

Company registration number 08521080 (England and Wales)

**BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**



# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

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# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

Mr J Rostron  
Mr D McDonald  
Mr M Cowley

### Trustees

Mrs C E Ford  
Rev N J Barr-Hamilton  
Ms G Donovan (Resigned 15 October 2022)  
Miss K Morris (Headteacher)  
Mr M P Cowley (Chair)  
Mrs K Lessels (Resigned 21 July 2023)  
Mrs K Southwick (Resigned 12 October 2022)  
Ms J C Price  
Ms N Halse (Resigned 15 September 2022)  
Mr I Mowbray  
Ms A Lauderdale (Appointed 14 October 2022)  
Ms A Butler (Appointed 25 November 2022)  
Mr R Dargan (Appointed 25 November 2022)  
Mr T Harding (Appointed 25 November 2022)  
Mrs H Hogg (Appointed 21 September 2023)

### Senior management team

- Headteacher	Miss K Morris
- Director of Business and Finance	Mr A Carr
- Senior Deputy Headteacher	Mr T C Delf
- Deputy Headteacher	Mrs F Nairne-White (resigned 31 May 2023)
- Deputy Headteacher	Mrs S Dickson
- Assistant Headteacher	Miss G Moore
- Assistant Headteacher	Mrs S Scott
- Assistant Headteacher	Mr J Knowles
- Assistant Headteacher	Mr C Brown
- HR Manager	Mrs A Bulbeck (appointed 23 January 2023)

### Company secretary

Mr A Carr

### Company registration number

08521080 (England and Wales)

### Registered office

Biddick Lane  
Washington  
Tyne And Wear  
NE38 8AL  
United Kingdom

### Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services  
Wynyard Park House  
Wynyard Avenue  
Wynyard  
TS22 5TB  
United Kingdom

## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

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#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank plc  
54 Fawcett Street  
Sunderland  
Tyne & Wear  
SR1 1SF  
United Kingdom

#### **Solicitors**

Weightmans  
1 St James Gate  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
Tyne And Wear  
NE1 4AD  
United Kingdom

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1st September 2022 to 31st 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 11 to 16 serving a catchment area in Washington. It has a pupil capacity of 1080 and had a roll of 1,139 in the school census on 16th December 2022.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The company was incorporated on 9 May 2013 and converted to an academy on 1 July 2013. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The trustees of Biddick Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Biddick Academy.

Details of the trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

##### Members' liability

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

##### Trustees' indemnities

The Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees, Governors and staff from claims arising due to negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst carrying out Academy business. A trustee may benefit from any indemnity insurance purchased at the Trust's expense to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the trust. Provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees in their capacity as Trustees of the Trust.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Trustees are appointed under the rules contained within the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association and membership to the Board of Trustees is in accordance with the structure contained within it. The number of Trustees is not subject to any maximum and the appointments made are in line with the guidance in the Articles of Association.

The Trustees may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine, provided that the total number of Trustees (including the Headteacher) who are employees of the Trust does not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

The Trustees make the necessary arrangements for and determine all matters relating to the election of Parent Trustees. Parent Trustees must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time they were elected or when the Trust was established.

The Headteacher of the Academy shall be a Trustee for as long as he or she remains in that position.

The Trustees may appoint up to three co-opted Trustees. The Trustees may not co-opt an employee of the Trust as a co-opted Trustee if thereby the number of Trustees who are employees would exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

The Secretary of State may appoint additional Trustees as he thinks fit if he has given a warning notice and the Trustees have failed to comply, or secure compliance with the notice to the Secretary of State's satisfaction, within the compliance period. The Secretary of State may also appoint additional Trustees following an inspection by the Chief Inspector of Schools (Ofsted) where the Trust receives a grading which amounts to a drop of two Ofsted grades.

#### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

All new Trustees and/or Governors will be given induction training by the Trust's governance partner that reflects his/her previous experience and expertise. The Trust purchases support that provides for individual and full Governing Body training through an annual Course Directory which is reviewed each year to reflect any changes in practice and legislation. The Trust will perform an annual skills audit of Trustees and Governors, should any gaps be identified training courses are offered to address these issues.

#### Organisational structure

The leadership and management structure of the Trust consists of the Board of Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team of the Academy. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility and is ultimately accountable for the Academy. They will hold to account the Headteacher. Powers are delegated from the Board via a scheme of delegation. This scheme is reviewed on an annual basis.

The Trustees are responsible for strategic planning, setting general policy, adopting an annual development plan, reviewing curriculum, budget monitoring, making major decisions about the direction of the Academy.

The Senior Leadership Team consists of the Headteacher, Director of Business and Finance, Senior Deputy Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teachers, Assistant Head Teachers and other senior staff as appropriate. The team lead and manage the Trust at an executive level, steering the direction of the Academy in line with strategic plans and developing opportunities. They are also responsible for the day to day operation of the Academy in addition to supporting the wider work and objectives of the Trust.

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

The Trustees HR committee is responsible for senior staffing appointments as well as monitoring standards and performance and setting pay and remuneration.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### Trade union facility time

#### *Relevant union officials*

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period

-

Full-time equivalent employee number

-

#### *Percentage of time spent on facility time*

Percentage of time

Number of employees

0%

-

1%-50%

-

51%-99%

-

100%

-

#### *Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time*

Total cost of facility time

-

Total pay bill

-

Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time

-

#### *Paid trade union activities*

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours

-

### Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

For the period ending 31 August 2023, 12 trustees and Senior Leadership Team members declared connections to organisations or related party relationships. During the reporting period no transactions were carried out that would be impacted by these declared relationships.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### Objects and aims

The Principal object and activity of the Charitable Company is the operation of Biddick Academy to provide education through a broad balanced curriculum for children of compulsory school age and to provide recreation facilities to the public at large.

Academic success is at the forefront of our agenda; however, our philosophy puts wider opportunities alongside to produce well-rounded individuals. The philosophy of valuing wider opportunities for young people alongside academic success has enabled the Academy to build its reputation for being the best it can possibly be, with young people experiencing the highest quality of education.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trust has set a number of guiding principles to adhere to and steer their objectives and activities:

##### **Learning and Curriculum**

Our curriculum is broad, balanced, engaging and stimulating, offering our students personalised pathways to success. We are proud of our year on year upward rise in standards and outstanding curriculum offer. The curriculum is designed to develop knowledge, skills and characteristics to provide the very best education and produce well-rounded individuals who are thoroughly prepared for life.

##### **Leadership**

We provide an environment in which everyone is encouraged and supported to develop leadership and management competencies. This will enable Biddick Academy to maximise the talent within the Trust and plan for succession. We will review the progress made by the Trust against the organisations overall investment. We will challenge any under-performance.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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#### **Collaboration and Partnership**

The Trust is committed to the development of education practice by maximising collaboration. We will use partnerships such as parents, multi- disciplinary teams, community links, teaching schools, other academies and businesses to enhance provision. The Trust will pursue opportunities for income generation.

#### **Inclusivity and Equality**

All students have an entitlement to study a broad and balanced range of subjects. No groups are discriminated against. Classwork at Biddick Academy is structured to cater for all ability levels and learning needs, and wherever possible there is an emphasis on individualised learning.

Students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and are well supported by a highly committed and skilled staff, excellent facilities and an extensive range of resources. This guarantees that equal opportunities are provided to all.

#### **Investment and Opportunity**

We will invest in our staff to provide them with the necessary training and support in order that the aims of the Trust can be met. We embrace and celebrate continuous learning and create a culture where all learning is valued. All staff are given the opportunity to make the most of their potential through fair and open access to training. We are committed to the most efficient and effective use of resources to support training needs.

Investment will also be in the shape of the Academy's estate and how that can be developed or enhanced to offer an improved learning area. Initiatives such as repurposing current buildings to be more aligned to curriculum and strategic needs will form a cornerstone of the planned progression and support attainment of the key strategic objectives as agreed with Trustees.

#### **Continuous Improvement**

Trustees and senior leaders of Biddick Academy provide challenge and support for each other in order that continuous improvement is central to our work.

#### **Public benefit**

The Trustees have complied with their duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006, 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 Trust has provided a fully comprehensive education to all pupils in its care. It fully complies with all statutory guidance and seeks to support its wider educational objectives via a strong community role.



# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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### **Strategic report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

At Biddick Academy we believe that the school years are amongst the most important in our lives, and when delivered well can develop knowledge and skills, and build the characteristics required to succeed in life. We endeavour to give every child the very best all-round education. The opportunities we offer provide exciting, enjoyable and challenging experiences, allowing young people to develop into fully rounded individuals prepared for their next step in life, whether that be in work, training or further education. The trustees, headteacher and staff at Biddick Academy have developed a vision and ambition for the Academy that is understood and being worked towards by all.

The Academy's ethos 'inspiring learning, unlocking potential, achieving success' is the reflection of an uncompromising belief that every child will be equally able to secure outstanding educational outcomes and reach their full potential in a positive learning community which supports and values their achievements.

At Biddick Academy we want everyone to:

- Be part of a safe and respectful community
- Feel happy, valued and empowered so that we all thrive
- Aspire to be the best we can be
- Act with integrity
- Nurture resilience and independence
- Have the attitude and character to excel in life
- Have a desire to learn and work with passion, purpose and pride

We are unwavering in our determination that every student achieves highly, enjoys their learning, and is happy and cared for. We not only prepare students with the knowledge to excel in examinations but to have the skills and attributes to be successful in life. The curriculum, both in and out of lessons, is carefully structured and delivered to fulfil this aim.

The curriculum is founded upon four values: curiosity, aspiration, resilience and readiness. These are interwoven in all aspects of school life. To complement the academic values we strive to develop, five key pastoral values have been introduced. These are known as 'The Biddick Way' and encompass: excellence, respect, integrity, commitment and equality.

#### Key performance indicators

Due to the impact of Covid-19 and subsequent changes to examinations and grade boundaries, it is not accurate to make comparisons to results in previous years.

- Year 11 students achieved an Attainment 8 score of 42.5. This is line with the Local Authority average for Sunderland.
- 35% of students achieved both English and Mathematics at a Grade 5 and 57% Grade 4.
- The percentage of students achieving a standard pass in the English Baccalaureate was 13%
- The number of students being entered for the English Baccalaureate was 16%. This was slightly lower than in previous years, however take-up of the English Baccalaureate in Year 10 is 50%.
- The English Baccalaureate Average Point Score is 3.56, this is in line with the LAAPS of 3.67.
- Initial destination data indicates that all students went into employment, education or training at the end of Key Stage 4 in 2022. Sustained destination rates are 95%, above the LA average of 92% and national average of 94%.
- The reputation of the Academy in the local community is very strong and consequently, the Academy remains oversubscribed.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### Priorities for Improvement:

- To continue to strengthen and develop robust, effective strategic leadership at all levels
- To address the inconsistencies in outcomes, so that all pupils make strong progress, particularly pupils in receipt of pupil premium.
- Monitor the curriculum, to ensure it is improving student achievement and closing the gap, whilst still producing well-rounded individuals who are prepared for life
- Build the capacity for more rapid and sustained improvement by seeking external challenge and advice to monitor and review performance
- Review and revise governance mechanisms to support continued school improvement
- Create a high performance, culture through learning, developing and coaching our staff, with continuous improvement at its core
- A focus on reading to support students in their exams and to access learning in all subjects with more confidence
- To achieve good attendance for all pupils
- To develop an ethos that allows students to develop the attitude and character to excel.

#### - The Future

The academy recognises that improvements have been made across a number of areas resulting in a judgement of 'good' by Ofsted in November 2021. All areas of school life are benefitting from the recruitment of high calibre staff. Leaders remain conscious of the challenging climate for recruitment in education place the recruitment, well-being and subsequent retention of our colleagues at the heart of what we do.

The legacy of the Covid-19 pandemic is also impacting upon the education sector. Pupils have increasingly complex needs and demand for external support services has significantly increased. Leaders are committed to continual evaluation and assessment of the most effective and economical means of securing high quality outcomes for pupils and the local community.

Consistency in outcomes will continue to be an area to drive improvement, as will, having a strong focus on:

- Curriculum development to support pupils' acquisition of disciplinary knowledge
- Supporting students in knowing more and remembering more, resulting in good outcomes in all areas for all pupils
- Ongoing pastoral care and personal development resulting in respectful, tolerant attitudes

The Trust has an established leadership team in place at senior and mid-leadership levels and has the capacity to deliver sustained high quality, teaching and learning.

Our ambition is to be an outstanding school which is a great place to work and learn, and is recognised by the community for the value it adds.

The Trust's main objectives are encompassed in our vision detailed earlier in this report and to this end we want to improve and change lives of individuals, families and the community. We retain these objectives despite a financial climate that makes this more challenging and whilst we have invested, at present we have a pupil teacher ratio of 14.0. We are still able to set a balanced budget in 2023/24.

#### 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.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### **Financial review**

As a result of conversion to Academy status the school surplus balance from the former Biddick School Sports College was brought forward into the accounts. In addition to this the balance of the unrestricted school fund was also transferred to the Academy.

The majority of the Trust's income for the period of account is obtained from either the ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency) or Local Authority as the commissioner of pupil places, the use of which is restricted for particular purposes. The grants and funding received from these bodies for the period and associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants, including the General Annual Grant (GAG) received during the period covered by this report and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 22.

Income from lettings and the catering operation have increased. External bookings are at circa 100% capacity between Monday and Thursday evenings, with continued full use on a Saturday.

All of the expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities is in furtherance of the Trust's objectives. In 2022/23 the Trust invested surpluses of £197,663 to further improve Trust assets. This included investment in improved ICT provision and the improvement of other facilities.

During the period ending 31 August 2023 the Trust has incurred an operational surplus of £455,937.

At 31 August 2023 the net book value of fixed assets was £16,072,020. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and associated support for pupils within the Biddick Academy Trust.

Under accounting standard FRS102, it is necessary to charge projected deficits on the Local Government Pension Scheme, which is provided for support staff, to the restricted fund. This resulted in the pension fund showing a benefit of £726,000 which has been capped at zero following advice from the actuary. It should be noted that this does not present a liquidity problem for the Trust and that the Trust is reviewing contributions to the pension scheme in order to see a reduction to the pension scheme in future years.

#### Reserves policy

Trustees have agreed that the Trust should aim to hold a prudent level of reserves designed to provide: -

- sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants
- a contingency fund for any unexpected emergencies
- funding capacity for future estate maintenance and planned capital investment subject to conditions as set out by the ESFA
- funding to cover any future liabilities as outlined within the Financial Statements.

The level of free reserves to cover the above is deemed to be £250,000. The unrestricted reserves funds of the Academy are £554,194 (£545,692 in 2021/22). The level of reserves outlined in the Policy is £250,000; therefore funds of £304,194 are available to meet future budget pressures.

Trustees agree that expenditure of Trust reserves is in line with the Trust Improvement Plans that support the academy in raising standards as described in our plans for the future defined within this report. Approved expenditure of reserves is reviewed by Trustees annually.

The net surplus in unrestricted reserves of £554,194 includes provision of a sinking fund currently at £250,000 for the future renewal of a Synthetic Turf Football Pitch. The Trustees monitor reserve levels on a regular basis in line with budget monitoring and review these levels annually and believe that they should provide sufficient working capital to cover its aims and objectives.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### Investment policy

The Trust has a Treasury Management and Investment Policy which is reviewed annually by Trustees. The Trust currently operates interest bearing bank accounts but at present does not have any funds invested.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk and uncertainties facing the Trust are centred around maintaining pupil numbers and the processes in which the Academies receive their primary source of income from the ESFA/DfE. This is a key area that is being strictly monitored, reviewed and managed by the Trust to understand the financial implications and take action to address, if and when they may arise. In addition the Trust is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) which results in the recognition of a significant liability on the Trusts' balance sheet.

The Trustees and senior management team recognise the need to maintain the Academy's estate making it safe for pupils and ensuring compliance with relevant regulations. A full health and safety audit is performed intermittently to compliance with expectations as an employer, alongside an annual fire safety risk assessment. The academy also maintains a 5 year rolling maintenance report, in conjunction with a facilities management company, mapping out potential buildings works and approx. costs over that period of time. This in turn links with the overarching risk register. Works are reported to Trustees where appropriate with capital spend included within the annual budget reporting and updates within the monthly Finance Report.

#### **Fundraising**

Under the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 fundraising activity is not carried out for the benefit of or on behalf of the Academy or its operations.

#### **Plans for future periods**

Strategic improvement plans have been developed and agreed for the Academy that will steer the direction of travel of the Trust. The current levels of reserves are viewed to be sufficient for annual investment into resources (including buildings, equipment and staff training) in the Academy to achieve maximum return and to meet our aims and objectives. However, in light of potential sector impact due in part to Covid, increasing inflation with specific impact on utilities costs and general strains on the economy plans must be carefully considered over the next couple of years. Investment and budgetary decisions must be tempered by an uncertain economic environment. Further details on the future are given in the Trustees Strategic Report shown earlier in the accounts.

#### **Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others**

There are no funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

#### **Auditor**

In so far 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.

A resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr M P Cowley  
Chair

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### Scope of responsibility

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

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Biddick 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. Miss K Morris is the Accounting Officer.

#### 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 13 times during the year and incorporates the functions of the Finance & Audit Committee, HR Committee and Full Trust Board to ensure the sound management of the Trust's finances, staffing and resources including proper planning, monitoring and probity. The board also monitor the system of internal controls, arrangements for risk management and ensure value for money.

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

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs C E Ford	11	11
Rev N J Barr-Hamilton	8	12
Ms G Donovan (Resigned 15 October 2022)	0	0
Miss K Morris (Headteacher)	5	6
Mr M P Cowley (Chair)	12	13
Mrs K Lessels (Resigned 21 July 2023)	6	9
Mrs K Southwick (Resigned 12 October 2022)	0	0
Ms J C Price	9	12
Ms N Halse (Resigned 15 September 2022)	0	0
Mr I Mowbray	8	10
Ms A Lauderdale (Appointed 14 October 2022)	4	7
Ms A Butler (Appointed 25 November 2022)	5	6
Mr R Dargan (Appointed 25 November 2022)	5	6
Mr T Harding (Appointed 25 November 2022)	5	6
Mrs H Hogg (Appointed 21 September 2023)	0	0

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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### **Conflicts of interest**

The Academy Trustees and Members complete and sign a register before the AGM each year to be held on file. The register collects information including, but not limited to:

- If they have a child at the Academy
- Are they a company director, partner or owner, and if so the name of the entity
- Do they own shares in any organisation that has a direct transactional relationship with the Academy
- Do they live with or are related to anyone employed by the Academy
- Affiliations with any other groups who may have a relationship with the Academy

Documents are collected by the clerk and any response of note would be subject to discussion and action where required.

### **Governance reviews**

During 2022/23 the Trustees have undertaken their annual review of succession planning to ensure continuity and stability. The Trust continues to operate on a flat structure with all Trustees meeting together on a monthly basis. Improvements to communication and individual understanding of the whole operation of governance were acknowledged from the change and therefore will continue to work in this manner.

### **Review of value for money**

As Accounting Officer the Headteacher 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:

- Ongoing scrutiny and analysis of the curriculum model and provision to ensure value for money in educational outcomes
- Budget scrutiny over vacant or proposed roles to ensure relevance and at appropriate salary point
- Daily monitoring to periods of increased sickness absence to ensure we efficiently covered roles where required
- Savings have been achieved in regard to procurement of goods and services by market research and application of discount codes
- The procurement process supported by pre-determined number of quotes received for purchase over specific value
- The Academy continues to use benchmarking to maintain high levels of cost savings by securing best price. This lends itself to be able to maintain a high proportion of funding continuing to be spent directly on learning
- Ensuring contracts are not extended without due diligence of their performance and ensuring comparative market rates have been sought to validate continuity of services
- Where service contracts have run for up to no more than 5 years, the Academy will enter a tender process to continually test the market for both pricing and performance
- Pre-emptive maintenance works, as part of rolling plan, to reduce potential risk to the estate and therefore delivery of curriculum plan. Used to ensure estate in safe, well maintained order and to reduce risk of unforeseen major issues which would in term could prove to be a liquidity risk

The Academy will continue to improve its performance in relation to Value for Money by strong governance and management.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### **The purpose of the system of internal control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Biddick Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### **Capacity to handle risk**

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

#### **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 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
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- identification and management of risks

The board of trustees considers the need for ongoing specific internal audit function:

- City of Sunderland Internal Audit Section was re-appointed as internal auditor

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

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of Income

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the Finance and Premises committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

#### **Review of effectiveness**

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

- the work of the internal auditor
- the work of the external auditor
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

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

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Miss K Morris  
Headteacher



Mr M P Cowley  
Chair



## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

### **STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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As accounting officer of Biddick 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 received by the academy trust, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's 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.



Miss K Morris  
**Accounting Officer**

14 December 2023

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Biddick Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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 accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgements 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 accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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 that 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 accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr M P Cowley  
Chair

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the accounts of Biddick Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

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

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts 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.

### **Emphasis of matter - LGPS disclosure**

We draw your attention to note 2 to the financial statements which describes how the LGPS balance has been accounted for. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### **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 trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

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

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts 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 accounts.

## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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**Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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

## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### **Use of our report**

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

*Azets Audit Services*

**Graham Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services**

14 December 2023

**Statutory Auditor**

Wynyard Park House  
Wynyard Avenue  
Wynyard  
United Kingdom  
TS22 5TB

## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

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

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 21 August 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 Biddick 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 Biddick Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Biddick Academy Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Biddick Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Biddick Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Biddick Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 27 June 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 period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### **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.

## **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

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

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer
- discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team
- review of Internal Audit reports
- review of trustee and committee meeting minutes
- review of finance and other relevant policies
- review of purchases, expenses and expense claims on a sample basis including the application of controls and tendering processes where applicable
- review of gifts and hospitality transactions including the application of controls
- review of credit and debit card transactions including the application of controls
- review of payroll transactions on a sample bases including the application of controls
- review of potential special payments to staff
- review of leases and consideration of areas where borrowing may have been incurred
- consideration of transactions with related and connected parties
- review of register of business interests for completeness and compliance with regulations
- enquiries into transactions that may require disclosure under ESFA delegated authority rules
- consideration of value for money and appropriateness of transactions

#### **Conclusion**

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

*Azets Audit Services*

**Reporting Accountant**  
Azets Audit Services

Dated: 14 December 2023



# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £ Fixed asset £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	3	150	-	66,314	22,706
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	37,920	7,937,308	-	7,440,725
Other trading activities	5	185,367	-	-	112,423
Investments	6	3,218	-	-	2,206
<b>Total</b>		<b>226,655</b>	<b>7,937,308</b>	<b>66,314</b>	<b>7,578,060</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	218,153	4,991	-	84,197
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	-	7,414,882	499,580	8,128,236
<b>Total</b>	7	<b>218,153</b>	<b>7,419,873</b>	<b>499,580</b>	<b>8,212,433</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>8,502</b>	<b>517,435</b>	<b>(433,266)</b>	<b>(634,373)</b>
Transfers between funds	16	-	(131,349)	131,349	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	915,000	-	3,891,000
Pension asset not recognised	18	-	(726,000)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>8,502</b>	<b>575,086</b>	<b>(301,917)</b>	<b>3,256,627</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		545,692	549,222	16,373,937	14,212,224
Total funds carried forward		554,194	1,124,308	16,072,020	17,468,851

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
Year ended 31 August 2022		funds	General	Fixed asset	2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	22,706	22,706
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	18,810	7,421,915	-	7,440,725
Other trading activities	5	112,423	-	-	112,423
Investments	6	2,206	-	-	2,206
<b>Total</b>		<b>133,439</b>	<b>7,421,915</b>	<b>22,706</b>	<b>7,578,060</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	50,566	33,631	-	84,197
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	-	7,635,389	492,847	8,128,236
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>50,566</b>	<b>7,669,020</b>	<b>492,847</b>	<b>8,212,433</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>82,873</b>	<b>(247,105)</b>	<b>(470,141)</b>	<b>(634,373)</b>
Transfers between funds	16	-	(131,044)	131,044	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	3,891,000	-	3,891,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>82,873</b>	<b>3,512,851</b>	<b>(339,097)</b>	<b>3,256,627</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		462,819	(2,963,629)	16,713,034	14,212,224
Total funds carried forward		545,692	549,222	16,373,937	17,468,851

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	12		16,072,020		16,373,937
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	330,464		284,076	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,912,633		1,224,997	
		2,243,097		1,509,073	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(564,595)		(295,159)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			1,678,502		1,213,914
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>			17,750,522		17,587,851
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	18		-		(119,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>			17,750,522		17,468,851
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>	16				
- Fixed asset funds			16,072,020		16,373,937
- Restricted income funds			1,124,308		668,222
- Pension reserve			-		(119,000)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			17,196,328		16,923,159
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	16		554,194		545,692
<b>Total funds</b>			17,750,522		17,468,851

The accounts on pages 23 to 46 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 14 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr M P Cowley  
Chair

Company registration number 08521080

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

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

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Net cash provided by operating activities	19		815,767		71,962
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		3,218		2,206	
Capital grants from DfE Group		66,314		22,706	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(197,663)		(153,751)	
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>			(128,131)		(128,839)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			687,636		(56,877)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			1,224,997		1,281,874
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			1,912,633		1,224,997

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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#### 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.

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts 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.

##### 1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable 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 accounts 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 accounts.

##### 1.3 Income

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

###### Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

###### Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

###### Donations

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

###### Other income

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

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 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 accounts until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

#### Donated fixed assets

Donated fixed assets are measured at fair value unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor is 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.

### 1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are 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.

### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding that require 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.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Leasehold buildings	50 years (Integral fixtures to external fabric of buildings 25 years)
Leasehold improvements	50 years
Computer equipment	5 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10 years
Motor vehicles	10 years

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

#### 1.6 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.

#### 1.7 Leased assets

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

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

The academy trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the academy trust and their measurement basis are as follows.

##### Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

##### Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

#### 1.9 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.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.10 Pensions benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The 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 are 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 or 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.

#### 1.11 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.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

#### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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



# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

##### Local Government Pension Scheme

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 18, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. The UK corporate bond yields at 31 August 2023 are at their highest levels for many years resulting in higher accounting discount rates at the year end. This places a significantly lower value on the pension obligations compared to last year and will be one of the main reasons a net asset has been reported. We have ensured that our assumptions are appropriate for the Academy Trust and the valuation has been based on the following estimates:

- There is a minimum funding requirement in relation to LGPS
- There is the ability to recover a surplus through the ability to reduce future contributions (not refund)
- In calculating the surplus, the present value of current and past service costs is offset against the future contributions over the future period
- The present values in the above calculations are calculated using an annuity representing participation into perpetuity.

There is no known intention to exit the LGPS and therefore the economic benefit of a refund would be highly unlikely and on that basis recognition of an asset is considered inappropriate. We have however considered the economic benefit available to the Academy Trust as a future contribution reduction and whether it is appropriate to recognise the net asset in full. Under FRS 102, a net asset restriction may apply as the prevailing view is that a minimum funding requirement for future service exists in the LGPS. We requested our actuaries consider the impact of the minimum funding requirement on the asset ceiling and as a result we have restricted the asset to £nil based upon an asset restriction calculation. We consider this to be appropriate and a more accurate reflection of the pension positions as at 31 August 2023.

##### Land and buildings

The trust's land and buildings are occupied on a 125 year lease from the local authority. In the view of the trustees, the risks and rewards of occupying the site have been substantially transferred to the trust and therefore the land and buildings have been recognised as a donation on conversion and capitalised within the restricted fixed assets fund. The land and buildings are valued on the basis of valuations provided by the ESFA/local authority

##### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated as to write off the cost of an asset off over its useful economic life. The accounting policies are disclosed in the accounting policy above.

#### 3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Capital grants	-	66,314	66,314	22,706
Other donations	150	-	150	-
	<u>150</u>	<u>66,314</u>	<u>66,464</u>	<u>22,706</u>

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 4 Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	6,773,738	6,773,738	6,455,804
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	326,376	326,376	302,596
- Rates	-	33,536	33,536	35,255
- Mainstream schools additional grant	-	106,468	106,468	-
- Supplementary grant	-	205,124	205,124	85,468
- National tutor grant	-	7,598	7,598	6,878
- Others	-	7,541	7,541	121,394
	-	7,460,381	7,460,381	7,007,395
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	358,783	358,783	278,782
<b>COVID-19 additional funding</b>				
<b>DfE/ESFA</b>				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	103,588	103,588	59,558
<b>Non-DfE/ESFA</b>				
Other COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	39,526
	-	103,588	103,588	99,084
Other incoming resources	37,920	14,556	52,476	55,464
<b>Total funding</b>	37,920	7,937,308	7,975,228	7,440,725

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Hire of facilities	25,479	-	25,479	30,794
Music tuition	8,524	-	8,524	13,126
Educational visits	129,708	-	129,708	24,730
Other income	21,656	-	21,656	43,773
	185,367	-	185,367	112,423

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Short term deposits	3,218	-	3,218	2,206

### 7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	102,746	-	120,398	223,144	84,197
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	5,100,993	-	510,503	5,611,496	5,549,514
- Allocated support costs	668,376	1,266,238	368,352	2,302,966	2,578,722
	5,872,115	1,266,238	999,253	8,137,606	8,212,433

#### Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	10,950	8,580
- Other services	3,800	3,170
Operating lease rentals	22,781	16,798
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	499,580	492,397
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	-	450
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	2,000	60,000

### 8 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
All from restricted funds:		
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Educational operations	5,611,496	5,549,514
<b>Support costs</b>		
Educational operations	2,302,966	2,578,722
	7,914,462	8,128,236

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 8 Charitable activities

(Continued)

	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	668,376	952,643
Depreciation and amortisation	499,580	492,847
Technology costs	39,985	34,137
Premises costs	766,658	674,640
Legal costs	6,606	6,939
Other support costs	285,864	387,664
Governance costs	35,897	29,852
	<u>2,302,966</u>	<u>2,578,722</u>

### 9 Staff

#### Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	4,038,433	3,928,479
Social security costs	422,596	419,885
Pension costs	946,548	1,222,592
Staff costs - employees	<u>5,407,577</u>	<u>5,570,956</u>
Agency staff costs	448,042	479,579
Staff restructuring costs	16,496	4,915
	<u>5,872,115</u>	<u>6,055,450</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	42,937	27,517
Total staff expenditure	<u>5,915,052</u>	<u>6,082,967</u>
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy payments	<u>16,496</u>	<u>4,915</u>

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 9 Staff

(Continued)

#### Staff numbers

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teachers	81	87
Administration and support	17	17
Management	9	10
	<u>107</u>	<u>114</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 Number	2022 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	4	2
£70,001 - £80,000	1	2
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-
	<u>7</u>	<u>5</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 employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £974,002 (2022 - £895,167).

### 10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an 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 services as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

K Morris (Headteacher and trustee)	
Remuneration	£110,001 - £115,000 (2022: £95,001 - £100,000)
Employer's pension contributions	£25,001 - £30,000 (2022: £20,001 - £25,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2023 travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil (2022: £378) was reimbursed or paid directly to 1 trustee.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 22.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

#### 12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold buildings	Leasehold improvements	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 September 2022	19,188,000	533,809	691,643	424,809	10,720	20,848,981
Additions	-	71,486	97,546	28,631	-	197,663
At 31 August 2023	19,188,000	605,295	789,189	453,440	10,720	21,046,644
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2022	3,608,480	69,993	489,808	296,043	10,720	4,475,044
Charge for the year	-	406,973	73,071	19,536	-	499,580
At 31 August 2023	3,608,480	476,966	562,879	315,579	10,720	4,974,624
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2023	15,579,520	128,329	226,310	137,861	-	16,072,020
At 31 August 2022	15,579,520	463,816	201,835	128,766	-	16,373,937

#### 13 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
VAT recoverable	51,819	88,460
Prepayments and accrued income	278,645	195,616
	330,464	284,076

#### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	202,660	148,107
Other taxation and social security	95,405	-
Other creditors	85,080	45,212
Accruals and deferred income	181,450	101,840
	564,595	295,159

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**15 Deferred income**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	47,790	9,410
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	9,410	107,074
Released from previous years	(9,410)	(107,074)
Resources deferred in the year	47,790	9,410
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Deferred income at 31 August 2023</b>	<b>47,790</b>	<b>9,410</b>
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Included in deferred income are amounts received in advance for trips taking place in the 2023/24 academic year.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	668,222	6,773,738	(6,186,303)	(131,349)	1,124,308
Pupil premium	-	326,376	(326,376)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	103,588	(103,588)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	7,541	(7,541)	-	-
Other government grants	-	358,783	(358,783)	-	-
Rates	-	33,536	(33,536)	-	-
National tutoring programme	-	7,598	(7,598)	-	-
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	106,468	(106,468)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	205,124	(205,124)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	14,556	(14,556)	-	-
Pension reserve	(119,000)	-	(70,000)	189,000	-
	<u>549,222</u>	<u>7,937,308</u>	<u>(7,419,873)</u>	<u>57,651</u>	<u>1,124,308</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	15,673,351	-	(403,750)	-	15,269,601
DfE group capital grants	108,379	66,314	(34,077)	-	140,616
Capital expenditure from GAG	310,558	-	(34,167)	131,349	407,740
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds and donated assets	281,649	-	(27,586)	-	254,063
	<u>16,373,937</u>	<u>66,314</u>	<u>(499,580)</u>	<u>131,349</u>	<u>16,072,020</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>16,923,159</u>	<u>8,003,622</u>	<u>(7,919,453)</u>	<u>189,000</u>	<u>17,196,328</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	295,692	226,655	(218,153)	-	304,194
Sports pitch	250,000	-	-	-	250,000
	<u>545,692</u>	<u>226,655</u>	<u>(218,153)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>554,194</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>17,468,851</u>	<u>8,230,277</u>	<u>(8,137,606)</u>	<u>189,000</u>	<u>17,750,522</u>



# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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### **16 Funds**

**(Continued)**

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

The ESFA also provide pupil premium, teachers' pay and pension grants, rates grants and Covid funding, all of which have been fully utilised in the year.

Other DfE/ESFA grants includes year 7 catchup funding and other grants received from DfE/ESFA.

Other government grants includes high needs income, pupil premium and other grants provided by the local authority.

The pension reserve reflects the LGPS transactions. The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension scheme have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund, including contributions to the LGPS, and the pension liability has therefore been aligned with these funds.

DfE/ESFA capital grants consist of the devolved capital which has been fully spent in the year.

The inherited fixed asset fund reflects the fixed assets acquired from Sunderland Council on conversion. Depreciation on these assets is charged against this fund.

Unrestricted funds include £225,000 earmarked by the trust for the eventual refurbishment/replacement of the 3G sports pitch.

At 31 August 2023 the academy had restricted general and unrestricted funds of £1,678,502.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 16 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	626,493	6,455,804	(6,283,031)	(131,044)	668,222
Pupil premium	-	302,596	(302,596)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	59,558	(59,558)	-	-
Other Coronavirus funding	-	39,526	(39,526)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	213,740	(213,740)	-	-
Other government grants	-	278,782	(278,782)	-	-
Rates	-	35,255	(35,255)	-	-
Other restricted funds	1,878	36,654	(38,532)	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,592,000)	-	(418,000)	3,891,000	(119,000)
	<u>(2,963,629)</u>	<u>7,421,915</u>	<u>(7,669,020)</u>	<u>3,759,956</u>	<u>549,222</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	16,071,660	-	(398,309)	-	15,673,351
DfE group capital grants	119,291	22,706	(33,618)	-	108,379
Capital expenditure from GAG	213,221	-	(33,707)	131,044	310,558
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds and donated assets	308,862	-	(27,213)	-	281,649
	<u>16,713,034</u>	<u>22,706</u>	<u>(492,847)</u>	<u>131,044</u>	<u>16,373,937</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>13,749,405</u>	<u>7,444,621</u>	<u>(8,161,867)</u>	<u>3,891,000</u>	<u>16,923,159</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	237,819	133,439	(50,566)	-	320,692
Sports pitch	225,000	-	-	-	225,000
	<u>462,819</u>	<u>133,439</u>	<u>(50,566)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>545,692</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>14,212,224</u>	<u>7,578,060</u>	<u>(8,212,433)</u>	<u>3,891,000</u>	<u>17,468,851</u>

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	General £	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	16,072,020	16,072,020
Current assets	419,410	1,823,687	-	2,243,097
Current liabilities	-	(564,595)	-	(564,595)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>419,410</b>	<b>1,259,092</b>	<b>16,072,020</b>	<b>17,750,522</b>
Balance to allocate	134,784	(134,784)	-	-
Per balance sheet	554,194	1,124,308	16,072,020	17,750,522
	Unrestricted Funds £	General £	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	16,373,937	16,373,937
Current assets	545,692	963,381	-	1,509,073
Current liabilities	-	(295,159)	-	(295,159)
Pension scheme liability	-	(119,000)	-	(119,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>545,692</b>	<b>549,222</b>	<b>16,373,937</b>	<b>17,468,851</b>

### 18 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 South Tyneside Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £96,930 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £90,461) and are included within creditors.

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

##### Introduction

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 academy trusts. All teachers have the option to opt out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary. These contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 18 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 31 March 2016 TPS actuarial valuation results were implemented from 1 September 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% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £722,981 (2022: £710,954).

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

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

##### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 5.5 to 12.5% for employers and 16.5% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2023 £	2022 £
Employer's contributions	156,000	152,000
Employees' contributions	59,000	57,000
Total contributions	215,000	209,000

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2023 %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.1	4.2
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.6	2.7
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.1	4.1
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.6	2.7

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.0	21.8
- Females	24.1	25.0
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.2	23.5
- Females	25.5	26.7

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Discount rate + 0.1%	5,174,000	5,658,000
Discount rate - 0.1%	5,386,000	5,954,000
Mortality assumption + 1 year	5,153,000	5,641,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year	5,407,000	5,965,000
CPI rate + 0.1%	5,375,000	5,925,000
CPI rate - 0.1%	5,185,000	5,681,000

#### The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2023 Fair value £	2022 Fair value £
Equities	3,093,000	3,059,000
Government bonds	78,000	91,000
Corporate bonds	1,135,000	1,057,000
Cash	102,000	102,000
Property	619,000	631,000
Other assets	979,000	744,000
Pension asset not recognised	(726,000)	-
Total market value of assets	5,280,000	5,684,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £337,000 (2022: £(89,000)).

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2023 £	2022 £
Current service cost	224,000	510,000
Interest income	(233,000)	(97,000)
Interest cost	235,000	157,000
Total operating charge	226,000	570,000
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September 2022	5,803,000	9,280,000
Current service cost	224,000	510,000
Interest cost	235,000	157,000
Employee contributions	59,000	57,000
Actuarial gain	(811,000)	(4,077,000)
Benefits paid	(230,000)	(124,000)
At 31 August 2023	5,280,000	5,803,000
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September 2022	5,684,000	5,688,000
Interest income	233,000	97,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	104,000	(186,000)
Employer contributions	156,000	152,000
Employee contributions	59,000	57,000
Benefits paid	(230,000)	(124,000)
Pension asset not recognised	(726,000)	-
At 31 August 2023	5,280,000	5,684,000

# BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		92,671	(634,372)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(66,314)	(22,706)
Investment income receivable	6	(3,218)	(2,206)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	18	68,000	358,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	18	2,000	60,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		499,580	492,397
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets		-	450
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(46,388)	628
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		269,436	(180,229)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>815,767</b>	<b>71,962</b>

#### 20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2023 £
Cash	1,224,997	687,636	1,912,633

#### 21 Long-term commitments

##### 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	29,603	-
Amounts due in two and five years	54,941	-
	<b>84,544</b>	<b>-</b>

#### 22 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.

# **BIDDICK ACADEMY TRUST**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023***

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### **23 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 or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.