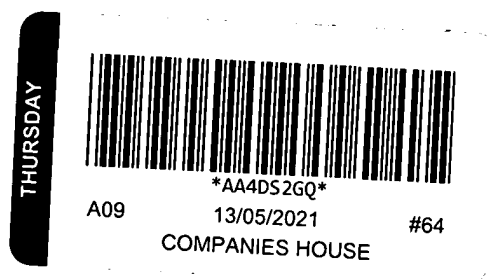


Company Registration Number: 08341194 (England & Wales)

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020



COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Trustees' report	3 - 12
Governance statement	13 - 17
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	18
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	19
Independent auditors' report on the financial statements	20 - 22
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	23 - 24
Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account	25
Balance sheet	26 - 27
Statement of cash flows	28
Notes to the financial statements	29 - 55

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Althea Baker
Haydn Powell
Radhika Bynon (resigned 11 November 2020)

Trustees

Radhika Bynon (resigned 4 January 2021)
Althea Baker
Haydn Powell
Sandy Davies, Principal
Denice Sealy (resigned 10 October 2019)
Juliette Anita Osei
John Corrigan
Mandlenkosi Moyo, Parent Governor (appointed 9 July 2020)
Arfa Butt, Chair
Sarah Tomlinson (resigned 15 October 2019)
Carol Jackson
Rae Potter
Ryan Thirkettle

**Company registered
number**

08341194

Company name

Community Links Academy Trust

**Principal and registered
office**

90 Chandos Road
Stratford
London
E15 1TT

Company secretary

Newham Partnership Working

**Senior management
team**

S Davies, Principal
T De Rizzio, Business Manager
G Partridge
S Groenvynck
S Phimister
D Gallagher

Independent auditors

Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
Edinburgh
EH1 1YZ

Co-operative Bank
70-80 Cornhill
London
EC3V 3RD

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements and Auditor's report of Community Links Academy Trust (the academy) for the year ended 31 August 2020. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the academy comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the academy's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates an alternative provision Academy for young people aged between 11 and 16 years who have been excluded from mainstream education. It is based in Newham and has a capacity of 130 pupils.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 24 December 2012.

The charitable company's Trust deed is the primary governing document of the academy.

The Trustees of Community Links Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The principal object of the academy is to provide alternative education for pupils referred by mainstream schools or local authorities, leading to those pupils being reintegrated to mainstream education, or supported to further education or training, gaining appropriate accreditation.

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. Community Links Academy Trust has joined the Academies Risk Protection Arrangement as promoted by the Department for Education, which includes professional indemnity.

c. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the academy is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed. The Academy must have at least three Governors, and up to 12, 4 of whom are appointed by Community Links Trust Limited. The members may appoint up to 1 Governor; the Governors may also appoint co-opted Governors. A minimum of 2 parent Governors shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the school. The term of office for any Governor shall be 4 years after which time they may be re-appointed or re-elected. A chairman and a vice chairman are appointed from among the Governors at the first meeting of each year. Governors are appointed on the basis of their personal competence and specialist skills. Governors will be recruited from existing professional networks and specialist agencies.

The members intend to seek an amendment to the Articles of Association following a change to the governance of Community Links Trust Ltd, one of the founding members.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Structure, governance and management (continued)

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

An induction process is in place for new Governors. Governor training is procured through the Newham Partnership Working programme and other professional agencies as requested by Governors.

e. Organisational structure

The organisational structure of the Trust consists of the following:

- Governing Body
- Sub Committees - Finance, People and Resources; and Students, Curriculum, Attendance and Progression
- School Leadership Team.

The Governing Body is responsible for the overall strategic direction of the trust and for those statutory duties which may not be delegated to sub-committees. The Governing Body sub-committees operate within clear Terms of Reference.

f. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel, in common with all staff, are subject to the CLAT Pay and Performance Management Policy, under which annual performance targets are set and reviewed by line management. This includes the senior team, who are managed by the Principal, with the Principal's targets being set and reviewed by a panel of governors. Progression on the pay scales is there a direct outcome of performance only.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Academy Trust's object ("the Object") is specifically restricted to the following: to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing an educational institution which is principally concerned with providing full-time or part-time education for children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless alternative provision is made for them ("the alternative provision Academy").

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives for the period ending 31 August 2020 are summarised below:

- to develop the existing curriculum in order to meet the needs of young people referred to the Alternative Provision Free School
- to develop quality driven approaches to all teaching, learning and mentoring in and beyond the classroom
- to raise student achievement by enabling each student to make progress and achieve accreditation appropriate to their needs
- to ensure all young people secure positive destinations beyond their placement
- to continue the development of the school through robust governance

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Activities for achieving objectives

To achieve the objectives the Trust continued to build excellent relationships with commissioners to provide financial stability, and to work with other partners to provide a breadth of experiences and opportunities to students. Opportunities for staff, both teaching and support, to undertake training and develop good practice are a priority. Identifying appropriate and relevant accreditation pathways for students on varied placements ensures progress is demonstrated, and celebrated. Support for progression to further education or training is effective and extends beyond the end of a placement where needed.

The Trust's purpose is to advance, for public benefit, education as described in the principal activities above. The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their duties.

d. Programme Related Investments

Woodroffe Benton Foundation have supported Education Links by funding the Hardship Fund, for the benefit of students whose circumstances are more challenging than others, and in sponsoring the annual prize-giving, enabling the school to reward those students who made the greatest personal achievements during the year.

Funding was also received from the Jack Petchey Foundation through the Achievement Award scheme. These funds were used to reward young people for their successes in the form of equipment and opportunities not covered by core funding.

A grant from the Magic Breakfast organisation had provided resources and consumables from February 2019 for our Breakfast Club across all sites. This continued through 2019-2020.

e. Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purposes for the public benefit

The Trust's purpose is to advance, for public benefit, education as described in the principal activities above. The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their duties.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Key performance indicators as identified by trustees and the senior team are attendance rates for pupils, achievement and progress from starting points, attainment in public examinations, and progression to sustainable destinations.

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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Review of activities

The academic year 2019-2020 has been dominated by the coronavirus pandemic. This had an inevitable impact on many activities, but other areas were able to be developed. Looking back over the year staff have acknowledged the difficulties and tragedies, but have also celebrated the triumphs and achievements. New skills have been learned and refined by all when using digital technologies, making learning and teaching not just possible but fun and adventurous too.

Two new areas of work were opened in September 2019 - a programme for pupils with a diagnosis of non-verbal autism, and taking on the management of the existing late-arrivals programme. The local authority has had a programme for many years that managed the needs of young people arriving in the borough from overseas who were already in their Year 11. The 2 local FE colleges are commissioned to deliver the programme, enabling the students to improve their English language skills, complete qualifications including some GCSEs and then automatically progress to a suitable Year 12 course in the same establishment. The placements are managed by Education Links on behalf of the authority, ensuring that the students are on our school roll, and supporting college staff with any issues that arise. The ASD group was established after close working discussion with the SEN Section of the local authority, as there was an identified need for a small, nurturing group in a suitable environment, and Education Links was able to provide that. Both these new ventures have progressed well for the school, the young people and their families.

The curriculum for our main groups was further strengthened for English and Maths with structured interventions. Our GCSE offer focused on five subjects - English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Art & Design and Food Preparation and Nutrition - alongside Functional Skills qualifications in English and Maths, at all levels. Our Wellbeing programme is a core element of our work, and this includes the taught curriculum as well as pastoral care, mentoring and counselling. PSHE is delivered to all year groups, and Thought for the Week unites all groups in exploring deeper themes through discussion and display work.

Each October we mark our Mental Health Awareness Day with whole school activities and a shared meal. In 2019 invited guests and governors joined students and staff to focus on the impact of youth violence on mental health. Through video, personal testimonies and small group discussion everyone gained an insight on the issue.

Each year we participate in the Jack Petchey Foundation Achievement Awards, and several young people have received an award, nominated by their peers and staff. In September we joined other Newham schools in the annual presentation event, and a former student entertained the audience with his own original song. A very talented young man and we were so proud to see how much he had achieved whilst with us.

As in previous years there were various educational visits and opportunities for learning outside the classroom, as well as projects that brought new experiences in. A live performance, " Shall We Take This Outside", reminded us of our Mental Health Awareness Day when a small group of actors brought their own play for students to view. This included a Q&A session and led to further discussions in class.

We have a long association with film industry professionals and another film project resulted in a music video and animation work for a group of students. They are able to explore the production side as well as performing, producing the graphics to accompany the video material.

All of these events took place in the autumn term, and as the spring term started we anticipated some disruption - although on-one could have foreseen everything that followed. Some of our teaching staff had already used online teaching through Google Classroom when covering absences, for instance, and we had the framework in place. Once the lockdown was announced we expected that some of our vulnerable students

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

would be working from home due to their own circumstances and needs. Others would be onsite and staff would be deployed to cover both styles of working. However, it quickly became clear that because of the high levels of anxiety, special needs and medical issues as well as families who were shielding, very few would be onsite, and staff illness followed, leading to a swift decision to move the whole school online. We loaned devices to students who needed them, which was most of the school, and delivered a full timetable. This ran successfully for many weeks, and then we were able to bring some students back on site, making outdoor learning a central focus in the good weather.

During this time we had to abandon plans for the annual residential event, sports day and other whole events. However, using the technology available - Zoom and Google - we were able to come together to mark International Day, a celebration of the diversity and history, and then finished the year with the Annual Presentation Day. This was attended by governors and invited guests from local schools and the authority, and more families were able to join in and witness the presentation of prizes from the comfort and safety of their homes. Effort and achievement, subject excellence, progress, attendance, were all acknowledged and celebrated. Special prizes were awarded to those who had excelled in their online learning.

There were some changes to staffing during the year - one of our 2 curriculum managers left, and her role was split between 2 teachers to enable their career development. Our trainee teachers completed their courses with great success and a glowing report. Our facilities improved with the installation of a large cabin in the grounds of our Plaistow campus, providing additional teaching space for the new ASD group. A further cabin was installed at the Stratford campus at the end of the summer term and will provide a flexible space for students and staff there as well.

In taking over the management of the late arrivals programme we have extended our relationship with the 2 colleges involved, and they have gained insight to our provision as well. This will contribute to our careers programme for preparing students for FE. Together with the ASD provision, we have increased the range of our work with and for the local authority and school community, and we expect this to grow in the future.

Characteristics of the school are set out below

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

	2019-2020	2018-2019
Total on roll	264	158
% male	70.45%	74.68%
% female	29.55%	25.32%
Pupils entitled to Free School Meals	35.26%	29.75%
Pupils in care of local authority	18 (6.8%)	6 (3.8%)
Pupils with statement/ EHCP	10	7
Pupils with SEN Support	35	50
Pupils with Child Protection Plan	3	3
English speaking	31.04%	64.55%
EAL	68.96%	35.44%

Attendance

The overall attendance figure for 2019-2020 academic year was 87.00% across all students. This reflects an increase from 2018-2019 (70.81%) and 2017-2018 (75.50%). Prior to lockdown the figure was 89.20%, representing roughly half the year.

Persistent absence in 2019-2020 was 36.0% and in 2018-2019 stood at 50.0%.

Attendance continues to be a high priority for the school, engaging with parents and external agencies to ensure young people establish the good habits they will need to achieve success in their futures.

The rate of fixed-term exclusions also fell to 22.78%, from 28.98%, compared to a national average for PRUs of 57.9%.

In the year ended 31 August 2020, school capacity and ESFA funded places stood at 130 places. Student placements totalled 264 in the academic year, of which 80 were placed on short term programmes. Our successes with the short term programme meant that most students (76-80%) fully reintegrate into a mainstream school, whilst others will be identified as needing the long-term intervention we can provide. Also, 132 were admitted to the late arrivals programme, referrals for which continue right through the academic year, and although numbers cannot be predicted there has historically been between 120 and 150 students.

Attainment

Public examinations were severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, and our staff worked hard with the students to secure the best outcomes possible with the evidence available for centre assessment grades. The

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

exam results for 2020 are not published by the government as part of performance tables, but a summary is given here.

For Education Links, our results always reflect students who have joined us late in their Year 11, as well as those who have been with us for more than a year. Some of those later students will have been entered by their mainstream schools, or possibly by both schools, for a range of exams including Functional Skills.

In this set of results we also have the students on the late arrivals programme. Some will have been entered for GCSE exams this year. Others are entered for vocational exams, but will take GCSEs in their Year 12.

For those students who have been fully entered by Education Links, the headline results (with last years figures in brackets) are:-

Pass rate for subjects at grades 9 to 1 -	Pass rate for subjects at grades 9 to 4 -
English Language - 89% (100%)	English Language - 44% (20%)
English Literature - 100% (100%)	English Literature - 50% (38%)
Maths - 100% (89%)	Maths - 55% (22%)
Art & Design - 92% (60%)	Art & Design - 17% (20%)
Food Preparation & Nutrition - 100% (100%)	Food Preparation & Nutrition - 71% (0%)

15 students were entered for a total of 56 exams.

Overall pass rate for GCSEs at grades 9 to 1 - 67% (91%); at grades 9 to 4 - 36% (27%)

For the late arrivals programme, 25 students were each entered for 5 GCSE exams from a selection of 8 subjects.

Pass rate for subjects at grades 9 to 1 -	Pass rate for subjects at grades 9 to 4 -
English Language - 100%	English Language - 48%
Maths - 100%	Maths - 88%
Citizenship - 100%	Citizenship - 71%
Film Studies - 100%	Film Studies - 88%
History - 100%	History - 62%
Media - 100%	Media - 89%
Sociology - 100%	Sociology - 100%
Double Science - 100%	Double Science - 100%

Overall pass rate for GCSEs at grades 9 to 1 - 100%; at grades 9 to 4 - 76%

The combined results give an overall pass rate at grades 9 to 1 of 97% and at grades 9 to 4 of 63%.

Education Links students also take Functional Skills exams, which are equivalent to half the points of a GCSE at levels 1 and 2. Taking these results into consideration as well, 30 students across both cohorts gained 5 or more GCSEs at any grade. 13 students gained 5 or more GCSE passes at grades 9 to 4, 27.66% of the total.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Progression

The impact of the coronavirus pandemic was expected to be felt most keenly by students from alternative provision transitioning into post-16 destinations. The figures below show that this is the case, but the numbers cannot reflect the hard work from staff that prevented the situation being worse. Those who were NEET (not in education, employment or training) at the point of leaving are experiencing much greater difficulties in progressing to further education than those in previous years.

For those on the late arrivals programme, the picture is better, as they automatically transfer onto Year 12 courses at their college.

2020 destinations (2019 figures in brackets)

	Number	Percentage
Total Year 11 leavers	22 (16)	
% in further education	16 (12)	73% (75%)
% in other training	0 (0)	0% (0%)
% in work-based training	0 (0)	0% (0%)
% in employment	0 (0)	0% (0%)
% moved	0 (0)	0% (0%)
% NEET	6 (4)	27% (25%)

Partnership working

Our partnership with Individio has lead to a film-making project in the last year, although 2 projects had been planned originally - it is hoped this will roll over into the next academic year. Through this collaboration joint fundraising lead to the £10,000 grant from Children in Need that enables our students to benefit from these projects.

We are pleased to receive the support of the Woodroffe-Benton Foundation, which provides our fund to support students experiencing hardship, and the Foundation also supports our reward scheme with prizes and awards. In the coming year they will also support our Breakfast Club providing a nutritious free breakfast to all students.

We receive the benefit of the Jack Petchey Award Scheme, which recognises the achievements of young people, and enables them to choose experiences and resources to enhance their learning. Through this scheme students have experienced team building events, visited London attractions they would not otherwise have seen, and enjoyed new sports equipment.

We continue to work with the WE Day organisation, and our careers programme is enhanced in this way.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review

a. Reserves policy

The Governors review the reserves policy triennially, according to the review schedule. The Governing Body have determined that a £100,000 level of reserve should be maintained to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants, and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

b. Material investments policy

The Academy currently holds cash in one bank account and has no formal investment policy.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees and senior team have identified the principal risks as being unable to secure commissioned places on a yearly basis, and continuous marketing and promoting of the school mitigates against this. In addition, risks to reputation are recognised as a risk and policies and systems are in place to protect the school. Safeguarding is, of course, a priority, and a robust set of policies and procedures are in place together with training across the whole staff team.

d. Principal funding

During the period ending 31 August 2020 the Trust has received funding from the Education & Skills Funding Agency, commissioners (as top-up funding) and from corporate sponsors.

Fundraising

The School receives annual funding from Woodroffe Benton to the amount of £2,000 towards presentation day and the school's hardship fund. Any other informal funding will be jointly through the school's own suppliers who may support our school mental health initiatives or from stakeholders already known to the school.

Future developments

The Trust will continue to develop an outstanding alternative provision for young people excluded from mainstream education, aiming to improve outcomes for all students. This will include recruiting high quality staff and training existing staff, including enabling support staff to become QTS level teachers. The Trust will also build on new specialisms in autistic provision, and extend the work with those Year 11 students arriving in the borough from overseas.

The Trust will build on existing relationships, and seek new partners, to provide greater opportunities for students. This will include greater engagement with parents/carers, and the community.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)


TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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 26 April 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Arfa Butt
Chair of Trustees

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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 Community Links Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities. The board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Radhika Bynon	0	2
Althea Baker	5	5
Haydn Powell	3	5
Sandy Davies, Principal	5	5
Juliette Anita Osei	1	5
John Corrigan	4	5
Arfa Butt, Chair	5	5
Carol Jackson	4	5
Rae Potter	2	5
Ryan Thurkettle	3	5

The full governing body meets at least once per term and each of the sub-committees of the governing body also meets termly.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Review the Finance Strategy and Annual Budget and recommend to the Governors.
- Ensure there is an appropriate framework for financial accountability and systems of control, that accounting policies are appropriate and adequate and that required standards of reporting and disclosure are effected.
- Review the Annual Report and Accounts and recommend to the Governors
- Recommend to the Governing Body the appointment of Auditors and review performance. Advise Governors on the contents of the draft audit report and of any management letter that the auditors may wish to present.
- Review the People Strategy making sure we have the best people for the job in place, well supported, proactively developed, and engaged with our vision, values and strategy.
- Ensure appropriate systems and structures are in place for performance management and continuous professional development
- Advise the Governors on the structure of remuneration and benefits for all staff
- Review the Premises strategy, consider regular reports on premises issues and recommend action to Governors
- Consider development plans and review regular reports on performance and progress
- Consider regular reports on contract performance issues and recommend action to Governors
- Regularly review key risks along with risk management procedures and internal controls to ensure their effectiveness, recommending any appropriate changes to the Governors
- Oversee arrangements for employees to raise concerns, in confidence, about possible wrongdoing in any matters.
- Investigate on behalf of the Governing Body any financial, staffing, premises or administrative matter which may put the Academy Trust at risk.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Juliette Anita Osei (chair, sub-committee)	2	5
Radhika Bynon	0	2
Denice Sealy	1	1
Carol Jackson	4	5
Ryan Thurkettle	4	5
Sandy Davies (Principal)	5	5

The role of the audit committee is undertaken by the Finance, People and Resources Committee.

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the academy'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:

Improving Educational Outcomes

- Targeted interventions using existing staff resources for short focused sessions resulting in measurable improvement in student performance and attainment

Curriculum planning

- Taking an innovative approach to a curriculum lead resigning by disseminating some of her responsibilities to 2 other staff, providing career development for them and reducing the overall staff costs

Financial oversight

- Moving to a new financial consultant for monthly management review and budgeting support as well as introducing new MIS software resulted in improved reporting to trustees and senior staff, hence greater scrutiny and challenge.

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 Community Links Academy Trust for the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

The academy'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:

- employment of a financial consultant, who meets with the business manager (Principal in the absence of school business manager) on a monthly basis to offer support and guidance and oversees the monthly reconciliation procedures and produces independent monitoring reports to the governing body periodically;
- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and termly financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the governing body;
- regular reviews by the Finance, People and Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties – increasing as the school grows to scale;
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ Hillier Hopkins LLP as internal auditor.

The internal auditor'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:

- Checks on payroll and personnel information
- Purchase control
- Income control
- Accounting system

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of Trustees through the finance and general purposes committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 26 April 2021
on their behalf by:

and signed



.....
Arfa Butt
Chair of Trustees



.....
Sandy Davies
Accounting Officer

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Community Links Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy, under the funding agreement in place between the academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

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 2019.

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.



.....
Sandy Davies
Accounting Officer
Date: 26 April 2021

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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 2019 to 2020;
- 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 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Arfa Butt

Chair of Trustees

Date: 26 April 2021

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Links Academy Trust (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2020 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 2019 to 2020 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 2020 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 2019 to 2020 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the academy's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. Other information includes the Reference and administrative details, the Trustees' report including the Strategic report, and the Governance statement. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' report 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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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.

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.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the academy'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.



Alexander Bottom ACA (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of
Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Radius House

51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

Date: *5th May 2021*

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO
COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 20 November 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Community Links Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 Community Links Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Community Links Academy Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Community Links Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Community Links Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Community Links Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 18 August 2014 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, 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 2019 to 2020. 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 2019 to 31 August 2020 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO
COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY
(CONTINUED)**

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 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:

- An assessment of the risk of material misstatement and irregularity across the Academy Trust's activities.
- Testing and review of areas identified through risk assessment including enquiry, observation, inspection and review of supporting evidence.
- Review of system controls, policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the regularity regime
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work performed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion

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 2019 to 31 August 2020 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants

Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

Date: 5th May 2021

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	2,325	-	54,370	56,695	11,961
Charitable activities	4	16,201	1,654,677	-	1,670,878	1,458,308
Investments	6	71	-	-	71	79
Total income		18,597	1,654,677	54,370	1,727,644	1,470,348
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	27,676	1,939,498	44,292	2,011,466	1,646,157
Total expenditure		27,676	1,939,498	44,292	2,011,466	1,646,157
Net (expenditure)/income		(9,079)	(284,821)	10,078	(283,822)	(175,809)
Transfers between funds	17	-	19,841	(19,841)	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(9,079)	(264,980)	(9,763)	(283,822)	(175,809)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	19,000	-	19,000	(44,000)
Net movement in funds		(9,079)	(245,980)	(9,763)	(264,822)	(219,809)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		(64,165)	138,251	404,820	478,906	698,715
Net movement in funds		(9,079)	(245,980)	(9,763)	(264,822)	(219,809)
Total funds carried forward		(73,244)	(107,729)	395,057	214,084	478,906

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

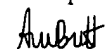
COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08341194

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	395,057	404,820
Current assets			
Debtors	15	49,994	145,924
Cash at bank and in hand		60,309	142,496
		<u>110,303</u>	<u>288,420</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(77,276)	(63,334)
Net current assets		<u>33,027</u>	<u>225,086</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>428,084</u>	<u>629,906</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>428,084</u>	<u>629,906</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	(214,000)	(151,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>214,084</u></u>	<u><u>478,906</u></u>
Funds of the academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	17	395,057	404,820
Restricted income funds	17	106,271	289,251
		<u>501,328</u>	<u>694,071</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension liability	17	501,328	694,071
Pension reserve	17	(214,000)	(151,000)
Total restricted funds	17	<u>287,328</u>	<u>543,071</u>
Unrestricted income funds	17	<u>(73,244)</u>	<u>(64,165)</u>
Total funds		<u><u>214,084</u></u>	<u><u>478,906</u></u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 25 to 55 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 26 April 2021 and are signed on their behalf, by:



Arfa Butt
Chair of Trustees

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08341194

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	19	(47,658)	(130,201)
Cash flows from investing activities	20	(34,529)	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(82,187)	(130,201)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		142,496	272,697
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21, 22	<u>60,309</u>	<u>142,496</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy, 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 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 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 period in which it is receivable and to the extent the academy has provided the goods or services.

1.4 Expenditure

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

- **Charitable activities**

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

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure (continued)

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £1,000 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, at rates calculated to write off the cost of these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Long-term leasehold property	- Over the period of the lease
Furniture and equipment	- 25% straight line

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.

1.6 Debtors

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

1.7 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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities and provisions 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. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

1.9 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. 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 note 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.10 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 Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 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.

1.12 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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Donations	2,325	-	2,325
Capital Grants	-	54,370	54,370
	<u>2,325</u>	<u>54,370</u>	<u>56,695</u>
	<u><u>2,325</u></u>	<u><u>54,370</u></u>	<u><u>56,695</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Donations	9,625	-	9,625
Capital Grants	-	2,336	2,336
	<u>9,625</u>	<u>2,336</u>	<u>11,961</u>
	<u><u>9,625</u></u>	<u><u>2,336</u></u>	<u><u>11,961</u></u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Educational activities	16,201	1,654,677	1,670,878
Other income	-	-	-
Total 2020	<u>16,201</u>	<u>1,654,677</u>	<u>1,670,878</u>
	<i>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Educational activities	20,401	1,435,607	1,456,008
Other income	2,300	-	2,300
<i>Total 2019</i>	<u>22,701</u>	<u>1,435,607</u>	<u>1,458,308</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

5. Funding for the academy's educational activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	792,888	792,888
Pupil premium	-	12,981	12,981
Other DfE grants	-	25,516	25,516
	-	831,385	831,385
Other government grants			
Other government grants	-	33,669	33,669
	-	33,669	33,669
Other funding			
Commissioned places Funding	-	789,623	789,623
Exam fee income	91	-	91
Catering income	2,769	-	2,769
Lettings income	11,090	-	11,090
Other income	2,251	-	2,251
	16,201	789,623	805,824
	16,201	1,654,677	1,670,878

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

5. Funding for the academy's educational activities (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	807,217	807,217
Pupil Premium	-	10,051	10,051
Other DfE grants	-	27,149	27,149
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	844,417	844,417
Other funding			
Commissioned places Funding	-	591,190	591,190
Exam fee income	3,407	-	3,407
Catering income	5,719	-	5,719
Lettings income	11,275	-	11,275
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,401	591,190	611,591
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,401	1,435,607	1,456,008
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Investment income	71	71
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<i>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Investment income	79	79
	<hr/>	<hr/>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2020 £	Premises 2020 £	Other 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Educational activities:				
Direct costs	883,542	-	305,205	1,188,747
Allocated support costs	480,532	130,132	212,055	822,719
	<u>1,364,074</u>	<u>130,132</u>	<u>517,260</u>	<u>2,011,466</u>
	Staff Costs 2019 £	Premises 2019 £	Other 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Educational activities:				
Direct costs	803,570	-	174,438	978,008
Allocated support costs	362,989	148,696	156,464	668,149
	<u>1,166,559</u>	<u>148,696</u>	<u>330,902</u>	<u>1,646,157</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Educational activities	<u>1,188,747</u>	<u>822,719</u>	<u>2,011,466</u>
	Activities undertaken directly 2019 £	Support costs 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Educational activities	<u>978,008</u>	<u>668,149</u>	<u>1,646,157</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Educational activities 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Staff costs	883,542	883,542
Teaching and educational supplies	231,737	231,737
Educational supplies	7,422	7,422
Examination fees	3,166	3,166
Staff development	12,374	12,374
Trip expenditure	798	798
Other direct costs	9,881	9,881
Recruitment	7,786	7,786
Catering costs	26,878	26,878
Insurance costs	5,163	5,163
	<u>1,188,747</u>	<u>1,188,747</u>
	<i>Educational activities 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Staff costs	803,570	803,570
Teaching and educational supplies	58,243	58,243
Examination fees	4,513	4,513
Staff development	10,772	10,772
Other direct costs	15,649	15,649
Recruitment	10,468	10,468
Catering costs	71,382	71,382
Insurance costs	3,411	3,411
	<u>978,008</u>	<u>978,008</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational activities 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Pension finance costs	2,000	2,000
Staff costs	480,532	480,532
Depreciation	44,292	44,292
Support staff costs	8,832	8,832
Recruitment	23,257	23,257
Premises maintenance costs	31,095	31,095
Rent and rates	33,588	33,588
Technology costs	27,756	27,756
Heat and light costs	26,197	26,197
Printing, postage and stationery	2,072	2,072
Cleaning and caretaking costs	38,212	38,212
Professional fees	57,514	57,514
Other support costs	47,372	47,372
	<u>822,719</u>	<u>822,719</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	<i>Educational activities 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Pension finance costs	1,000	1,000
Staff costs	362,989	362,989
Depreciation	38,308	38,308
Support staff costs	20,264	20,264
Recruitment	5,686	5,686
Premises maintenance costs	27,209	27,209
Rent and rates	57,162	57,162
Technology costs	11,668	11,668
Heat and light costs	28,026	28,026
Printing, postage and stationery	4,924	4,924
Cleaning and caretaking costs	42,640	42,640
Professional fees	45,576	45,576
Other support costs	22,697	22,697
	<u>668,149</u>	<u>668,149</u>

9. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:

	2020 £	2019 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	43,232	38,308
Governance audit costs	7,500	7,000

10. Auditor's remuneration

The Auditor's remuneration amounts to an Audit fee of £7,500 (2019 - £7,500), and other services of £5,000 (2019: £15,125).

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

11. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	1,029,972	959,044
Social security costs	93,401	85,132
Pension costs	169,370	104,041
	<u>1,292,743</u>	<u>1,148,217</u>
Agency staff costs	71,331	18,342
	<u><u>1,364,074</u></u>	<u><u>1,166,559</u></u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Management	7	7
Teachers	11	11
Administration and support	21	21
	<u>39</u>	<u>39</u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2020 No.	2019 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

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

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

11. Staff (continued)

d. Key management personnel (continued)

their services to the academy was £298,117 (2019 £292,436).

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:

		2020	2019
		£	£
Sandy Davies	Remuneration	60,000 -	60,000 -
		65,000	65,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000 -	10,000 -
		15,000	15,000

During the year ended 31 August 2020, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2019 - £NIL).

13. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

The academy has opted into the Department of Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 September 2019	488,091	44,766	532,857
Additions	14,829	19,700	34,529
At 31 August 2020	<u>502,920</u>	<u>64,466</u>	<u>567,386</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2019	98,373	29,664	128,037
Charge for the year	28,175	16,117	44,292
At 31 August 2020	<u>126,548</u>	<u>45,781</u>	<u>172,329</u>
Net book value			
At 31 August 2020	<u>376,372</u>	<u>18,685</u>	<u>395,057</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>389,718</u>	<u>15,102</u>	<u>404,820</u>

15. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	5,081	46,001
Other debtors	44,913	68,865
Prepayments and accrued income	-	31,058
	<u>49,994</u>	<u>145,924</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	19,344	10,614
Other creditors	32,857	29,300
Accruals and deferred income	25,075	23,420
	<u>77,276</u>	<u>63,334</u>
	2020 £	2019 £
Resources deferred during the year	<u>13,200</u>	<u>-</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance from the London Borough of Newham for grant funding.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	(64,165)	18,597	(27,676)	-	-	(73,244)
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	289,251	792,888	(995,709)	19,841	-	106,271
Pupil Premium	-	12,981	(12,981)	-	-	-
SLA Funding	-	789,623	(789,623)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	59,185	(59,185)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(151,000)	-	(82,000)	-	19,000	(214,000)
	<u>138,251</u>	<u>1,654,677</u>	<u>(1,939,498)</u>	<u>19,841</u>	<u>19,000</u>	<u>(107,729)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted fixed asset funds	<u>404,820</u>	<u>54,370</u>	<u>(44,292)</u>	<u>(19,841)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>395,057</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>543,071</u>	<u>1,709,047</u>	<u>(1,983,790)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,000</u>	<u>287,328</u>
Total funds	<u>478,906</u>	<u>1,727,644</u>	<u>(2,011,466)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,000</u>	<u>214,084</u>

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the Academy that has been provided via the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) by the Department for Education. The GAG fund must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

The restricted fixed asset fund includes all significant items of fixed assets. Depreciation charged on the assets is allocated to the fund. The transfer of GAG funds to the fixed asset reserve fund represents the spending of GAG monies for fixed asset additions.

Pupil Premium is a grant allocated to academies with pupils that are known to be eligible for free school

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

17. Statement of funds (continued)

meals. The purpose is to raise attainment for pupils from low income families.

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 2020.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	(25,188)	32,405	(71,382)	-	-	(64,165)
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	344,775	807,217	(865,077)	2,336	-	289,251
Pupil Premium	-	10,051	(10,051)	-	-	-
SLA Funding	-	591,191	(591,191)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	27,148	(27,148)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(64,000)	-	(43,000)	-	(44,000)	(151,000)
	<u>280,775</u>	<u>1,435,607</u>	<u>(1,536,467)</u>	<u>2,336</u>	<u>(44,000)</u>	<u>138,251</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted fixed asset funds	443,128	2,336	(38,308)	(2,336)	-	404,820
Total Restricted funds	<u>723,903</u>	<u>1,437,943</u>	<u>(1,574,775)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(44,000)</u>	<u>543,071</u>
Total funds	<u>698,715</u>	<u>1,470,348</u>	<u>(1,646,157)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(44,000)</u>	<u>478,906</u>

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	395,057	395,057
Current assets	-	110,303	-	110,303
Creditors due within one year	(73,244)	(4,032)	-	(77,276)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(214,000)	-	(214,000)
Total	(73,244)	(107,729)	395,057	214,084

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2019 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	404,820	404,820
Current assets	(64,165)	352,585	-	288,420
Creditors due within one year	-	(63,334)	-	(63,334)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(151,000)	-	(151,000)
Total	(64,165)	138,251	404,820	478,906

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

19. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of financial activities)	(283,822)	(175,809)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	44,292	38,308
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	82,000	43,000
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	95,930	(56,928)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	13,942	21,228
Net cash used in operating activities	(47,658)	(130,201)

20. Cash flows from investing activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(34,529)	-
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(34,529)	-

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash in hand	60,309	142,496
Total cash and cash equivalents	60,309	142,496

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2019 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	142,496	(82,187)	60,309
	<u>142,496</u>	<u>(82,187)</u>	<u>60,309</u>

23. 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 London Borough of Newham. 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 2016.

Contributions amounting to £9,894 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2020 (2019 - £7,368) 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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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 £52,886 (2019 - £32,502).

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.

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 2020 was £46,000 (2019 - £43,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £32,000 (2019 - £30,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 14,000 (2019 - £13,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 13.6 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2020	2019
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.2	3.65
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.2	2.15
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1.9

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

	2020	2019
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.3	22.8
Females	23.9	25.3
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.8	25
Females	25.5	27.6

Sensitivity analysis

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	11	8
Discount rate -0.1%	11	8
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	14	10
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	14	10

Share of scheme assets

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2020 £	2019 £
Equities	83,000	70,000
Gilts	8,000	5,000
Other bonds	15,000	12,000
Property	15,000	12,000
Cash and other liquid assets	11,000	10,000
Alternative assets	25,000	15,000
Total market value of assets	157,000	124,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £5,000 (2019 - £3,000).

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

	2020 £	2019 £
Current service cost	(112,000)	(69,000)
Past service cost	-	(3,000)
Interest cost	(2,000)	(1,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(114,000)	(73,000)

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

	2020 £	2019 £
At 1 September	275,000	140,000
Current service cost	112,000	69,000
Interest cost	5,000	4,000
Employee contributions	14,000	13,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(28,000)	46,000
Benefits paid	(7,000)	-
Past service costs	-	3,000
At 31 August	371,000	275,000

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2020 £	2019 £
At 1 September	124,000	76,000
Interest income	3,000	3,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(9,000)	2,000
Employer contributions	32,000	30,000
Employee contributions	14,000	13,000
Benefits paid	(7,000)	-
At 31 August	157,000	124,000

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2020 the academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Not later than 1 year	43,961	43,961
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	175,844	175,844
Later than 5 years	527,532	571,493
	747,337	791,298

25. 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.

COMMUNITY LINKS ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

26. 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 Academies Financial 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.

27. Controlling party

In the opinion of the Governors there is no ultimate controlling party.