 7. Investment income

				Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Short term deposits			54	54	74
		,				
8.	Expenditure					
		Staff Costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
	Educational Operations:			•		
	Direct costs	2,346,650	-	107,794	2,454,444	2,663,402
	Allocated support costs	403,045	121,605	447,858	972,508	802,753
		2,749,695	121,605	555,652	3,426,952	3,466,155
	Total 2022	2,754,806	121,605	589,744	3,466,155	,
9.	Analysis of expenditure by	activities		,		
			Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Educational Operations		2,454,444	972,508	3,426,952	3,466,155

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

### **Analysis of direct costs**

	Educational Operations 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	2,245,086	2,245,086	2,456,501
Educational supplies	41,174	41,174	56,224
Examination fees	786	786	560
Staff development	11,257	11,257	16,628
Educational consultancy	156,141	156,141	133,489
	2,454,444	2,454,444	2,663,402
Analysis of support costs			
	Educational Operations 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Net pension finance charge	21,000	21,000	63,000
Staff costs	504,609	504,609	298,306
Depreciation	186,630	186,630	188,190
Recruitment and support	7,208	7,208	7,576
Maintenance of premises	50,804	50,804	50,347
Cleaning	21,516	21,516	18,110
Rent and rates	11,281	11,281	10,016
Energy costs	78,843	78,843	43,132
Insurance	3,047	3,047	1,855
Catering	18,922	18,922	13,225
Bank interest and charges	32	32	32
Legal and professional fees	44,825	44,825	83,438
Other support costs	23,791	23,791	25,526
	972,508	972,508	802,753

During the year ended 31 August 2023, the academy incurred Governance costs of £11,725 (2022: £11,569).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 10. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals	5,526	5,526
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Fees paid to auditors for:	186,630	188,190
- audit	7,875	7,000
- other services	1,125	1,000

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 11. Staff

### a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	2,052,838	1,856,607
Social security costs	290,559	222,289
Pension costs	406,298	675,910
	2,749,695	2,754,806

#### b. Staff numbers

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Management	1	1
Teachers	14	13
Admin and classroom support	89	. 85
	104	99

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 11. Staff (continued)

### c. Higher paid staff

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1

The above employee participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31 August 2023, pension contributions for this employee amounted to £22,763 (2022: £21,679).

### d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team, as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £577,743 (2022 £544,850).

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

•	·	2023 £	2022 £
S Hewitt, Principal and Trustee	Remuneration	95,000 -	<b>90,000 -</b> .
		100,000	95,000
e e	Pension contributions paid	20,000 -	20,000 -
		25,000	25,000
S Hand, Staff Trustee	Remuneration	35,000 -	30,000 -
	•	40,000	35,000
	Pension contributions paid	5,000 -	5,000 -
		10,000	10,000
J Drew, Staff Trustee	Remuneration	50,000 -	45,000 -
•		55,000	50,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000 -	10,000 -
·		15,000	15,000

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

#### 13. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 is included in the total insurance cost.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 14. Tangible fixed assets

15.

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2022	7,588,421	1,737,743	190,330	9,516,494
Additions	33,101	20,779	4,350	58,230
At 31 August 2023	7,621,522	1,758,522	194,680	9,574,724
Depreciation		_		
At 1 September 2022	1,228,759	1,590,209	176,032	2,995,000
Charge for the year	139,064	39,481	8,085	186,630
At 31 August 2023	1,367,823	1,629,690	184,117	3,181,630
Net book value				
At 31 August 2023	6,253,699	128,832	10,563	6,393,094
At 31 August 2022	6,359,662	147,534	14,298	6,521,494
Debtors				
			2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year				
Trade debtors	•		2,352	1,759
Other debtors			14,049	17,212
Prepayments and accrued income			18,512	56,515
			34,913	75,486

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salix loan	1,569	1,569
Trade creditors	6,507	8,607
Other taxation and social security	35,928	36,163
Other creditors	73,836	151,491
Accruals and deferred income	25,960	17,699
	143,800	215,529
	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	2,405	7,046
Amounts released from previous years	(2,405)	(7,046)
Deferred income this year	2,569	946
	2,569	946

At the balance sheet date the school was holding income received in advance for:

Universal infant free school meals £2,384 (2022: £2,405) School meals money in advance £185 (2022: £Nil)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Salix loan	2,355	3,923

The above relates to a Salix loan authorised by the Department for Education and issued by The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy at 0% interest.

The total carrying amount at the year end was £3,923. The total loan was for £12,554 and will be paid off £785 twice yearly for 8 years.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 18. Statement of funds

·	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted general funds	264,912	36,193	(18,584)	<u>.                                    </u>	-	282,521
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	207,745	750,000	(785,663)	(26,467)	-	145,615
Other DFE/ESFA	11,239	160,252	(162,305)	• -	-	9,186
Local Authority Grants	-	2,218,500	(2,216,770)	-	•	1,730
Pension reserve	(656,000)	•	(57,000)	-	771,000	58,000
	(437,016)	3,128,752	(3,221,738)	(26,467)	771,000	214,531
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Inherited fixed assets	5,143,443	-	(132,201)	-	. <del>-</del>	5,011,242
Capital expenditure from GAG DFE/ESFA	849,244	10,000	(14,620)	34,004	. <b>-</b>	878,628
Capital Grants DFE/ESFA CIF	-	23,332	•	(9,106)	-	14,226
Grants	528,808	-	(39,809)	-	-	488,999
Salix Ioan	(5,493)	-	-	1,569	-	(3,924)
	6,516,002	33,332	(186,630)	26,467		6,389,171
Total Restricted funds	6,078,986	3,162,084	(3,408,368)	•	771,000	6,603,702
Total funds	6,343,898	3,198,277	(3,426,952)	<u>-</u> :	771,000	6,886,223

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Restricted general funds and other restricted funds:

These relate to the Academy's development and operational activities.

Restricted fixed asset fund:

These grants relate to capital funding to carry out works of a capital nature.

Pension reserve:

The pension reserve relates to the Academy's share of the deficit of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Funds have been transferred in respect of the following:

£26,467 has been transferred from restricted funds to restricted fixed asset fund representing capital expenditure made from revenue grant funding.

£1,569 has been transferred from general funds to the restricted fixed asset fund representing the repayment of salix loan allocated within the restricted fixed asset fund.

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						,
Unrestricted general funds	466,363	20,403	(13,005)	(208,849)	<u>-</u>	264,912 ————
		•				
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	221,980	750,000	(764,235)	-	-	207,745
Other DFE/ESFA	4,406	147,399	(140,566)	-	-	11,239
Local Authority Grants		1,933,939	(1,933,939)	-	-	-
Covid catch up premium	1,220	-	(1,220)	-	-	· -
Pension reserve	(3,942,000)	- ·	(425,000)	-	3,711,000	(656,000)
	(3,714,394)	2,831,338	(3,264,960)	-	3,711,000	(437,016)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Inherited fixed assets	5,282,964	-	(139,521)	-	-	5,143,443
Capital expenditure from GAG	621,665	50,000	(37,050)	214,629	· -	849,244
DFE/ESFA Capital Grants	-	7,349	-	(7,349)	-	-
DFE/ESFA CIF Grants	540,427	_	(11,619)	_	-	528,808
Salix loan	(7,062)	-	-	1,569	<b>-</b>	(5,493)
	6,437,994	57,349	(188,190)	208,849	<del></del>	6,516,002
Total Restricted funds	2,723,600	2,888,687	(3,453,150)	208,849	3,711,000	6,078,986

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds	3,189,963	2,909,090	(3,466,155)	 3,711,000	6,343,898
				 <del></del>	
	• .				

### 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

## Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2023	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	<b>-</b> ,	6,393,094	-	6,393,094
Current assets	296,968	-	284,316	581,284
Creditors due within one year	(140,437)	(1,568)	(1,795)	(143,800)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(2,355)	<del>-</del> .	(2,355)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	58,000	-	-	58,000
Total	214,531	6,389,171	282,521	6,886,223

### Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets		6,521,494	-	6,521,494
Current assets	355,670	. 1	342,185	697,856
Creditors due within one year	(136,686)	(1,570)	(77,273)	(215,529)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(3,923)	-	(3,923)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	(656,000)		-	(656,000)
Total	(437,016)	6,516,002	264,912	6,343,898

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 20. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(228,675)	(557,066)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	186,630	188,190
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(73,332)	42,651
Interest receivable	(53)	(74)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	36,000	362,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	21,000	63,000
(Increase)/decrease in revenue debtors	(9,458)	30,323
(Increase)/decrease in capital debtors	50,000	(50,000)
Increase/(decrease) in revenue creditors	(16,035)	44,591
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(33,923)	123,615
Cash flows from financing activities		
	2023 £	2022 £
Repayments of borrowing	(1,569)	(1,569)
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,569)	(1,569)
Cash flows from investing activities		
	2023 £	2022 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	55	74
	(113,894)	(209,409)
Capital grants from DfE Group	73,332	(42,651)
Net cash used in investing activities	(40,507)	(251,986)
	Adjustments for: Depreciation Capital grants from DfE and other capital income Interest receivable Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (Increase)/decrease in revenue debtors (Increase)/decrease in capital debtors Increase/(decrease) in revenue creditors  Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities  Cash flows from financing activities  Repayments of borrowing  Net cash used in financing activities  Dividends, interest and rents from investments Purchase of tangible fixed assets Capital grants from DfE Group	Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)  Adjustments for:  Depreciation 186,630 Capital grants from DfE and other capital income (73,332) Interest receivable (53) Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable 36,000 Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost 21,000 (Increase)/decrease in revenue debtors (9,458) (Increase)/decrease in capital debtors 50,000 Increase/(decrease) in revenue creditors (16,035)  Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities (33,923)  Cash flows from financing activities  Repayments of borrowing (1,569)  Net cash used in financing activities (1,569)  Cash flows from investing activities (1,569)  Dividends, interest and rents from investments 55 Purchase of tangible fixed assets (113,894) Capital grants from DfE Group 73,332

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

•	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	546,371	622,370
Total cash and cash equivalents	546,371	622,370

## 24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	622,370	(75,999)	-	546,371
Debt due within 1 year	(1,569)	1,569	(1,569)	(1,569)
Debt due after 1 year	(3,923)	-	1,568	(2,355)
·	616,878	(74,430)	. (1)	542,447

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 25. Pension commitments

The Academy'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 Essex County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £46,990 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £43,112) and are included within creditors.

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for 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 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £140,803 (2022 - £131,111).

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 has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Academy has set out above the information available on the scheme.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 25. Pension commitments (continued)

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £385,000 (2022 - £327,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £311,000 (2022 - £262,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 74,000 (2022 - £65,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.0 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy, 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 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

		<b>2023</b> %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries		3.85	3.95
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	,	2.85	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities		5.3	4.25
Inflation assumption (CPI)		2.85	2.95
RPI increase		3.25	3.25

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
Males	20.7	21
Females	23.2	23.5
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22	22.30
Females	24.6	24.9

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 25. Pension commitments (continued)

### Sensitivity analysis

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(82)	(109)
Discount rate -0.1%	84	112
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	4	8
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(4)	(7)
Salary increases +0.1%	120	131
Salary increases -0.1%	(117)	. (127)

#### Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31	At 31 August
•	August 2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	2,580,000	2,209,000
Gilts	57,000	76,000
Property		371,000
Cash and other liquid assets	347,000	117,000
Debt instruments	130,000	174,000
Alternative assets	702,000	588,000
Other managed funds	619,000	390,000
Total market value of assets	4,435,000	3,925,000

The expected return on assets is based on the long-term future expected investment return for each asset classes as at the beginning of the period (i.e. as at 1 September 2022) for the year to 31 August 2023. The returns on gilts and other bonds are assumed to be the gilt yield and the corporate bond yield (with an allowance for defaults) respectively at the relevant date. The returns on equities and property are then assumed to be a margin above gilt yields.

The actual return on scheme assets was £189,000 (2022 - £10,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Current service cost	(125,610)	(622,000)
Interest income	172,000	62,000
Interest cost	(193,000)	(125,000)
Administrative expenses	(2,000)	(2,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(148,610)	(687,000)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 25. Pension commitments (continued)

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

·	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September	4,581,000	7,550,000
Current service cost	125,610	622,000
Interest cost	193,000	125,000
Employee contributions	74,000	65,000
Actuarial gains	(685,000)	(3,763,000)
Benefits paid	(131,000)	(18,000)
At 31 August	4,157,610	4,581,000
Changes in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme as	sets were as follows:	
	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September	3,925,000	3,608,000
Interest income	172,000	62,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	86,000	(52,000)
Employer contributions	311,000	262,000
Employee contributions	74,000	65,000
Benefits paid	(131,000)	(18,000)
Administration costs	(2,000)	(2,000)
At 31 August	4,435,000	3,925,000

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 25. Pension commitments (continued)

#### Impact of the McCloud/Sargeant judgement on the Local Government Pension Scheme

An allowance was made in 2019 for the Court of Appeal judgement in relation to the McCloud & Sargeant cases which relate to age discrimination within the Judicial & Fire Pension schemes respectively. On 27 June 2019 the Supreme Court denied the Government's request for an appeal, and on 15 July 2019 the Government released a statement to confirm that it expects to have to amend all public service schemes, including the LGPS.

The estimated impact on the total liabilities at 31 August 2019 was allowed for as a past service cost and has resulted in a slight increase in the defined benefit obligation as at 31 August 2023.

This adjustment is an estimate of the potential impact on the Trust's defined benefit obligation as provided by the scheme's actuary.

On 13 May 2021, the Government issued a ministerial statement on the proposed remedy to be applied to LGPS benefits in response to the McCloud and Sargeant cases. It is not anticipated that there are any material differences between the approach underlying the estimated allowance in 2019 and the proposed remedy.

#### **Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) Equalisation**

As a result of the High Court's Lloyds ruling on the equalisation of GMPs between genders, it is anticipated that the Fund will pay limited increases for members that have reached State Pension Age (SPA) by 6 April 2016, with the Government providing the remainder of the inflationary increase.

For members that reach SPA after this date, it has been assumed in the valuation that the Fund will be required to pay the entire inflationary increase. It is not therefore necessary to make any adjustments to the value placed on the liabilities as a result of the above outcome.

#### Goodwin case

Following a case involving the Teachers' Pension scheme, known as the Goodwin case, differences between survivor benefits payable to members with same-sex or opposite-sex survivors have been identified within a number of public sector pension schemes. As a result, the Government have confirmed that a remedy is required in all affected public sector pension schemes, which includes the LGPS.

It is anticipated that the impact on the value of LGPS liabilities as a whole, and for the majority of employers participating in the LGPS, will not be material. However, the impact on individual employers will vary depending on their specific membership profile.

Sufficient information is not currently available to assess the actual impact on the Academy Trust as such no provision has been included within these financial statements.

### **Asset Ceiling**

At the reporting date the Academy Trust's estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeded the estimated total liabilities. The resulting surplus should only be recognised where there is an expectation that future contributions will reduce, or that the scheme will refund contributions already made.

As the resulting surplus is not deemed to be material to the financial statements no asset ceiling assessment has been made or provided for in arriving at the reported surplus in these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the Academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 . £
Not later than 1 year	5,526	5,526
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	16,197	18,708
Later than 5 years	-	3,014
	21,723	27,248

### 27. Members' liability

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

#### 28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy 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's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

M Hand, son of S Hand (Staff Trustee), was employed by Beacon Hill Academy and received remuneration of £20,313 and pension costs of £4,656.

S Hand, daughter-in-law of S Hand (Staff Trustee), was employed by Beacon Hill Academy and received remuneration of £1,200 and pension costs of £Nil.

Satash Community Care Limited, a registered company in which V Loganathan is a Director, leased the swimming pool from the Academy Trust during the reporting period. The rental charged is considered a fair rent for the use of the swimming pool for a community beneficial entity.

Rent charged during the accounting period amounted to £1,035 (2022: £690) and £300 (2022: £nil) was outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

In entering into the above transactions the trust has complied with the requirements of ESFA's Academy Trust Handbook.

### 29. Controlling party

There is no ultimate controlling party.