

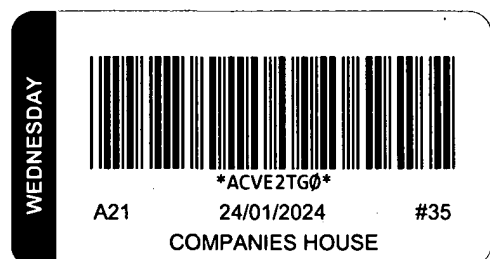
Registration number: 08514901

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023



Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

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Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Reference and administrative details

Members	C Pickering D Bull N Fordyce
Governors and Trustees (Directors)	C Hammersley (resigned 22 August 2023) S E Baxter (Chair of governors) A Bowers D Bull I Carpenter (resigned 15 May 2023) L Chapman L Gallacher K Jones G Patel T T Paul (appointed 24 January 2023)
Company Secretary	R Gascoigne
Senior Management Team	D Chapple, Head Teacher C Hammersley, Deputy Head Teacher
Principal and Registered Office	Hensons Lane Thringstone Coalville Leicestershire LE67 8LJ
Company Registration Number	08514901
Auditors	TC Group Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close Leicester LE4 9LJ
Bankers	Lloyds TSB Bank plc 20 Belvoir Road Coalville Leicestershire LE67 3QH
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP Mowbray House Castle Meadow Road Nottingham NG2 1BJ

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates an Academy for pupils aged 4-11 serving a catchment area in North West Leicestershire. It has a pupil capacity of 236 and had a roll of 185 (2022 - 190).

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The company registration number is 08514901.

The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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

Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the 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.

Trustees' indemnities

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

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Trustees shall not be less than three but (unless otherwise determined by original resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum. Subject to Articles 48 and 49, the Academy Trust shall have the following Governors:

- a. Up to one Governor, appointed under Article 50;
- b. a minimum of two Parent Governors appointed under Articles 53- 58;
- c. the Principal.4 ;
- d. up to 2 Staff Governors appointed under Articles 51A and 51B;
- e. up to 6 Community Governors appointed under Article 58A;

The term of office for any Trustee shall be 4 years. Subject to remaining eligible any Trustee may be reappointed or re elected. No time constraints apply to the Head Teacher.

At the first Full Governing Body (FGB) meeting each year the Trustees elect a chair person, vice-chairperson and members of the other two committees being Finance and Audit and Pay Committee.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for each new Trustee and Governor will depend on their existing experience. The Academy Trust purchases support from the Governor Development Service (GDS) provided by Leicestershire County Council in the form of a Service Level Agreement (SLA). The SLA provides individual and FGB training through an annual course directory which is reviewed each year to reflect any changes in practice and legislation. A log is kept of all Trustees training and reviewed on a regular basis at Trustees meetings. Also included within the SLA is membership of the National Governors Association.

We carried out a Board Skills Audit to check whether we still have the necessary skills and experience to run the Trust. We used the National Governance Association's template for this process and the result was encouraging in showing a good spread of significant knowledge, skills and experience. In the 2021-2022 academic year the Board carried out a Board self-review externally facilitated by an experienced governance professional. This considered all aspects of the Board's working and reviewed our effectiveness as a Board. Trustees also concluded as part of this review that our approach to Risk Assessment had strengthened considerably over the year and is now strong, and that the Board continues to offer robust challenge to the school by holding the Head Teacher to account by rigorous questioning and seeking clarification where necessary. The best interests of the students continues to be at the heart of the Governing Board, and statement of the school ethos and values is often referred to when questioning the Executive regarding school operations and plans.

Organisational structure

The Trustees determine the general policy of the Academy Trust. The day to day running of the Academy Trust is delegated to the Head Teacher, supported by appropriate staff. The Head Teacher undertakes the key leadership role overseeing educational, pastoral and administrative functions in consultation with appropriate staff.

The management structure within the academy has two levels: the Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. The Trustees perform a strategic role, setting the aims and objectives of the Academy Trust, adopts and monitors the strategic development plan and monitors the Academy Trust's use of central government funding. The Trustees are responsible for making major decisions on behalf of the Academy Trust, including budget setting, capital expenditure and senior appointments. Some functions are delegated to the Head Teacher and or/SLT, or designated committees of which there are two: Finance and Premises/Health and Safety and School Development/Pupil, Parents and Personnel.

This structure ensures that major risks have been reviewed and systems and procedures are established to manage those risks.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Academy Trust recognises its responsibility to:

- Adopt a Pay Policy to provide a clear framework for the management of pay and grading issues for all staff employed in the Academy Trust.
- Take decisions in accordance with key principles of public life (Nolan), including objectivity, openness and accountability.
- Ensure fair and transparent policy to determine the pay and grading for all staff employed in the Academy, which takes account of the conditions of service under which staff are employed.
- Comply with relevant legislation including the Equality Act 2010, the Employment Relations Act 1999, the Part-time Workers (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) regulations 2002, and will ensure that all pay related decisions are taken equitably and fairly in compliance with statutory requirements.
- Adopt a whole school approach to pay issues. Pay decisions will take account of the resources available to the school. The school staffing structure will support the school improvement plan. The Trustees will exercise its discretionary powers using fair, transparent and objective criteria in order to secure a consistent approach in school pay decisions.
- Ensure that all pay progression decisions for all teaching staff are linked to annual appraisal of performance and the ensure that this is achieved in a fair equitable and transparent way following consultation with staff and recognised trade unions.
- Ensure that the Head Teacher's performance management is conducted by the Head Teacher's Performance Review Committee. The committee is supported by an external advisor. National Standards of Excellence for Head Teacher's is implemented.

Attention is paid to the financial position of the Academy Trust when performance related pay is considered, in consideration of any pay award.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust is a single Academy, financially independent and does not work in federation with any other organisations. However, the Academy does work collaboratively with other local schools and businesses to help raise achievement and gain best value. The Academy is an active member of the Forest Way Teaching School Alliance, The Collaborative Partnership Charitable Trust and The Coalville Family of Schools. The Academy works closely with the NHS, Leicestershire Police and other local agencies to support vulnerable pupils. The Academy Trust has an active Parents Teachers Association (PTA), which was established for the purpose of supporting the Academy Trust in a manner determined by its own independent board. These funds are under control of this independent board, not the Academy Trust.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The main objective of the Academy Trust is to advance for the public benefit of education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining and carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Objectives, strategies and activities

Thringstone Primary School is a place where each student is given the best education in a safe and caring environment, where every child is encouraged to succeed in his or her own way; where the curriculum is exciting and challenging; and where each student can learn in a personalised and innovative manner.

School Vision, Aims and Mission:

Our school motto of "Believe and Achieve Together" encapsulates the ethos of the school and is the cornerstone of everything we do. Our school is a learning community for students of all ability.

Our Vision

A school community where we work together with confidence & enjoyment to achieve everyone's full potential.

Our Values

RESILIENCE We work hard, we are determined and keep trying when faced with challenges. **BELIEF** We believe in ourselves and value ourselves, and have aspirations to achieve our goals. **RESPECT** We have respect for ourselves, others and our environment. **TEAMWORK** We working together as part of a community, learning about and valuing each other and helping each other. **KINDNESS** We show concern and care for the well-being of others.

To support all pupils in achieving high standards and fulfilling their potential. We will work together to encourage pupils to:

- Enjoy their experience of school
- Become confident individuals who are fully involved in the life of the school and the wider community
- Achieve the highest standards they can in all areas
- Be independent learners
- Have high self-esteem – respecting themselves, others and the environment
- Make the most of every opportunity
- Be confident as they progress through the different stages of school and life

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

We will do this by:

- Valuing education as a route to the social, spiritual, moral, cultural, physical and mental development of each child
- Valuing education as a route to ensure that every child matters
- Providing a broad and balanced curriculum
- Setting clear, agreed standards of work and behaviour
- Provide a happy, supportive, secure and challenging environment for learning and teaching
- Promote equality of opportunity
- Regularly monitoring, recording and praising achievement
- Working in partnership with parents and pupils
- Encouraging pupils to value diversity and to value all individuals
- Developing a sense of community within school and fostering links with the wider community
- Providing a rich, varied and up to date range of learning resources with an enriching programme of activities and visits.

Thringstone Primary School is for a whole range of pupils. We are, and want to be a primary school that values all people equally but meets their needs individually. We aim to:

- Promote collaboration and teamwork between all members of the school community and beyond including students, parents, staff, Trustees and external partners
- Care for each student's personal, moral and spiritual development.
- Develop in each pupil the skills and motivation to take part in lifelong learning and to be active citizens in our rapidly changing society.
- Provide a supportive, disciplined and stimulating environment.

The Academy has a continuous programme of self evaluation and this is summarised in the Academy Self Evaluation Form (SEF). Individual faculties are also involved in a rolling cycle of self evaluation. Action points arising from the evaluation are then developed into the School Development Plan.

Key priorities were agreed as:

1. Improve Writing Outcomes
2. Continue to develop role of subject leaders
3. Improve the Mental health and Well-being of staff and pupils
4. Develop and strengthen the teaching of British Values, including the celebration of faith and diversity, across the society in which we live

Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011, to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set. The Academy has provided a fully comprehensive education to all its pupils in its care. It fully complies with all statutory guidance and seeks to support its wider educational objectives via a strong community role.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

This year continued to be a positive one as we welcomed C Hammersley into the post of headteacher. SATs were undertaken and children did well, in line with expectations.

We have worked closely with The Collaborative Partnership Charitable Trust for heads and chairs meetings, subject leader meetings and held various activities across the year which brought all 5 schools together.

The Academy Trust was inspected by Ofsted in 2022 and achieved a GOOD grading. Areas that required improvement have been actioned effectively and continue to be worked on. The Academy Trust remains to be a school of choice in the local area.

The Academy Trust continues to be proactive in ensuring external monitoring and evaluation of its progress in strategic areas. For example Sports Mark (GOLD award), Music Mark (Bronze Award) and Healthy Schools represent a range of external evaluation that the Academy Trust subscribes to ensure that standards remain high.

To maintain a balanced budget.

To remain proactive in increasing numbers on roll.

The Academy have received external funding for school resources including purchasing of books and PE equipment.

To seek to be an outward facing Academy Trust and this year we aim to build on our success of last year

•Key performance indicators

	GPAS	Reading	Maths	Writing	Combined
At the expected standard and above (out of 26 children)	53%	65.4%	57.7%	61.5%	42.3%

Going concern

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

Financial review

There are no significant factors going forward that are expected to impact on the normal continuing operation of the Academy Trust. The principle financial management policies adopted in this period are included in the Academy Trust's internal financial policies and are typical for an academy of this size and type. There were no unusual significant events worthy of comment during this year.

The principle sources of funding for the Academy Trust are the General Annual Grant (GAG) and other Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA/Department for Education DfE) grants, such as Pupil Premium. This funding has been used to support the key educational objectives of the Academy Trust, subject to any remaining reserves.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Reserves policy

The Academy Trust aims to manage its cash balances to provide for the day-to-day working capital requirements of its operations, whilst protecting the real long term value of any surplus cash balances against inflation. The objective is to optimise returns but also ensure that investments are such that there is no risk of loss to these cash funds.

The current level of funds held is £1,458,415 (2022 - £1,496,516) of which £1,311,463 (2022 - £1,341,900) can only be realised by disposing of tangible fixed assets. The amount of restricted funds held is £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

In accounting for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) the academy trust has not recognised a pension fund surplus of £183,000 (2022 - £1,000 surplus) included in restricted funds.

The level of unrestricted funds available as at 31 August 2023 were £146,952 (2022: £153,616).

Investment policy

The Academy Trust aims to manage its cash balances to provide for the day to day working capital requirements of its operations, whilst protecting the real long term value of any surplus cash balances against inflation. The objective is to optimise returns but also ensure that investments are such that there is no risk of loss to these cash funds.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees and Governors have responsibility to assess the major risks to which the Academy is exposed. The Academy Trust has compiled a risk register and analysed risks and controls in place for each risk. The risks are reviewed by the Governing Body and sub committees at least annually.

The FGB has approved a risk register to formally identify the risks, financial and otherwise, to which the Academy is exposed. An effective system of internal controls is in place to minimise these risks. Where significant financial risk remains, adequate insurance cover is in place. A systematic analysis of all other risks that could affect the Academy's ability to perform its strategic obligations is now underway and will feed in to Business Continuity planning. Principle risks and uncertainties facing the Academy Trust are low and are addressed in the risk management document that the Academy Trust has in place and is renewed annually. The Academy manages its risks appropriately. This Risk Assessment is in addition to and supplements the Academies Risk Assessment.

The Academy Trust has undertaken a financial risk assessment based on potential key risks identified as:

- Not operating within its budget and running a deficit
- Changes in funding • Inappropriate or insufficient financial controls and systems
- Fraudulent activity • Financial commitments made without adequate authorisation

The key controls used by the Academy to reduce risk include:

- Detailed terms of reference for all committees
- Formal agendas for the Academy board and committees
- Formal agreement of Annual Budget • Schemes of delegation and formal financial regulations
- Formal written policies • Clear authorisation and approval levels
- Budget Monitoring and Cash-flow forecasting

Fundraising

The academy raises funds for the benefit of the pupils through a parent teachers association which is run by a committee. Fundraising events are held throughout the year at the school for parents and children to attend.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Plans for future periods

The Trustees intend to continue their current strategies of maintaining the Academy Trust's position in a competitive market by providing outstanding education for all pupils. Cheryl Hammersley Deputy Head Teacher was successfully appointed as Head Teacher on a 1 year secondment contract. The post was reviewed in the Summer Term and a series of recruitment drives were put out. David Chapple was appointed as new Headteacher and started his post in the Autumn term, the Governors thanked C.Hammersley for her hard work and dedication to the school.

The Academy Trust's future plans are financed from income direct from the ESFA related to student numbers and other lump sum factors. Trustees will ensure funding is invested appropriately for the next generation of pupils as they have done in the past for pupils. Maintaining where necessary, developing the fabric of the facilities of the Academy Trust is our core strategy.

Our Academy Trust's Strategic Plan includes the need to increase pupil numbers and we have developed a marketing strategy, plans are in place to overhaul the school website and along with increased promotion of the school via our social media sites. The Academy Trust constantly looks to benefit from funding opportunities to supplement our capital programme, key examples of this include the newly installed Well-Being Hut and Multi-Use-Games- Area (MUGA).

The Academy Trust will review and update the current Articles of Association, Deed of Variation and Funding Agreement in order to comply with the current guidance, following guidance from the DofE. There is a planned programme of maintenance and investment for the Academy Trust's site, during the summer break we started our 5 year decorating programme and painted the FS/KS1 areas.

Each year we invest in appropriate resources to reflect the needs of the curriculum, and infrastructure to ensure that our pupils and staff have the access to the best available resources. We are aware of the national drive to encourage stand-alone academies to join Multi-Academy Trusts and this is regularly discussed at our FGB meetings. We are in discussions with other local schools in the same position and have had discussions about what the process would be for fact finding about different options available to us.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 20 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



S E Baxter (Chair of governors)
Governor and trustee

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Thringstone Primary School 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.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to , 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 Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 7 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
C Hammersley (resigned 22 August 2023)	7	7
S E Baxter (Chair of governors)	6	7
D Bull	6	7
L Chapman	5	7
I Carpenter (resigned 15 May 2023)	1	5
L Gallacher	7	7
A Bowers	7	7
K Jones	6	7
G Patel	6	7
T T Paul (appointed 24 January 2023)	4	5

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to The finance committee is a sub-committee of the main board of governors. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
C Hammersley (resigned 22 August 2023)	4	4
S E Baxter (Chair of governors)	3	4
D Bull	4	4
L Chapman	4	4
I Carpenter (resigned 15 May 2023)	1	2
L Gallacher	4	4

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement (continued)

Review of value for money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by: Improving educational results:

- Excellent tracking systems record all aspects of pupil progress throughout the school and ensure that interventions and support are targeted to achieve best value.
- Targeted support for pupils in need of intervention in key curriculum areas such as one to one tuition and small group teaching.
- Regular review of the staffing structures to ensure staff are efficiently deployed, are appropriately qualified and are specialists in their area.
- Ensuring robust governance and oversight of finances:
- The board of trustees acknowledge overall responsibility for ensuring an effective and appropriate system of financial control. The 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.
- The board of trustees ensure that comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems exist and approve the annual budget.
- The board of trustees have appointed External and Internal Auditors to provide the necessary assurances on internal controls.
- In our recent Section 8 Ofsted Inspection (March 2022), Leadership and Management were classified as 'Good'.
- Ensuring value for money purchasing and use of resources:
- Promoting fair competition through quotations and tenders in accordance with our financial policies, to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economical way.
- Regular review of contracts with service providers to ensure they are fit for purpose and provide best value.
- Reducing our energy costs through effective management of the site and ensuring that new buildings are energy efficient.

Improving Income generation:

- Regular review of surplus funds to ensure the best rate of interest is achieved.
- Exploring opportunities to generate income through the increased hire of the site.

Reviewing Controls and managing risk:

- Undertaking financial risk assessments based on the potential keys risks and ensuring the key controls are in place to reduce the risks.

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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement (continued)

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Finance and General Purposes Committee of reports, which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has decided:

- to employ Greenhill Independent Audit Service as internal auditor

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

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

There were no material control or other issues reported by the internal auditor to date.

Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the 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 financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditor;
- correspondence from ESFA: FNTI/NtI and 'minded to' letters.

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

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Governance statement (continued)

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 20 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
S E Baxter (Chair of governors)
Governor and Trustee

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

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

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

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


.....
D Chapple
Accounting Officer

20 November 2023

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education 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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 on 20 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



S E Baxter (Chair of governors)
Governor and trustee

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor 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 UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information (covers the Reference and administrative details, the Trustees' report and Strategic Report and the Governance statement)

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust (continued)

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 Strategic Report and Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 15], the Trustees 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.

Auditor 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 auditor's 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust (continued)

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to Thringstone Primary School and determined that the most significant frameworks which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those that relate to the reporting frameworks.

We understood how Thringstone Primary School is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We corroborated our enquiries through review of board minutes and discussions with those charged with governance.

We assessed the susceptibility of Thringstone Primary School's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by discussion with management from various parts of the business to understand where they considered there was a susceptibility to fraud. We considered the procedures and controls that Thringstone Primary School has established to prevent and detect fraud, and how these are monitored by management, and also any enhanced risk factors such as performance targets.

Based on our understanding, we designed our audit procedures to identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations identified in the paragraphs above.

We also performed audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy's Trustees, 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 trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Academy and its Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.


Richard Buckby FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of TC Group, Statutory Auditor

Hamilton Office Park
31 High View Close
Leicester
LE4 9LJ

Date: 18/12/2023

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 July 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Trustees's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Board of Trustees's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 May 2013 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

- We have assessed and tested a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity. In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have considered whether the activity is permissible within the academy trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the academy trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the board of trustees, and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the board of trustees and the accounting officer acknowledging their responsibilities including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence is not available.
- In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have reviewed against specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement. We have reviewed the list of suppliers and have considered whether supplies are from related parties and have reviewed minutes for evidence of declaration of interest, and whether or not there was involvement in the decision to order from this supplier.
- We have performed sample testing of other income and tested whether activities are permitted within the academy trust's charitable objects.

Conclusion

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

TC Group

Reporting Accountant
TC Group

Hamilton Office Park
31 High View Close
Leicester
LE4 9LJ

Date: 18/12/2023

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

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

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/22 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	-	-	19,060	19,060
Other trading activities	4	54,264	10,951	-	65,215
Investments	5	25	-	-	25
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	1,051,737	-	1,051,737
Total		54,289	1,062,688	19,060	1,136,037
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	9,343	-	-	9,343
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	1,126,298	49,497	1,175,795
Total		9,343	1,126,298	49,497	1,185,138
Net income/(expenditure)		44,946	(63,610)	(30,437)	(49,101)
Transfers between funds		(51,610)	51,610	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	11,000	-	11,000
Net movement in deficit		(6,664)	(1,000)	(30,437)	(38,101)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2022		153,616	1,000	1,341,900	1,496,516
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		146,952	-	1,311,463	1,458,415

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2022
(including Income and Expenditure Account)**

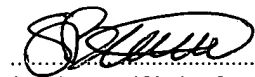
	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/21 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	-	1,000	39,378	40,378
Other trading activities	4	60,197	9,292	-	69,489
Investments	5	23	-	-	23
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	1,039,991	-	1,039,991
Total		60,220	1,050,283	39,378	1,149,881
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	8,777	-	-	8,777
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	1,181,754	53,411	1,235,165
Total		8,777	1,181,754	53,411	1,243,942
Net income/(expenditure)		51,443	(131,471)	(14,033)	(94,061)
Transfers between funds		(5,597)	7,281	(1,684)	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	993,000	-	993,000
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		45,846	868,810	(15,717)	898,939
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021		107,770	(867,810)	1,357,617	597,577
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2022		153,616	1,000	1,341,900	1,496,516

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

(Registration number: 08514901)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	1,296,696	1,339,153
Current assets			
Debtors	12	33,722	30,984
Cash at bank and in hand		202,888	219,379
		<u>236,610</u>	<u>250,363</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		(74,891)	(94,000)
Net current assets		<u>161,719</u>	<u>156,363</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,458,415</u>	<u>1,495,516</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		1,458,415	1,495,516
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	22	-	1,000
Total net assets		<u><u>1,458,415</u></u>	<u><u>1,496,516</u></u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted fixed asset fund	14	1,311,463	1,341,900
Pension reserve	14	-	1,000
		<u>1,311,463</u>	<u>1,342,900</u>
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	14	<u>146,952</u>	<u>153,616</u>
Total funds		<u><u>1,458,415</u></u>	<u><u>1,496,516</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 21 to 43 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 20 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



S E Baxter (Chair of governors)
Governor and trustee

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	17	(28,536)	64,800
Cash flows from investing activities	18	<u>12,045</u>	<u>4,454</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(16,491)	69,254
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>219,379</u>	<u>150,125</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	19	<u><u>202,888</u></u>	<u><u>219,379</u></u>

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

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

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

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

Going concern

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

Income

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

Grants

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

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

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grants are reflected in the balance sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are spent on capital projects in line with the terms and conditions of the grant. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

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.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the academy trust has provided the goods or services.

Donated goods, facilities and services

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Donated Fixed Assets

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

Expenditure

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, per the table below. Where an asset comprises of two or more components which have substantially different useful lives, each component is depreciated separately over its useful economic life.

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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.

Asset class

Long leasehold land and buildings

Computer equipment

Fixtures, fittings and equipment

Depreciation method and rate

Straight line over period of lease

33% on reducing balance

10% - 20% straight line

Liabilities

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

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

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

Leased assets

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Taxation

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

Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by 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.

Pension benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income/(expenditure) are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Capital grants	19,060	19,060	39,378
Other donations	-	-	1,000
	<u>19,060</u>	<u>19,060</u>	<u>40,378</u>

The income from donations and capital grants was £19,060 (2022: £40,378) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2022: £Nil), £Nil restricted funds (2022: £1,000), £19,060 restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £39,378) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted General Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Educational operations			
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	746,745	746,745	811,637
Other government grants	8,719	8,719	1,988
Pupil premium	60,810	60,810	56,756
UIFSM	17,401	17,401	16,657
PE & Sport Premium	17,290	17,290	17,480
Supplementary grants	33,378	33,378	6,126
Tutoring grants	4,873	4,873	6,075
Recovery grants	6,054	6,054	9,053
Rates	4,009	4,009	4,270
	<u>899,279</u>	<u>899,279</u>	<u>930,042</u>
Other government grants			
Local authority grants	148,052	148,052	105,822
Non-government grants and other income			
Other income	<u>4,406</u>	<u>4,406</u>	<u>4,127</u>
Total grants	<u>1,051,737</u>	<u>1,051,737</u>	<u>1,039,991</u>

The funding for educational operations was £1,051,736 (2022: £1,039,991) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2022: £Nil), £1,051,736 restricted funds (2022: £1,039,991), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

The comparatives have been restated to re-categorise income included in Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations to Other trading activities.

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Hire of facilities	580	-	580	1,508
Other sales	<u>53,684</u>	<u>10,951</u>	<u>64,635</u>	<u>67,981</u>
	<u>54,264</u>	<u>10,951</u>	<u>65,215</u>	<u>69,489</u>

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

4 Other trading activities (continued)

The income from other trading activities was £65,215 (2022: £69,489) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £54,264 unrestricted funds (2022: £60,197), £10,951 restricted funds (2022: £9,292), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

The comparatives have been restated to re-categorise income included in Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations to Other trading activities.

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	2023/22 Total	2022/21 Total
	£	£	£
Short term deposits	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>23</u>

The income from other trading activities was £25 (2022: £23) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £25 unrestricted funds (2022: £23), £Nil restricted funds (2022: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

6 Expenditure

	Non Pay Expenditure			2023/22 Total	2022/21 Total
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds					
Allocated support costs	-	-	9,343	9,343	8,777
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	698,779	-	103,688	802,467	795,463
Allocated support costs	<u>153,752</u>	<u>122,361</u>	<u>97,215</u>	<u>373,328</u>	<u>439,702</u>
	<u>852,531</u>	<u>122,361</u>	<u>210,246</u>	<u>1,185,138</u>	<u>1,243,942</u>

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

6 Expenditure (continued)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	2,635	1,800
Depreciation	49,497	53,411
Fees payable to auditor - audit	8,000	7,000
- other audit services	1,575	1,399
	<u>1,175,795</u>	<u>1,235,165</u>

7 Charitable activities

	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
Direct costs - educational operations	802,467	795,463
Support costs - educational operations	373,328	439,702
	<u>1,175,795</u>	<u>1,235,165</u>

	Educational operations	2023/22	2022/21
	£	Total	Total
		£	£
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	153,752	153,752	226,197
Depreciation	49,497	49,497	53,411
Premises costs	72,864	72,864	65,234
Other support costs	86,690	86,690	86,461
Governance costs	10,525	10,525	8,399
Total support costs	<u>373,328</u>	<u>373,328</u>	<u>439,702</u>

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	644,802	624,963
Social security costs	48,119	51,807
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	159,610	242,546
	<u>852,531</u>	<u>919,316</u>
Supply staff costs	-	3,987
	<u>852,531</u>	<u>923,303</u>

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2023/22	2022/21
	No	No
Teachers	10	10
Administration and support	25	25
Management	1	1
	<u>36</u>	<u>36</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2023/22	2022/21
	No	No
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £177,468 (2022: £257,044).

9 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

C Hammersley (Head Teacher):

Remuneration: £60,000 - £65,000 (2022 - £Nil)

Employer's pension contributions: £10,000 - £15,000 (2022 - £Nil)

A Bowers (Teacher):

Remuneration: £40,000 - £45,000 (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2022 - £0 - £5,000)

K Jones (Support Staff):

Remuneration: £15,000 - £20,000 (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2022 - £0 - £5,000)

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 23.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £8 (2022 - £8).

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	2023/22 Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2022	1,337,071	275,487	38,256	1,650,814
Additions	-	7,040	-	7,040
At 31 August 2023	1,337,071	282,527	38,256	1,657,854
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	156,898	127,933	26,830	311,661
Charge for the year	22,463	23,849	3,185	49,497
At 31 August 2023	179,361	151,782	30,015	361,158
Net book value				
At 31 August 2023	1,157,710	130,745	8,241	1,296,696
At 31 August 2022	1,180,173	147,554	11,426	1,339,153

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	20	1,713
VAT recoverable	9,238	3,370
Prepayments	13,066	16,668
Accrued grant and other income	11,398	9,233
	33,722	30,984

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	166	23,283
Other taxation and social security	10,433	11,073
Other creditors	16,430	15,193
Accruals	14,686	14,793
Deferred income	33,176	29,658
	<u>74,891</u>	<u>94,000</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£

Deferred income

Deferred income at 1 September 2022	29,658	19,620
Resources deferred in the period	33,176	29,658
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(29,658)</u>	<u>(19,620)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	<u>33,176</u>	<u>29,658</u>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for pre-school funding, parental contributions and universal infant free school meals funding.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	746,745	(798,355)	51,610	-
Pupil Premium	-	60,810	(60,810)	-	-
UIFSM	-	17,401	(17,401)	-	-
PE & Sports Premium	-	17,290	(17,290)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	57,033	(57,033)	-	-
Other government grants	-	148,052	(148,052)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	15,357	(15,357)	-	-
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Inherited on conversion	642,987	-	(10,371)	-	632,616
DfE group capital grants	647,610	19,060	(27,819)	-	638,851
Capital expenditure from GAG	15,934	-	(5,719)	-	10,215
Private sector capital sponsorship	3,408	-	(1,488)	-	1,920
Local authority S106 funding	31,961	-	(4,100)	-	27,861
<i>Pension reserve funds</i>					
Pension reserve	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,000)</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,342,900</u>	<u>1,081,748</u>	<u>(1,175,795)</u>	<u>62,610</u>	<u>1,311,463</u>
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>153,616</u>	<u>54,289</u>	<u>(9,343)</u>	<u>(51,610)</u>	<u>146,952</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>153,616</u>	<u>54,289</u>	<u>(9,343)</u>	<u>(51,610)</u>	<u>146,952</u>
Total endowment funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>1,496,516</u>	<u>1,136,037</u>	<u>(1,185,138)</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>1,458,415</u>

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

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	9,190	811,637	(828,108)	7,281	-
Pupil Premium	-	56,756	(56,756)	-	-
UIFSM	-	16,657	(16,657)	-	-
PE & Sports Premium	-	17,480	(17,480)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	27,512	(27,512)	-	-
Other government grants	-	105,822	(105,822)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	14,419	(14,419)	-	-
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Inherited on conversion	653,358	-	(10,371)	-	642,987
DfE group capital grants	671,543	5,879	(28,128)	(1,684)	647,610
Capital expenditure from GAG	27,820	-	(11,886)	-	15,934
Private sector capital sponsorship	4,896	-	(1,488)	-	3,408
Local authority S106 funding	-	33,499	(1,538)	-	31,961
<i>Pension reserve funds</i>					
Pension reserve	(877,000)	-	(115,000)	993,000	1,000
Total restricted funds	489,807	1,089,661	(1,235,165)	998,597	1,342,900
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
Unrestricted general funds	107,770	60,220	(8,777)	(5,597)	153,616
Total unrestricted funds	107,770	60,220	(8,777)	(5,597)	153,616
Total endowment funds	-	-	-	-	-
Total funds	597,577	1,149,881	(1,243,942)	993,000	1,496,516

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds (continued)

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

Restricted general funds

This fund represents grants received for the Academy's operational activities and development. This includes the pension reserve, which represents the potential liability due by the Academy at the period end.

Restricted fixed asset fund

This fund represents the net book value of fixed assets purchased using grants received, fixed assets transferred on conversion and the capitalised long leasehold interest in land and buildings.

Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds represent funds available to the Governors to apply for the general purposes of the Academy.

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,296,695	1,296,695
Current assets	146,951	74,891	14,768	236,610
Current liabilities	-	(74,891)	-	(74,891)
Total net assets	<u>146,951</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,311,463</u>	<u>1,458,414</u>

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,341,900	1,341,900
Current assets	153,616	93,999	-	247,615
Current liabilities	-	(93,999)	-	(93,999)
Pension scheme liability	-	1,000	-	1,000
Total net assets	<u>153,616</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,341,900</u>	<u>1,496,516</u>

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	2,335	2,485
Amounts due between one and five years	835	1,671
	<u>3,170</u>	<u>4,156</u>

17 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net expenditure	(49,101)	(94,061)
Depreciation	49,497	53,411
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(19,060)	(39,378)
Interest receivable	(25)	(23)
Defined benefit pension scheme movement	12,000	100,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	-	15,000
Increase in debtors	(2,738)	(5,566)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(19,109)	35,417
Net cash (used in)/provided by Operating Activities	<u>(28,536)</u>	<u>64,800</u>

18 Cash flows from investing activities

	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	25	23
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(7,040)	(34,947)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	19,060	39,378
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>12,045</u>	<u>4,454</u>

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

19 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	202,888	219,379
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>202,888</u>	<u>219,379</u>

20 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash	219,379	(16,491)	202,888
Total	<u>219,379</u>	<u>(16,491)</u>	<u>202,888</u>

21 Member liability

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

22 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by . 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 to the period ended 31 March 2019.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22 Pension and similar obligations (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 period amounted to £71,136 (2022: £81,286).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local government pension schemes

Leicestershire County Council Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £96,000 (2022 - £76,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £77,000 (2022 - £60,000) and employees' contributions totalled £19,000 (2022 - £16,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 5.5-12.5 per cent for employers and 23.3 per cent for employees. The scheme is managed by Leicestershire County Council.

The actuarial valuation calculated the fair value of plan assets to be in excess of the defined benefit obligation giving a plan surplus as at 31 August 2023 of £183,000. FRS102 28.22 states that a plan surplus shall be recognised only to the extent that the entity is able to recover the surplus through either reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The trustees believe there to be insufficient certainty over the ability to meet these conditions and therefore the plan surplus has not been recognised.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of an academy trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023 %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.50	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.00	3.10
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20	4.30
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	3.00	3.10
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	<u>55.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>

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

	2023	2022
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.10	21.50
Females retiring today	24.20	24.00
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	21.40	22.40
Females retiring in 20 years	<u>25.30</u>	<u>25.70</u>

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Equities	700,000	653,000
Other bonds	418,000	300,000
Property	86,000	96,000
Cash and other liquid assets	<u>25,000</u>	<u>21,000</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>1,229,000</u>	<u>1,070,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was (£3,000) (2022 - (£2,000)).

Thringstone Primary School Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
Current service cost	89,000	160,000
Interest income	(47,000)	(17,000)
Interest cost	47,000	32,000
Total amount recognized in the SOFA	<u>89,000</u>	<u>175,000</u>

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

	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
At start of period	1,069,000	1,881,000
Current service cost	89,000	160,000
Interest cost	47,000	32,000
Employee contributions	19,000	16,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(168,000)	(1,012,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,046,000</u>	<u>1,069,000</u>

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

	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
At start of period	1,070,000	1,004,000
Interest income	47,000	17,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	26,000	(19,000)
Employer contributions	77,000	60,000
Employee contributions	19,000	16,000
Benefits paid	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,229,000</u>	<u>1,070,000</u>

23 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.