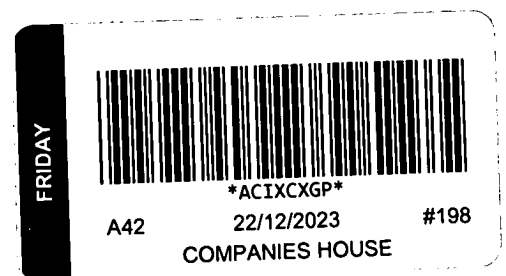


Company Registration Number: 08980079 (England & Wales)

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023



DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

The Derby Diocesan Board of Education
The Diocesan Bishop of Derby, The Rt Revd Libby Lane
The Diocesan Director of Education (DDE) for Derby, Carolyn Lewis
Acting, The Diocesan Secretary Derby Diocesan Board of Finance, Martyn Marples
(Resigned 30 April 2023)
The Diocesan Secretary, Derby Diocesan Board of Finance, Willam Hagger
(appointed 23 May 2023)

Trustees

Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles, Chair of Trustees
The Venerable Carol Coslett (resigned 28 February 2023)
Mr. Mark Emly, Safeguarding and SEND Trustee
Mr. Michael Ford (resigned 16 September 2022)
Ms. Helen Galbraith (appointed 25 May 2023)
Mr. Michael Holt, Vice Chair of Trustees
Ms. Harjinder Kaur
Mr. John Kelly (appointed 25 May 2023)
Mr. Mark Mallender (resigned 14 November 2022)
Ms. Sharron Philpot
Mr. Peter Upton (appointed 25 May 2023)
Ms. Susan Whyld (appointed 29 June 2023)
Mr. Henry Taylor-Toone (appointed 29 June 2023)
Mr. Justin Wilson

Company registered number

08980079

Company name

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust

Principal and registered office

Top Floor, Unit 3 Endcliffe Mount Deepdale Business Park, Ashford Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1GT

Company secretary

Michelmores Secretaries Ltd
JN Hampton Ltd

Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer

Dr. Sarah Clark (appointed 15 May 2023)

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Senior management team

Mr. Declan McCauley, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, and Head of School Improvement (interim CEO 15 November 2022 – 14 May 2023)

Dr. Sarah Clark, Chief Executive Officer (appointed 15 May 2023)

Mr. Patrick Mosley, Chief Finance Officer

Mr. Mark Mallender, Chief Executive Officer (resigned 14 November 2022)

Ms. Hayley Wharton, Chief Operating Officer

Independent auditor

Crowe U.K. LLP, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury, West Midlands, B69 2DG

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc, 31-33 St Peters Street, Derby, DE1 2AA

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson, Mowbray House, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham, NG2 1BJ

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditor's Report of the Charitable Company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Multi-Academy Trust operates 16 primary academies and 1 secondary academy for pupils aged up to 16 years old serving the Derbyshire catchment area. The 17 academies are, Bishop Lonsdale CE Primary School and Nursery, Newbold CE Primary School, Walter Evans CE Primary School, Christ Church CE Primary School, Darley Churchtown CE Primary School, St Giles CE Primary School (Killamarsh), St George's CE Primary School, Firs Primary School, Hardwick Primary School, Derby Cathedral School, St Chad's CE Infant School, Woodthorpe CE Primary School, St Peter's C of E Aided Junior School, Bakewell CE Infant School, Bishop Purglove CE Primary School, St James' CE Junior School and Sale and Davys CE Primary School. The Multi-Academy Trust has a pupil capacity of 5055 and had a roll of 4191 in the school census on October 2022.

The inception of a 'regional hub' model last year has developed and ensures appropriate levels of responsibility and accountability are maintained as the number of schools grow.

Investment in resources has been undertaken with an increase to staffing with a Central School Business Manager brought into the trust within the year. In addition, finance support and training has been provided to all schools to assist in improving reporting and supporting the transition to a new consistent financial system. The trust has further utilised expertise within the schools to provide greater central trust support, this is evidenced through executive HT models.

The Trust faced the challenge of a change in personnel to two of the senior roles within the central team. The positions of Chief Financial Officer and Chief Operations Officer were previously outsourced to AMF, with both roles now being employed in-house providing stability for the Trust and compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook.

The growth within the trust has enabled the appointment of additional central team staff. Additional financial support has supported the trust with capacity for school improvement and HR administration.

The trust has also invested in governance with all directors being assigned to a group of schools to provide additional links between the trust and academies and ensure consistent processes and governance are prevalent.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. CONSTITUTION

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

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

The Trustees of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as Derby Diocesan Academy Trust.

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

b. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

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

c. TRUSTEES' INDEMNITIES

The Academy Trust purchases indemnity insurance 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 Academy Trust; provided that any 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 Directors of the Academy Trust.

d. METHOD OF RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are recruited to the board based on their specialist skills and empathy for the ethos of the Trust and its objectives. Trustees and officers nominate new trustees to the members for appointment after an recruitment process which includes an interview with existing representatives of the Board and Executive Leadership. Appointments are formally approved by resolution.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

e. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

New trustees are assessed for experience and knowledge as academy trustees and appropriate induction is provided. Ongoing trustee skills needs assessment is carried out by Clerk with appropriate training being arranged.

The Trust have planned a governance support programme to embed procedures that link the Local Governing Board with the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust Board and to ensure governance remains effective as Derby Diocesan Academy Trust grows. An educational governance consultant and trainer with considerable multi academy trust experience leads the governance support programme for local boards, working closely with the Trust governance professional.

f. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Governance: The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that the vision, ethos, and strategic direction of the Trust are clearly defined and ensuring the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources. Schemes of delegation and authorisation limits are set out in the Trust's financial regulations.

Management: The Trust's day-to-day operations are managed by the Accounting Officer/ CEO, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer, with oversight by the Chair of the Board.

Academy Governance: Each Academy is governed by a local governing body. The functions of the governing body include:

- ensuring that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- ensuring that the headteacher performs his or her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school
- ensuring the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources

The principal/headteacher's responsibilities at each academy include:

- the internal organisation, management and control of the school; and
- the educational performance of the school

g. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Trust's key management personnel are appointed by the trustees. Academy key management staff are appointed by the local governing board and Trust representatives.

The key management personnel are considered to be the executive leadership team as noted on page 2.

Trade union facility time [see The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017]

Relevant union officials Nil.

Percentage of time spent on facility time Nil.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

h. CONNECTED ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING RELATED PARTY RELATIONSHIPS

The Diocese Board of Education chaired by the Rt Revd Malcolm Macnaughton

The same related party arrangement exists with Derby Diocesan Academies Trust 2 (DDAT 2). Derby Diocesan Academies Trust 2 is governed by the same Trustees as Derby Diocesan Academy Trust.

Wider network - The trust continues to work closely with local trusts and schools. In particular providing school improvement services to Diocese schools. The trust has also developed strong links with Derby University in collaborative working with teacher training and developing NQTs. During this year and the challenges seen, the trust has been in constant contact with the DfE and shared operational plans some of which have been rolled out nationally as exemplar processes.

Engagement with employees - The trust has continued to maintain and develop strong engagement with employees. Employees are encouraged to utilise professional services for wellbeing and pastoral services which have been procured through the absence insurance providers for all staff. Central team updates have been provided regularly through the year demonstrating the rigour and emphasis on safety for all staff.

Engagement with suppliers, customers, and others in a business relationship with the trust - The trust has engaged with key suppliers and clients with regards to the Procurement policy notices provided by the government this year. Always to ensure fairness and adherence to government guidelines whilst meeting obligations regarding regularity and appropriate spending on public funding.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

a. OBJECTS AND AIMS

The Trust's aim is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Academies which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and which shall include:

- Church of England schools designated as such which shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship, and having regard to any advice issued by the Diocesan Board of Education; and
- Other Academies whether with or without a designated religious character; but in relation to each of the Academies to recognise and support their individual ethos, whether or not designated Church of England

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

b. OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

Vision and Values

The Derby Diocese Board of Education has established a Multi-Academy Trust "to provide the best possible education for the pupils in their care based on the Christian principle that Every Child Matters to God."

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust (DDAT) is approved by the DFE as an academy sponsor. DDAT supports schools with an exceptional school improvement strategy and looks after the business elements of running an academy, protecting the distinctively Christian nature of each school.

DDAT aims to:

- Provide children with excellent educational provision
- rapidly improve under-performing schools
- develop effective school-to-school support
- build strong relationships and promote work with external partners
- raise aspirations and tackle disadvantage so that no pupil is failed by their school

The purpose of DDAT is to secure rapid and sustained improvement for every Academy it sponsors, and to sustain and build on the improvement of our converter academies. DDAT is rooted fully in the distinctively Christian and inclusive ethos of the MAT, DBE, and the wider Diocese. DDAT will enable schools to work together, share expertise and maximise resources. Our vision is for a family of DDAT academies that offers an outstanding learning experience for every child that will enable them to reach their full potential in mind, body, and spirit, thereby genuinely changing their lives.

As Academies within DDAT develop and improve, they will be expected and required to share their journey, skills, and expertise with other DDAT academies. DDAT will encourage and nurture the dissemination of good practice, fostering a self-sustaining culture of aspiration for educational excellence across all schools and exemplifying Christian values in every area.

DDAT follow a number of guiding principles:

- To promote an educational community based on love and inclusivity, providing a beacon where all can flourish.
- To foster, maintain and celebrate Christian distinctiveness in our schools.
- To ensure that our academies are centres of excellence with a focus on the nurture and achievement of all their members.
- To promote mutual support, encouragement, and benefit between all our academies.
- To develop future and aspirational thinking based on our educational heritage and to make use of the latest research in pedagogy and child development.
- To support the nurture and respect of God's creation with a close focus on the sustainability agenda.
- All human beings are made in the image of God. Each child is a unique human being, made by God and loved by him, and worth the highest possible standards of education and care and the closest attention to what will enable them to flourish.
- We must ensure that every child and young person has a life enhancing encounter with the Christian faith
- To recognise and enable those who often remain invisible, through ethnic or cultural disadvantage, or through disability or poverty.

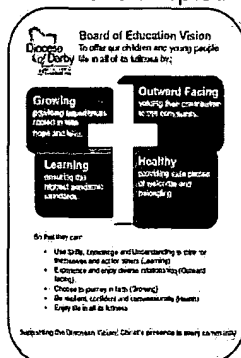
Church schools have a particular vocation to the poor and vulnerable, to enable them through education to change their lives.

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

DDAT have adopted the wider vision of the Diocesan Board of Education:



School Improvement Strategy

DDAT has a structured approach to school improvement. An educational audit of the school prior to conversion will highlight areas where, and to what level, the MAT board, through the Deputy CEO (Head of School Improvement); will support the school post conversion. The level of support will depend on the category which either Ofsted or the MAT board place the school.

DDAT has clear criteria based on Ofsted/DfE requirements and local knowledge in order to place a school at one of three levels based on its developmental state. The level will not necessarily be the same as the most recent Ofsted judgement but will be based on ongoing assessment resulting from school improvement visits. There will be at least 6 such visits each year by a member of the school improvement team.

The key to the DDAT school improvement model is that the school is not judged by its last Ofsted inspection. This could have been as long as 10 years ago. Experience has shown that schools may have fallen from Outstanding to Inadequate in one Ofsted cycle. Such schools may have received little, if any, outside scrutiny because they were deemed as outstanding and therefore given more independence by the maintaining authority. DDAT has an approach to ensure that this cannot happen. Within DDAT, more independence is earned, but there is still external scrutiny and rigour – at least 6 times a year. If a 'grade 1' Academy is showing signs of decline, then the board will re-categorise the school. This will result in the necessary intervention to stop the school declining any further and putting it back on track to achieve outstanding outcomes. DDAT would, in such circumstances, increase the management fee it receives from the school to put more support and challenge in where it is needed.

Each school is aiming to become outstanding, but the barriers to this in each school can be very different. Therefore, DDAT does not produce an action plan to fit all Academies, but instead produces bespoke action plans to bring about rapid improvement in those academies that need it or to ensure that the high standards are maintained in the outstanding schools.

This approach ensures early intervention in all schools before it is too late to protect the interests of the children

Future Challenges

- Ensuring that the DDAT brand continues to represent something that is distinctively Christian within this professional context and as community schools join the Trust.
- Keep the focus on rigorous school improvement so that all schools remain or become good or better.
- Managing growth and resisting the temptation to grow too quickly.
- Secure a partner secondary school for Derby Cathedral School to work with
- Building capacity of our own central team so that DDAT can provide the high-quality services expected by schools on joining.

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

- Developing and maintaining positive links with Unions
- Ensuring that the continuing professional development for all our staff team is up-to-date and relevant.
- Ensuring safe and effective practice safeguarding the welfare of all pupils and staff.
- Developing further hub models and centralisation of services supported by robust systems, policies, and procedures.
- Merger of DDAT 2 to DDAT to create one single large trust.
- Review the scheme of delegation to further strengthen the Trusts approach to improvement of educational outcomes as well as other areas of operation.

c. PUBLIC BENEFIT

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust provides significant public benefit through the dedicated school improvement programme. This programme will improve the quality of teaching and learning in the Derby and Derbyshire catchment area. The aims and objectives described earlier detail how the work of the Trust provide public benefit.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

d. STRATEGIC REPORT

There were 12 eligible schools in DDAT at the time of the Key stage 2 tests.

Overall Effectiveness:

All schools were judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' in their most recent Ofsted inspections, except for St George's CoE Primary who have improved from 'Inadequate' to 'Requires Improvement' since joining the Trust, and St James CoE Junior School who joined the Trust as 'Requires Improvement'. All Church schools are judged at least good by SIAMS.

Pupil Attainment and Progress

Attainment and progress in all DDAT schools shows some strengths with areas at or above national figures in key areas as measured in Department for Education performance tables. Many schools have a higher % of disadvantaged pupils than the national average. The trust is taking action to narrow the gap between disadvantaged pupils and the main cohort.

As a Trust, DDAT EYFS teacher assessment data is below the national comparator for 2023 for good level of development as are expected levels for Reading, Writing and Maths. At Key Stage 1, Trust attainment again is below the 2023 national figure for phonics, and reading, writing and mathematics at expected standard. At Key Stage 2, as a Trust attainment is below the 2023 national figures, except for reading at greater depth which is in line.

At Key Stage 4 the school's Progress 8 figure (the relative progress of our students in eight subjects, compared to students with similar levels of attainment at the end of primary school) was -0.40. Disadvantaged pupils accounted for 31% of the year 11 cohort and the progress score for this groups of pupils was -0.88. The school is taking action to narrow the gap between disadvantaged pupils and the main cohort.

The school's Attainment 8 figure (the raw score achieved by our students in the same eight subjects) was 41.4, compared to averages of 46.2 nationally, and 42.3 in the local authority. 61.1% of our students entered the Ebacc (a government measure which means students took all of English, maths, sciences, a language, and history or geography GCSE), which is aspirational compared to 35% in the local authority and 39% nationally. The Ebacc average point score (our students' average score in the same Ebacc subjects) was 3.73, which exceed the local authority (3.72), but was below national (4.05). 95.8% of our students have stayed in education or employment after Year 11, with 39.7% staying on to Year 12 at Derby Cathedral School.

The percentage of our students achieving a grade 5 or higher in both English and Maths GCSEs is 29.34%, compared to averages of 45% nationally, and 39% across the local authority.

Attendance at many schools remains above national averages in each phase, although challenges such as high mobility in Derby City and Chesterfield provide regional challenges compared to the national context.

Current demographics show variation in pupil number predictions with some rural communities showing a decline and others likely to benefit from several new housing developments and children living in the area.

Some schools remain under PAN but action is being taken including extending the age range to include nursery age children and establishing a PR / Marketing strategy.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Academy Summary Reports

Bishop Lonsdale CE Primary and Nursery School

School leaders have continued to focus on strengthening the curriculum further through upskilling subject leaders so that they can drive improvement. This work has supported pupils to make a good start in their education.

Christ Church CE Primary School

Leadership and management of the school is highly effective. Pupils make good progress in their learning. The nurture provision in school is strong, helping pupils to become successful in their learning.

Darley Churchtown CE Primary School

The school is a member of the Matlock and Dales Primary Partnership. The head of this school is working under the direction of a highly experienced executive headteacher. Children get off to a strong start to their education in the early years before progressing into Key Stage 1.

Derby Cathedral School

The secondary school received its first Ofsted inspection January 2023 and was judged a 'good' school. The first set of Year 11 outcomes were secured this academic year and the Sixth Form welcomes the first Year 12 cohort September 2023.

Firs Primary School

The school continues to be a good school and is making an impact in the local community. Leaders and staff are exceptionally caring and supportive of all pupils and their families. The school caters for pupils who speak a wide range of languages other than English.

Hardwick Primary School

The executive headteacher continues to support leadership across this school and at St James' CofE Junior School in Derby. Leaders have been working to strengthen subject leadership across the school. The school does much to support parents in the wider community and personal development is a strength. The school caters for pupils who speak a wide range of languages other than English.

Newbold CE Primary School

The school was inspected by Ofsted November 2022 and was judged overall a 'good' school. The nursery supports the start the children get at the school, and provides nurture provision. The recently introduced phonics scheme continues to improve the teaching of reading.

St Chad's CE Infant and Nursery School

The school was inspected by Ofsted June 2023 and was judged overall a 'good' school, and 'outstanding' in personal development. This school continues to support many families within the inner-city Derby community. Children get off to a strong start to their education. The school staff care deeply for the pupils and are very nurturing in their approach and have developed their Forest School provision 'Nurture through Nature'.

St George's CE Primary School

The executive headteacher and head of school continue to drive improvement across this school. School leaders are working on actions identified in their previous inspection report. Much work has been done to develop the building and the outdoor early years area in the past year, which support curriculum delivery.

St Giles CE Primary School, Killamarsh

This school is well led and managed and leaders have supported other schools across DDAT and DDAT2. Much is done to support children and families locally. Early years is a strength of this school supported by development of the environment.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

St Peter's CE Junior School

The headteacher and assistant headteacher work closely together to improve the quality of education, having been previously supported by an executive headteacher and the learning environment is being developed.

Sale and Davys CE Primary School

The school has many strengths. There have been changes to the arrangements for special educational needs support which will benefit those pupils with a wide range of additional needs in the school. Academic outcomes remain good.

Walter Evans CE Primary School

The executive headteacher is working hard to drive improvements at Walter Evans and Turnditch CofE Primary School. Children make a strong start when they join the Nursery which stands them in good stead for their time in the school. Academic outcomes are strong.

Woodthorpe CE Primary School

The school was inspected by Ofsted March 2023 and was judged overall a 'good' school. The school continues to improve because of effective leadership. The quality of education provided in the school is of a high standard.

Bakewell CE Infant School

Bakewell was supported by an interim executive headteacher and head of school during 2022 – 23 after moving to become a member of the Matlock and Dales Primary Partnership. There is now a permanent full-time head of school, working under the direction of a highly experienced executive headteacher in place. The school was inspected by Ofsted June 2023 and was judged overall a 'good' school.

Bishop Pursglove CE Primary School

Under the skilled leadership of the executive headteacher and head of school the school continues to perform well. Leaders have skilfully identified what needs to improve further. The strong start that pupils receive in the early years enables them to become successful learners as they progress through school.

St James CoE Junior School

The executive headteacher and head of school work together to successfully improve the quality of education in the school. Senior and middle leaders have worked to strengthen the curriculum.

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

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

a. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Financial and education performance KPI's are produced for each school and the central trust. These are reviewed and analysed by the operations team, finance sub committee and board.

Key measures include expenditure costs against income and progress and attainment in each school.

KPIs for achievement and performance have been outlined, but in addition attendance is also monitored. Attendance for DDAT primary schools for the 2022/23 academic year was 93.9% which was 0.1% above the national average for primary schools. Attendance at Derby Cathedral School (91.3%) was above the national average for secondary schools (90.7%). This was an achievement as the school had a higher % of disadvantaged pupils (38.4%) than the national average for secondary schools (23.8%). National attendance for FSM eligible pupils was 88.6%.

Financial KPIs are also produced and monitored by the Trust and are also benchmarked against national data.

b. 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.

c. PROMOTING THE SUCCESS OF THE COMPANY

- Working with Dr Sarah Hardman Charles to promote DDAT as an 'employer of choice' with NQTs at Derby University
- Promotion of DDAT throughout the Diocese by the Chair of DBE, Rt Revd Malcolm Macnaughton, and the Diocesan Director of Education, Carolyn Lewis
- Consideration of consequences of decision making as part of the longer-term strategic plan, and the impact on maintaining or improving the educational, operational, and financial health of the Trust and its academies.
- Consideration of the interests of the Trust's employees through on-going consultation and strategic plans to develop the workforce and address workload.
- Strengthening the Trust's impact on community and the environment through recruitment of an Estates and H&S lead.
- Maintaining the Trust's reputation for high standards of conduct in all aspects of operation

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The main sources of income for the Academy Trust are grants from the Department of Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the period ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), any capital grants and donations of fixed assets are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the useful life of the assets concerned as defined in the Academy Trust's accounting policies.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

During the period ended 31 August 2023, total expenditure of £32,038,855 (2022: £30,298,454) was covered by recurrent grant funding from the DfE together with other incoming resources. The in year deficit on free reserves was £83,825 (2022: £1,884,674). These figures exclude the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (see note 24 to the accounts). At 31 August 2023 the net book value of fixed assets was £32,807,425 (2022: £32,220,401) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 13 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy Trust.

The financial position of the trust this year has benefitted from increased grant funding due to the national funding formula. This has increased per pupil funding at school level and has enabled schools to increase expenditure on educational practices. Additionally, as the trust seeks to create hubs of schools opportunities for savings have been prevalent. The monitoring of budgets ensures that robust plans are in place for spending appropriately in future years, this includes reviewing any surpluses generated to ensure current cohorts are receiving the best provision.

a. RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust termly and annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. With no material designated projects the Trust's longer term policy with regard to the available free reserves is to use them strategically to maintain the high standard of teaching and learning across the academies. The Academy is holding reserves at 31 August 2023 of £38,185,296 (2022: £35,516,084).

This comprises of:

Restricted Funds deficit of £394,371 (2022: £885,274)

Unrestricted Funds of £4,097,909 (2022: £2,607,935)

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds of £34,481,758 (2022: £38,483,162)

Restricted Funds comprises:

£113,629 (2022: £1,613,726) general funds to support the academy's budget in 2022-23.

£508,000 (2022: £2,449,000) is the deficit on the defined benefit pension scheme.

The free reserves of the Academy Trust are £4,211,538 (2022: £4,221,661) at 31 August 2023. This represents approximately 2 months of the Trust's annual payroll costs plus contingency for capital spend and unexpected costs which is considered to be a reasonable level of reserves in the current economic climate.

The Trustees have reviewed these reserves and believes they are adequate to provide sufficient working capital for the Academy Trust to continue to operate within its financial resources, and to cover unexpected urgent work. Specific use to which the respective funds can be applied are detailed in note 17. The Trustees plan to review the reserves policy alongside the review of the Scheme of Delegation.

b. INVESTMENT POLICY

A return on working capital shall be optimised whilst allowing easy access of the funds. In balancing risk against return the Academy policy is geared towards avoiding risk rather than to maximise return. The Academies current investment policy is to maximise income but from a low risk strategy. All monies are currently held on bank deposit and are attracting interest.

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

c. PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Trustees review a register of principal risks at each meeting and receive a report from officers how the risks are being alleviated. The principal risks are listed in the table below:

Trust Capacity	The requirements of conversion projects, and new schools joining the Trust, will make significant demands on Trust capacity at times which carries the risk of poor performance, key deadlines being missed and reputational damage.
Governance	Trust may be unable to recruit individuals to the Local Governing Bodies who possess the required skills and knowledge. This results in poor performance, a lack of local context in the management of the school and disengagement with the local community.
Growth	DDAT's current strong reputation with the Department for Education as an Academy Sponsor is compromised and growth is halted.
Demand & Viability	Insufficient pupil demand for charity's services leaves it unsustainable.
Competition	Presence of other organisations with similar objects and little scope for differentiation.
Strategic & Reputational	Risk of the impact an uncontrollable event will have on the charity e.g., fire, flood, oil crisis, war, recession.
Strategic & Reputational	An inspection of a DDAT school results in a downgrading of Ofsted rating and has a negative impact on the reputation of the Trust and school improvement service.
HR	Failure to comply with employment law- e.g., unfair dismissal of an employee - attracts adverse publicity.
Governance	Committees not established with delegated authority, e.g., finance, personnel etc.
HR	Key person loss/succession risk.
HR	Recruitment risk - recruiting an individual not capable of performing duties and/or unsuitable to work with children.
Operational	Risk health and safety and/or employment legislation is not adhered to at schools.
Finance	Risk that school and/or Trust budgets will be in deficit.
Finance	Risk that actual performance is not measured against budget on a regular basis.
Operational	Risk that assets built by contractors do not meet specifications, or actual cost exceeds budget.
Finance	Risk that funding increases don't match the additional cost pressures on our budgets, mainly linked to staffing and energy costs.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Schools within the Trust are supported through an SLA with YMD Boon to ensure that Health and Safety requirements are met and to achieve Trust wide savings. YMD Boon conduct annual Health and Safety audits across the DDAT estate and outcomes are discussed at regular health check meetings with the Trust Executive team, and resulting summaries are reported to Trustees. Whilst most schools have dedicated premises staff and local arrangements for the maintenance of grounds, schools who do not have a competent employee currently receive three health and safety visits per academic year with the audits taking place during the spring term through YMD Boon.

YMD Boon also conducts condition surveys which include sampling for Asbestos and RAAC the outcomes of which inform deployment of the school condition allocation; priorities are shared with Trustees for approval. The SLA also supports due diligence in relation to new schools joining the Trust. Trustees have reviewed the central team structure, and as a result recruitment processes are in place for a strategic lead of Estates and Health & Safety. This will support ensuring value for money alongside the development of the strategic plan 2023 - 24.

d. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

DDAT is plans to merge with DDAT2 during 2023-24. This will create a single trust structure and provide consistency and greater effectiveness by combining the two related organisations into a single legal entity. The combined size of DDAT and DDAT exceeds the 7500 pupils identified as a benchmark for a strong trust in the White Paper published March 2022.

The growth plan outlined below relates to the current organisational structure and plans for the wider consolidated trust. Approximately 15 schools have expressed an interest in joining the Trust in recent years. Significant demand from schools and the ability to grow selectively from many schools offers DDAT a position of considerable strength. To manage growth in a sustainable manner, trustees have agreed that schools should not be brought into the Trust on a first come, first served, basis. Trustees formally consider which schools to bring into the trust on a termly basis against an agreed list of priorities. The growth plan is considered and has been communicated and ratified by the DfE through MAT reviews and subsequent approval.

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust (DDAT) Growth Plan.

Context

This narrative sets out the continuing strategic plan for a 24-month period. Growth is matched to strengthened capacity and there is a deliberate focus on improved accountability and governance and implementation of Trust wide systems that become essential for the successful management of a larger number of schools.

Growth Rationale and Context 1: Small School Solutions

Derby Diocese supports 33 Voluntary Aided (VA) Church of England (CE) Primary Schools and 77 Voluntary Controlled (VC) CE Primary Schools representing approximately 15,000 children. The diocese has many small schools, 53% with fewer than 110 pupils and 82% with fewer than 210 pupils. Many of our small schools will not be viable, especially after the removal of Minimum Funding Guarantees and as other protection built into the National Funding Formula in Derbyshire dissipates over time. Many of our schools work in supportive clusters, often including community schools, but for our schools and governing bodies too address the requirement to embrace alternative models of leadership the Trust now needs to complete a deep review the Scheme of Delegation 2023 - 24.

DDAT has a pipeline of schools wanting to join the Trust but is unwilling to take on schools that do not have a viable financial future. DDAT is also unwilling to prop up schools in existing organisational structures that are unable to provide 21st Century Education sustainably due to their size. We need schools within structures that have the authority to remodel educational resource across groups of schools. The diocese is working with other MATs to facilitate this, but our own MAT (DDAT) must also model this approach and be part of the solution. Our experience is that demand is by far exceeding supply within Derbyshire.

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

DDAT can provide a sustainable solution for many of the smaller schools, providing that they are brought into the MAT with other schools within the same geographical location. In this way DDAT can create sustainable "units of school" within a regional hub of 6-8 schools. The geographic importance is critical to ensure that staffing can be restructured across the group of schools to provide shared expertise from staff with the requisite skills.

Our experience is that a federation of two schools of 100 pupils might save £10k from each budget (including second tier leadership) using an Executive Headteacher model, but this does not go far enough to improve provision or meet fiscal responsibilities beyond two years. A federation might however, be a stepping stone to a larger collaborative model. DDAT estimate that approximately 400 pupils are needed to sustain an effective Executive Headteacher role. However, the model for urban and rural communities will need to be context sensitive and second tier leadership is critical. In a small school rural context, leadership may be a teacher on a TLR with responsibilities as DSO. Effective leadership, previously provided by the headteacher, can be provided within units of school, and overseen by a regional hub lead headteacher effectively held to account by the wider DDAT team.

Six to eight schools in rural Derbyshire are unlikely to offer enough pupils to form a viable MAT that adds value. However, as a regional hub it could be viable if the economies of scale are within a larger Trust. In this context smaller schools can deliver high quality provision as part of a larger Trust if they also work with other hubs that are effectively collaborating.

Growth Rationale and Context 2: Delivering in Derby

Derby Diocese serves schools within Derby City LA as well as Derbyshire LA. DDAT have been working to deliver key priorities to support Derby as an opportunity area through two key projects.

Derby Cathedral School, an 11-18 CE secondary school opened in September 2018 with planned admission allowing for 1200+ pupils over time. This school is not a faith school for the faithful but a church school for the community and continues to reach PAN, with applications from students from a diverse range of communities within the city.

DDAT also received a grant from the DfE for MAT development which has been used throughout this period to support the school improvement and develop training for the schools. This has helped the Derby City hub director role to be fully established and enabled significant investment in training events targeted for improvement across Derbyshire schools.

Growth priorities

Growth has always had to be managed carefully and the DDAT Board prioritise schools not on a first come first served basis, but in a manner, which should promote secure and stable growth. Schools joining the Trust must add value in terms of their contribution to viable regional hubs. All schools must embrace the "stick of rock" values for our Trust.

Priority order:

A partner secondary school for Derby Cathedral School

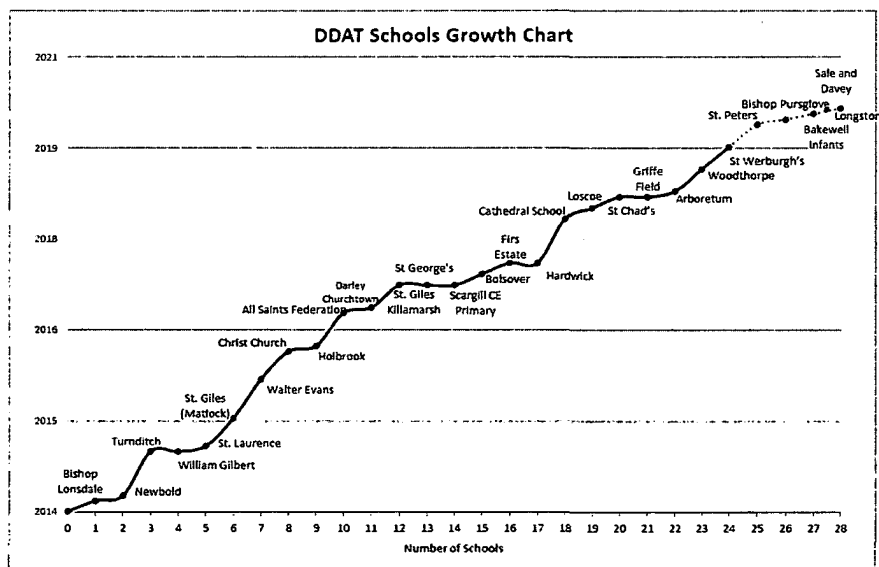
Church of England schools that are "eligible for intervention".

Strong schools (at least two thirds good or better) to ensure sustained capacity of Trust.

- A blend of small and larger schools.

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



Developing capacity for the next phase

Significant capacity building activity is already recorded within the DDAT Strategic Growth Plan, which is being revisited alongside a robust self-evaluation taking place under new leadership 2023 - 24. However, DDAT are cognisant that the growing scale of operation will require key capacity building activity in the following areas.

1. School improvement within the central team, our schools, and our partners.
2. Financial security over time, whilst providing an increased level of core service efficiently from the centre,
3. Strengthened Governance at all levels, supported by an in-depth review of the scheme of delegation.
4. Increased alignment of Trust wide systems and accountability from CEO and core team through the new regional lead headteachers, to school leaders and staff.

Growing Cautiously

Trustees are very cognisant of information provided by robust due diligence exercises before taking on a school. As such there are often periods of pause. Trustees have not followed any trajectory without proper consideration of the risks. In the last financial year, DDAT has put on pause any conversion where single status/equal pay issues remain unresolved, unless the school is Voluntary Aided where such risk can be managed. Building issues have also put projects on pause until money has been secured to resolve issues prior to conversion. Due diligence includes a formal review of Buildings, Finance, Human Resource, ICT and School improvement.

The DDAT board recognise the value of becoming a cross phase MAT. The new Derby Cathedral Secondary Free school opened on 1st September 2018. Trustees have a vision for this secondary school to be fed by a hub of DDAT feeder primary schools to offer high quality educational provision to the city of Derby for pupils from 3-18 years of age. It should be noted that this hub and secondary school will offer education to some significantly disadvantaged pupils. Derby has been highlighted as one of six areas nationally where social mobility has been extremely limited.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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FUNDRAISING

The Academy Trust's approach to fundraising is confirmed as conforming to recognised standards.

This includes Protection of the public, including vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and undue pressure to donate.

No fundraising work is undertaken with any commercial participators/professional fundraisers.

No fundraising complaints have been received.

The basis of fundraising is undertaken at the individual schools and takes the form of three specific models. These being, Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) fundraising through separate bodies from the trust, school-based fundraising for the academy's benefit and fundraising for charities.

All funds raised by the school are recorded as unrestricted income and expenditure is recorded similarly. Funds raised for external charities are collected and sent onwards in their entirety.

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

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING

UK energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions

The Trust is pleased to report its current UK based annual energy usage and associated annual greenhouse gas emissions pursuant to the Companies (Directors' Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018 ("the 2018 Regulations") that came into force 1 April 2019.

Organisational boundary

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions are for those assets owned or operated within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary. This includes all 17 schools controlled during the reporting period and minibuses along with the mandatory inclusion of scope 3 business travel in employee-owned or hire vehicles (grey fleet).

Reporting period

The annual reporting period is 1 September to 31 August each year and the energy and carbon emissions are aligned to this period. Sale and Davys Church of England Primary School joined the Trust on 01/05/2022 however data for the entire reporting year has been included as this provides an annual comparison for total gross emissions and the intensity ratios.

Quantification and reporting methodology

The 2019 UK Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines and the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition) were followed. The 2022 UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting were used in emission calculations. The report has been reviewed independently by Briar Consulting Engineers Limited.

The electricity, gas, and minibus diesel consumption were compiled from invoice records. Mileage claims were used to calculate energy use and emissions associated with grey fleet. Generally gross calorific values were used except for grey fleet mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

The associated emissions are divided into mandatory and voluntary emissions according to the 2018 Regulations, then further divided into the direct combustion of fuels and the operation of facilities (scope 1), indirect emissions from purchased electricity (scope 2) and further indirect emissions that occur as a consequence of Trust activities but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation (scope 3).

The Academy Trust's greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are as follows:

	2023	2022
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	4,129,613	4,737,153
ENERGY CONSUMPTION BREAKDOWN (KWH):		
Gas	2,865,235	3,429,277
Electricity	1,256,536	1,301,571
Transport fuel	7,842	6,306
SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):		
Gas consumption	524.1	626.0
Owned transport	0.9	0.9
TOTAL SCOPE 1	525.0	626.9

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

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):

Purchased electricity	260.2	251.7

SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):

Business travel in employee-owned or rental vehicles	1.0	0.6

TOTAL GROSS EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):	786.2	879.2

Intensity ratio:

Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil - 0.185 (2022: 0.209)

Tonnes of CO2e per square meter floor area - 0.024 (2022: 0.026)

The Academy Trust has followed and used the following quantification and reporting methodologies:

- the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines;
- the GHG Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard; and
- the 2020 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity ratio

Two intensity ratios are reported showing emissions (tCO2e) per pupil and per square meter floor area. Emissions per pupil is the recommended ratio for the sector for consistency and comparability and pupil numbers are based on the Autumn 2022 Census. Emissions per square meter floor area is reported to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the source of the majority of emissions.

Energy efficiency action during current financial year

The Trust is committed to reducing emissions and this year has seen the implementation of the following energy efficiency measures:

- Bakewell CofE Infant School has had a new roof with additional insulation installed in Block 2 (EYFS) this year. The school also continue to ensure boilers are serviced annually for maximum efficiency and electrical items are not left on unnecessarily.
- Bishop Purglove CofE (A) Primary School has upgraded their heating distribution system in August 2023. Using a DfE energy efficiency grant, they've introduced LED lighting across the entire school. To enhance control, thermostats have been fitted to all radiators.
- Christ Church CofE Primary School have installed a new boiler to improve heating efficiency. The school is also continuing to rollout new LED lighting throughout the school.
- Derby St Chad's CofE Nursery and Infant School have improved hot water efficiency with the replacement of 3 water heaters in early 2023. LED lighting replacement is rolled out as and when required.
- Firs Primary School has improved insulation by installing insulation pillows in the false roofs of all rooms during the summer of 2023. Additionally, two flat roofs have been replaced with improved insulation.
- Hardwick Primary School have made significant strides by replacing lights with LED fixtures, particularly in main areas and are continuing to do so. The implementation of sensors ensures lights go off when areas are vacant, optimizing energy use.

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

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

- Newbold CofE Primary School has continued to install LED lighting to another 2 classrooms, making 6 out of 7 classrooms now using LED lighting.
- St George's CofE Primary School have used a DfE energy efficiency grant to upgrade LED lighting throughout the entire school.
- St. Peter's CE Junior School has upgraded one heating control unit for better system management and installed LED lighting, enhancing energy-efficient illumination.
- Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School completed the full replacement of lighting across the school with LED units in August 2023. The air conditioning unit in the front office was fixed in July 2023, ensuring optimal functionality. Furthermore, the school took proactive measures by having an engineer work on and fix the Solar PV panels, contributing to sustainable energy practices.
- St James' Church of England Aided Junior School have refurbished toilets with new tap and light sensors to reduce water and energy use. Furthermore, the school has completed a glazing audit and carried out necessary repairs and has plans for LED replacements, which are in the pipeline for 2023/2024. The school is proactively seeking improvements through SCA funding, showing a commitment to making their facility more energy-efficient and sustainable.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

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

TRADE UNION FACILITY TIME

The trust employs no trade union officials and therefore had no time or costs spent on union activities during the year.

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

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE DISABLED

Sickness absence may result from a disability or develop into a disability.

The Equality Act 2010 provides a single consolidated source of discrimination law and covers the disability provision.

You're disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

Managers/Headteachers and Governors have an obligation under the Equality Act 2010. The Act places a duty on the Trust and Governing Bodies not to discriminate against current employees on the grounds of disability. Schools should give consideration at each stage of the Sickness Absence Procedure as to whether there are reasonable adjustments that could be made to the requirements of the job, or practices to ensure as far as reasonably possible, that a disabled person can be supported at work or to assist them to return to work.

If you consider that you are impacted by a disability or any medical condition which affects your ability to undertake your work, you should inform your Manager/Headteacher to ensure that the right support is put in place to assist you in maintaining your attendance at work.

Disability discrimination

If you are disabled or become disabled, we encourage you to tell us about your condition so that we can support you as appropriately.

If you experience difficulties at work because of your disability, you may wish to contact your line manager or Human Resources to discuss any reasonable adjustments that would help overcome or minimise the difficulty. Your line manager or a member of the HR team may wish to consult with you and a medical adviser(s) about possible adjustments. We will consider the matter carefully and try to accommodate your needs within reason. If we consider a particular adjustment would not be reasonable, we will explain our reasons and try to find an alternative solution where possible.

We will monitor the physical features of our premises to consider whether they place disabled workers, job applicants or service users at a substantial disadvantage compared to other staff. Where reasonable, we will take steps to improve access for disabled staff and service users.

Employee consultation

Employee engagement and consultation has been maintained through the year.

Prior to schools joining the trust a full program of consultation with staff is undertaken. Following conversion staff are provided with a welcome pack and information on matters that may affect them, including details on HR and TUPE as well as the trust handbooks and regulations. A strategic committee has been implemented which includes headteachers from across the schools, whereby decisions are agreed to enable first hand communication of impact and rationale between the senior leaders and their staff. Unions are involved as appropriate for any proposed changes to terms affecting staff and changes are implemented only after formal consultation.

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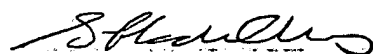
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on the 18th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles
Chair of Trustees

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 8 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles	7	8
The Venerable Carol Coslett	3	4
Mr. Mark Emly	7	8
Mr. Michael Ford	0	0
Ms. Helen Galbraith	2	2
Mr. Michael Holt	5	8
Ms. Harjinder Kaur	5	8
Mr. John Kelly	2	2
Mr. Mark Mallender	1	1
Ms. Sharron Philpot	2	2
Mr. Peter Upton	2	2
Ms. Susan Whyld	1	1
Mr. Henry Taylor-Toone	1	1
Mr. Justin Wilson	4	8

Governance reviews

A Trustee skills audit is completed annually in the form of a robust survey outlining qualities and expertise for each trustee in over 30 specific areas related to the ability to provide strong governance. It is completed to review the effectiveness of the board and to highlight any areas of individual development as well as where appointments to provide additional effectiveness should be recommended. This year's audit highlighted strong expertise in many areas, however it was identified that there was a need for additional Trustees to be recruited to provide a broader range of expertise. We recruited 6 new Trustees in the year.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

An external review of Governance was undertaken March 2023 by the NGA. As a result of this review

- the committee structure has been reviewed to form Finance and Resources, Audit and Risk and Education and Standards from September 2023
- the governance professional role has been strengthened with greater coworking with the governance support for local boards
- a deep review of the scheme of delegation will now take place 2023 – 24
- the vision and values will be reviewed in time for the 10-year anniversary of DDAT which coincides with the Trust Merger in 2024

The Trust is committed to ensuring that all Employees, Members, Trustees and Governors understand what constitutes to conflict of interest and their responsibility to identify and declare any conflicts that might arise; and that the conflict and the actions taken are recorded to ensure that the conflict does not affect decision-making at any level within the governance of the trust. Declarations of interest and a review of the register of business interests is a standing agenda item at each board meeting.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees.

The Committees remit is as follows:

- To monitor the work of the Trust in terms of their financial, governance, risk management and internal controls and strategy
- To monitor and challenge the financial and cash position of both Trusts regularly.
- To provide more focused and detailed challenge and support to the Board.
- To provide the Board with assurance that the underlying processes are robust and fit for purpose.
- To direct the Trusts' programme of internal scrutiny and external audit.
- To review and recommend to the Board the balance and appropriateness of financial reporting.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Michael Ford	0	0
Michael Holt	3	3
Harjinder Kaur	3	3
Justin Wilson	3	3

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive 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 Academy 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:

- Implementing the Trust's highly regarded school improvement service it ensures that public funds are used effectively and efficiently to improve teaching and learning.
- Actively encouraging collaboration between Academies and other Church of England schools in Derbyshire to share best practice and mutual support to deal with issues assists the continuing improvement in pupil attainment
- Implementing joint purchasing for the Academies and use of third party assessors to get the best value for money.

The purpose of the system of internal control

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

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 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.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees have developed a program of internal scrutiny which is managed and monitored through the finance and audit committee. For 2023/24 the Board of Trustees have established both a Finance and Resources Committee and an Audit and Risk Committee.

Internal scrutiny for the period of 2022/23 has been undertaken by using independent professional external reviews across key areas highlighted and formally agreed by the Finance and Audit Committee.

Summary of work undertaken and standards 2022/23

- H&S risk audits have been completed with RAG ratings supplied for each school within the trust in distinct areas namely: Management of health and safety, in-house compliance, and contractor compliance. YMD Boon Ltd have acted as specialist independent scrutineers. The overall score of most of the schools is above 90%, with three scoring above 100% across DDAT and DDAT2. All schools who do not have a competent employee currently receive three health and safety visits per academic year with the audits taking place in the spring term.
- Utilities- Following a report in relation to varying levels of service and cost from water suppliers a consistent provider has now been procured across the Trust.
- Budget/Finance monitoring and Payroll- Ongoing financial scrutiny for all schools within the trust. Actioned by DDAT Finance team and reported/monitored by Finance and Audit committee. External consultants S4S have provided a summary of quality assurance across all schools to highlight areas of support and further training.
- Procurement Controls – controls have been strengthened through the recruitment of an internal finance and operation function in contrast to the previous arrangement where these functions were outsourced (2021 - 2022)
- HR Harmonisation audit and recommendations. The harmonisation project is still ongoing with the HR Team currently focussing on the implementation of a suite of HR policies and procedures.
- Health Check meetings – All schools have received a thorough health check across all functions including HR, Finance, Operations, Governance, Estates & Premises and School Improvement.
- Contract Compliance - Introduction of a number of HR reports to check compliance such as a starters forms to ensure contract compliance.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

The trust will continue to prioritise internal scrutiny. The finance and audit committee will continue to identify areas for review in the subsequent years. The trust will continue to use qualified and experienced external companies to undertake the specific review areas as directed along with suitably qualified internal directors and partners for financial scrutiny. The trust has agreed that the option of internal scrutiny being conducted by bought in audit services from external organisations and individuals is most appropriate with additional finance scrutiny from our qualified internal directors and external working partners. This decision is based on the board's wish to ensure that specialists inform them on areas of development and scrutiny identified by the audit committee rather than peer reviews or non-employed trustees. Other approaches have been considered and will continue to be reviewed dependent on complexity and risk profile of the elements included in the internal scrutiny.

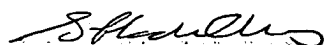
Review of effectiveness

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

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

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

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



Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles
Chair of Trustees
Date: 18th December 2023



Dr. Sarah Clark
Accounting Officer

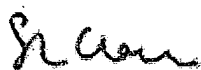
DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

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



Dr. Sarah Clark
Accounting Officer
Date: 18th December 2023

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

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

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

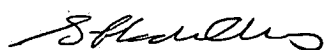
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies' Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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



Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles
Trustee
Date: 18th December 2023

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust (the '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 the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the 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.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy 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 Academy Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Academies Accounts Direction and the Academy Trust Handbook. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context were General Data Protection Regulation, health and safety legislation, Ofsted and employee legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquire of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Board about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the ESFA, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBY
DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing noncompliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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

Use of our report

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



Dave Darlaston (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Black Country House

Rounds Green Road

Oldbury

West Midlands

B69 2DG

Date: 19/12/23

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 15 September 2021 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 Derby Diocesan Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 June 2014 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

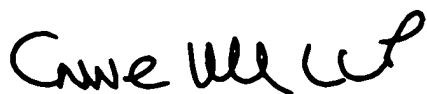
The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes a review of the design and implementation of the Academy's internal controls and review processes on regularity, supported by detailed tests on samples of costs incurred by the academy and specific transactions identified from our review.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Conclusion

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



Crowe U.K. LLP

Reporting Accountant

Black Country House
Rounds Green Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 2DG

Date: 19/12/23

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants:	3					
Transfer from local authority on conversion		2,101	-	-	2,101	(39,831)
Other donations and capital grants		17,400	450,557	1,164,910	1,632,867	26,595,761
Other trading activities	5	846,845	535,361	-	1,382,206	1,183,780
Investments		643	-	-	643	577
Charitable activities	4	666,485	28,532,765	-	29,199,250	25,913,371
Total income		1,533,474	29,518,683	1,164,910	32,217,067	53,653,658
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	291,114	-	-	291,114	267,200
Charitable activities	6	-	30,844,868	902,873	31,747,741	30,031,254
Total expenditure		291,114	30,844,868	902,873	32,038,855	30,298,454
Net income/(expenditure)		1,242,360	(1,326,185)	262,037	178,212	23,355,204
Transfers between funds	17	247,614	(673,912)	426,298	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		1,489,974	(2,000,097)	688,335	178,212	23,355,204
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	2,491,000	-	2,491,000	13,349,000
Net movement in funds		1,489,974	490,903	688,335	2,669,212	36,704,204

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Note					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	2,607,935	(885,274)	33,793,423	35,516,084	(1,188,120)
Net movement in funds	1,489,974	490,903	688,335	2,669,212	36,704,204
Total funds carried forward	4,097,909	(394,371)	34,481,758	38,185,296	35,516,084

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

The notes on pages 43 to 77 form part of these financial statements.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08980079

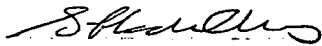
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	32,807,425	32,220,401
Current assets			
Debtors	14	4,606,887	4,279,203
Cash at bank and in hand		5,219,015	5,311,176
		<u>9,825,902</u>	<u>9,590,379</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(3,939,385)	(3,794,404)
Net current assets		<u>5,886,517</u>	<u>5,795,975</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>38,693,942</u>	<u>38,016,376</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(646)	(1,292)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>38,693,296</u>	<u>38,015,084</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24	(508,000)	(2,499,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>38,185,296</u></u>	<u><u>35,516,084</u></u>
Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	17	34,481,758	33,793,423
Restricted income funds	17	113,629	1,613,726
		<u>34,595,387</u>	<u>35,407,149</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	17	34,595,387	35,407,149
Pension reserve	17	(508,000)	(2,499,000)
Total restricted funds	17	<u>34,087,387</u>	<u>32,908,149</u>
Unrestricted income funds	17	<u>4,097,909</u>	<u>2,607,935</u>
Total funds		<u><u>38,185,296</u></u>	<u><u>35,516,084</u></u>

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08980079

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

The financial statements on pages 38 to 77 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on
18th December 2023 and are signed on their behalf, by:



Dr Sarah Hardman Charles
Trustee

The notes on pages 43 to 77 form part of these financial statements.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	19	232,183	(442,598)
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(324,344)	120,319
Cash flows from financing activities	20	-	114,169
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(92,161)	(208,110)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		5,311,176	5,519,286
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22, 23	<u><u>5,219,015</u></u>	<u><u>5,311,176</u></u>

The notes on pages 43 to 77 form part of these financial statements

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1.2 COMPANY STATUS

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee. The Academy Trust is incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 08980079. The registered office is Top Floor, Unit 3 Endcliffe Mount Deepdale Business Park, Ashford Road, Bakewell, United Kingdom, DE45 1GT. The members of the company are named on page 1. In the event of The Academy Trust being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of The Academy Trust.

1.3 GOING CONCERN

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

1.4 INCOME

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

- **Grants**

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

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 INCOME (CONTINUED)

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 year in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions) where receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

- **Donations**

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

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the Academy Trust are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the Academy Trust can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy Trust's policies.

- **Other income**

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

- **Donated goods, facilities and services**

The rent of the land and buildings owned by the Church is donated by the Diocese/Charity at a market rate of rent and is recognised as income, with a corresponding expense in the Statement of Financial Activities. The supplemental agreements state a two year notice period and this is recognised within debtors with a corresponding creditor.

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy Trust)**

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 EXPENDITURE

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

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

- **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.

1.6 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.7 TAXATION

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

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

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Leasehold Land	- Over the term of the lease
Leasehold Property	- 2% (straight line)
Leasehold Improvements	- 2% (straight line)
Furniture and equipment	- 10% (straight line)
Computer equipment	- 25% (straight line)

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

The Derby Diocese own the land and buildings of a number of the schools in the Trust giving the Trust access to occupy the premises for the provision of education. There is a Church Supplemental Agreement in place between the Diocese and the Trust. The rent of the land and buildings is donated by the Diocese/Charity at a market rate of rent and is recognised as income, with a corresponding expense in the Statement of Financial Activities. The supplemental agreements state a two year notice period and this is recognised within debtors with a corresponding creditor.

Land and buildings not owned by The Derby Diocese are held on long term leases, capitalised in Fixed assets and depreciated in line with the policies above.

The Hardwick Primary School building was granted under an existing PFI scheme.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

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

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

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

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

1.10 OPERATING LEASES

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

1.11 PENSIONS

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. 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 recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance Sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest 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.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

The conversion from a state maintained school to an Academy Trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £NIL consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis.

1.13 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 the funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

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

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

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

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGEMENT

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy Trust 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 risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 24, 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 asset values are reported using estimated asset allocations prepared by the scheme Actuary. The asset value is calculated at each triennial valuation. Thereafter it is rolled forward to accounting dates using investment returns, contributions received and benefits paid out. During each annual reporting period between triennial valuations, asset returns are estimated using 11 months of market experience and one month of extrapolation being assumed.

Where a scheme is in a surplus according to the accounting valuation the associated asset has not been recognised on the basis that it is not likely to be recoverable either through future reductions in contributions rates or future repayments. Further details of pension assets not recognised can be found with the pensions note to the financial statements.

For valuation of the land and buildings in relation to converted academies, the Trust intended to use the desktop valuations provided by the Department for Education (DfE), however these are not available at the date of signing the audit report. Therefore, where an academy trust occupies premises on a long lease, in order to determine an appropriate fair value for the asset on acquisition an estimate is made using insurance values and other Local Authority school values on a £/sqm basis together with other factors such as condition of the building. The trust believes this method provides a reasonable and reliable estimate of the current value.

Critical areas of judgement:

There are no critical judgements which would have a material impact on the financial statements.

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

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
DONATIONS				
Budget surplus on LA and School funds	2,101	-	-	2,101
TRANSFER FROM LOCAL AUTHORITY ON CONVERSION	2,101	-	-	2,101
Other donations	17,400	450,557	-	467,957
Capital Grants	-	-	1,164,910	1,164,910
TOTAL 2023	19,501	450,557	1,164,910	1,634,968

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
DONATIONS				
Donated fixed assets	-	-	24,950,000	24,950,000
Budget surplus on LA and School funds	114,169	-	-	114,169
Defined benefit pension scheme deficit	-	(154,000)	-	(154,000)
TRANSFER FROM LOCAL AUTHORITY ON CONVERSION	114,169	(154,000)	24,950,000	24,910,169
Other donations	-	460,485	-	460,485
Capital Grants	-	-	1,185,276	1,185,276
TOTAL 2022	114,169	306,485	26,135,276	26,555,930

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

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS			
DFE/ESFA GRANTS			
General Annual Grant	-	22,447,316	22,447,316
OTHER DFE/ESFA GRANTS			
Pupil Premium Grant	-	2,154,906	2,154,906
UIFSM	-	331,754	331,754
Other	-	1,396,686	1,396,686
	-	26,330,662	26,330,662
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS			
Local Authority Grants - SEN Funding	-	1,051,797	1,051,797
Local Authority Grants - Early Years Funding	-	627,790	627,790
Local Authority Grants - Other	-	86,758	86,758
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	666,485	-	666,485
COVID-19 ADDITIONAL FUNDING (DFE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	435,758	435,758
TOTAL 2023	666,485	28,532,765	29,199,250

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

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS			
DFE/ESFA GRANTS			
General Annual Grant	-	20,554,524	20,554,524
OTHER DFE/ESFA GRANTS			
Pupil premium	-	1,873,326	1,873,326
UIFSM	-	314,174	314,174
Other	-	1,004,888	1,004,888
	-	23,746,912	23,746,912
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS			
Local Authority Grants - SEN Funding	-	871,727	871,727
Local Authority Grants - Early Years Funding	-	488,729	488,729
Local Authority Grants - Other	-	65,445	65,445
	-	1,425,901	1,425,901
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	578,785	-	578,785
COVID-19 ADDITIONAL FUNDING (DFE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	150,835	150,835
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 Funding	-	10,938	10,938
	-	161,773	161,773
TOTAL 2022	578,785	25,334,586	25,913,371

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

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from training and consultancy	119,060	-	119,060
Other income	282,076	535,361	817,437
Out of school club	432,819	-	432,819
Hire of facilities	12,890	-	12,890
TOTAL 2023	846,845	535,361	1,382,206

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from training and consultancy	238,299	-	238,299
Other income	238,691	309,403	548,094
Out of school club	383,567	-	383,567
Hire of facilities	13,820	-	13,820
TOTAL 2022	874,377	309,403	1,183,780

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	235,875	-	55,239	291,114
Educational Operations:				
Direct costs	13,396,305	902,876	1,602,377	15,901,558
Support costs	9,811,571	1,501,431	4,533,181	15,846,183
	23,443,751	2,404,307	6,190,797	32,038,855

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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6. Expenditure (continued)

	<i>Staff Costs</i> 2022 £	<i>Premises</i> 2022 £	<i>Other</i> 2022 £	<i>Total</i> 2022 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	229,400	-	37,800	267,200
Educational Operations:				
Direct costs	11,489,680	867,747	1,806,053	14,163,480
Support costs	10,700,340	1,872,311	3,295,123	15,867,774
	<u>22,419,420</u>	<u>2,740,058</u>	<u>5,138,976</u>	<u>30,298,454</u>

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2023 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2023 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Educational Operations	<u>15,901,558</u>	<u>15,846,183</u>	<u>31,747,741</u>

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2022 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Educational Operations	<u>14,163,480</u>	<u>15,867,774</u>	<u>30,031,254</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Funding for educational operations 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	9,811,571	9,811,571
Technology costs	282,831	282,831
Other support costs	2,839,869	2,839,869
Premises expenses	2,332,991	2,332,991
Legal costs	537,229	537,229
Governance costs	41,692	41,692
	<u>15,846,183</u>	<u>15,846,183</u>

Included within governance costs are any costs associated with the strategic as opposed to day-to-day management of the charitable company's activities. These costs will include any employee benefits for governorship, the cost of charity employees involved in meetings with governors, and costs relating to constitutional and statutory requirements including audit and preparation of statutory accounts.

	<i>Funding for educational operations 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	10,700,340	10,700,340
Technology costs	262,990	262,990
Other support costs	2,221,564	2,221,564
Premesis expenses	1,945,529	1,945,529
Legal costs	701,706	701,706
Governance costs	35,645	35,645
	<u>15,867,774</u>	<u>15,867,774</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: owned by charity	902,873	895,398
Auditor's remuneration - audit	26,050	25,100
Auditor's remuneration - other services	7,000	6,375
Operating lease rentals	409,929	375,437
	<u>945,852</u>	<u>1,302,310</u>

9. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	16,169,419	14,137,165
Social security costs	1,592,699	1,372,685
Pension costs	4,032,757	5,261,265
	<u>21,794,875</u>	<u>20,771,115</u>
Agency staff costs	1,648,876	1,597,243
Staff restructuring costs	-	51,062
	<u>23,443,751</u>	<u>22,419,420</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	-	51,062
	<u>-</u>	<u>51,062</u>

b. Severance payments

The Academy Trust paid 4 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

	2023 No.
£0 - £25,000	1
	<u>1</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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9. Staff (continued)

c. Staff numbers

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teachers	203	175
Support	478	430
Management	43	38
	<u>724</u>	<u>643</u>

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	10	8
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	7	8
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	4	-
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	2
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	2	-
In the band £150,001 - £160,000	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

The employees included above have participated in the teachers pension scheme, employer contributions in the year totalled £463,387 (2022: £301,715).

e. 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 and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £376,132 (2022: £296,135).

Within the prior year the central trust management team also included consultancy operational management by Richard Wetherall (Finance Director) and Sarah Ferguson (Chief Operating Officer). The cost for these services totalled £86,767.

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

10. Central services

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

- Management Services
- Legal Services
- Education support services
- Maintenance and admin support services
- Finance and accounts support

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

Flat percentage of GAG income (3 to 6%). Any surplus generated is held as contingency reserve for use in future periods.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Bishop Lonsdale Church of England Aided Primary School and Nursery	52,906	47,931
Newbold Church of England VA Primary School	51,438	48,478
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	92,435	87,293
Christ Church CE Primary School	44,163	43,632
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	19,983	19,973
Firs Primary School	106,591	115,502
Hardwick Primary School	90,935	57,095
St George's Church of England Primary School	36,532	34,849
St Giles Church of England Primary School	75,331	71,761
Derby Cathedral School	285,938	215,374
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	31,677	32,413
Woodthorpe CofE Primary School	33,724	31,752
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	57,842	58,806
Bakewell CofE Infant School	14,946	15,228
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	25,884	23,233
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	91,277	86,791
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	26,846	8,986
TOTAL	1,138,448	999,097

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more 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. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2023	2022
		£	£
Mr. Mark Mallender, Chief Executive	Remuneration	40,000 -	155,000 -
		45,000	160,000
	Pension contributions paid	5,000 -	0 - 5,000
		10,000	

Mr Mark Mallender was paid on a single contract through Derby Diocesan Academy Trust. The cost was split proportionately between Derby Diocesan Academy Trust and Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 2 via a recharge for work undertaken on behalf of both Trusts. Mr Mark Mallendar resigned on 14 November 2022.

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

12. 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 business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the trustee and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Leasehold improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION					
At 1 September 2022	30,739,000	1,459,152	361,781	1,537,028	34,096,961
Additions	-	1,226,128	70,039	193,730	1,489,897
At 31 August 2023	30,739,000	2,685,280	431,820	1,730,758	35,586,858
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 September 2022	795,115	64,067	171,011	846,367	1,876,560
Charge for the year	552,732	33,037	37,843	279,261	902,873
At 31 August 2023	1,347,847	97,104	208,854	1,125,628	2,779,433
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 August 2023	29,391,153	2,588,176	222,966	605,130	32,807,425
At 31 August 2022	29,943,885	1,395,085	190,770	690,661	32,220,401

14. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	90,624	102,219
Other debtors	1,779,624	1,144,979
Prepayments and accrued income	1,282,162	1,224,575
VAT recoverable	1,454,477	1,807,430
	4,606,887	4,279,203

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Other loans (see note 16)	646	646
Trade creditors	858,567	1,337,447
Other taxation and social security	358,885	296,291
Other creditors	1,255,854	1,187,190
Accruals and deferred income	1,465,433	972,830
	<u>3,939,385</u>	<u>3,794,404</u>
	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	444,934	382,303
Resources deferred during the year	661,226	444,934
Amounts released from previous periods	(444,934)	(382,303)
	<u>661,226</u>	<u>444,934</u>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust is holding amounts within deferred income in respect of grants received in advance for Nursery funding, universal infant free school meals, rates, trips and local authority funding.

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Other loans	646	1,292

During 2015, Newbold C of E Primary School received a £5,168 Salix loan from the ESFA as part of funding for capital works. The loan is at 0% interest and will be repaid over an 8 year period in £323 instalments every 6 months from 1 March 2016.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
General Funds - all funds	2,607,935	1,533,474	(291,114)	247,614	-	4,097,909
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,613,726	22,447,316	(23,273,501)	(673,912)	-	113,629
Pupil premium	-	2,154,906	(2,154,906)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	1,766,345	(1,766,345)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	983,184	(983,184)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	331,754	(331,754)	-	-	-
Other DfE Group grants	-	1,396,686	(1,396,686)	-	-	-
Land and buildings donation and rent	-	438,492	(438,492)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,499,000)	-	(500,000)	-	2,491,000	(508,000)
	(885,274)	29,518,683	(30,844,868)	(673,912)	2,491,000	(394,371)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Statement of funds (continued)

**RESTRICTED
FIXED ASSET
FUNDS**

Fixed assets	32,220,401	-	(902,873)	1,489,897	-	32,807,425
School Capital Allocation	1,573,022	657,415	-	(840,063)	-	1,390,374
Devolved Formula Capital	-	374,795	-	(91,153)	-	283,642
Other capital donation	-	132,700	-	(132,383)	-	317
	<u>33,793,423</u>	<u>1,164,910</u>	<u>(902,873)</u>	<u>426,298</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,481,758</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>32,908,149</u>	<u>30,683,593</u>	<u>(31,747,741)</u>	<u>(247,614)</u>	<u>2,491,000</u>	<u>34,087,387</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>35,516,084</u>	<u>32,217,067</u>	<u>(32,038,855)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,491,000</u>	<u>38,185,296</u>

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

- 1) General Annual Grant: this must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy Trust.
- 2) Other DfE/ESFA Grant: this fund relates to other grants received which must be used for the purposes intended.
- 3) Other restricted: this fund relates to all other restricted funds received which must be used for the purpose intended.
- 4) Restricted fixed asset fund: this fund relates to resources which must be applied for specific capital purposes intended.

Transfers between funds represent capital expenditure from funds other than the restricted fixed asset fund and reclassifications of certain funds between restricted and unrestricted.

The difference between the fixed asset note and the restricted fixed asset funds represents unspent capital funding.

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
General Funds - all funds	<u>1,983,457</u>	<u>1,567,908</u>	<u>(943,430)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,607,935</u>
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,731,261	20,554,524	(20,601,676)	(70,383)	-	1,613,726
Pupil premium	-	1,861,477	(1,861,477)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	1,437,750	(1,437,750)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	331,396	(331,396)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	314,174	(314,174)	-	-	-
Other DfE Group grants	-	1,004,888	(1,004,888)	-	-	-
COVID-19 Recovery premium	-	150,835	(150,835)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 Funding	-	10,938	(10,938)	-	-	-
Land and buildings donation and rent	-	438,492	(438,492)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(13,386,000)	(154,000)	(2,308,000)	-	13,349,000	(2,499,000)
	<u>(11,654,739)</u>	<u>25,950,474</u>	<u>(28,459,626)</u>	<u>(70,383)</u>	<u>13,349,000</u>	<u>(885,274)</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Statement of funds (continued)

**RESTRICTED
FIXED ASSET
FUNDS**

Fixed assets	7,100,274	24,950,000	(895,398)	1,065,525	-	32,220,401
School Capital Allocation	1,329,996	721,557	-	(478,531)	-	1,573,022
Devolved Formula Capital	-	116,069	-	(116,069)	-	-
Other capital donation	4,064	-	-	(4,064)	-	-
Project management capital donation	42,870	347,650	-	(390,520)	-	-
School Nurseries Capital Fund	5,958	-	-	(5,958)	-	-
	<u>8,483,162</u>	<u>26,135,276</u>	<u>(895,398)</u>	<u>70,383</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33,793,423</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>(3,171,577)</u>	<u>52,085,750</u>	<u>(29,355,024)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,349,000</u>	<u>32,908,149</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>(1,188,120)</u></u>	<u><u>53,653,658</u></u>	<u><u>(30,298,454)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>13,349,000</u></u>	<u><u>35,516,084</u></u>

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

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Primary School	133,070	111,611
Newbold Church of England Primary School	96,088	120,445
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	513,051	335,802
Christ Church CE Primary School	210,247	241,451
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	69,721	100,651
Firs Primary School	431,516	357,995
Hardwick Primary School	570,317	623,003
St George's Church of England Primary School	73,398	122,773
St Giles Church of England Primary School	49,301	10,717
Derby Cathedral School	708,974	766,519
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	260,374	280,049
Woodthorpe coFE Primary School	185,354	204,635
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	185,906	204,868
Trust	438,022	344,028
Bakewell CofE Infant School	111,032	116,844
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	17,297	5,488
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	54,855	173,085
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	103,015	101,697
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	4,211,538	4,221,661
Restricted fixed asset fund	34,481,758	33,793,423
Pension reserve	(508,000)	(2,499,000)
TOTAL	38,185,296	35,516,084

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

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2023 £
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Primary School	611,060	449,903	6,952	270,187	1,338,102
Newbold Church of England Primary School	591,645	537,879	8,143	277,858	1,415,525
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	1,152,712	718,309	11,619	472,891	2,355,531
Christ Church CE Primary School	452,183	341,441	7,578	326,783	1,127,985
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	251,302	146,549	2,876	142,858	543,585
Firs Primary School	1,137,825	996,431	11,937	545,946	2,692,139
Hardwick Primary School	1,590,857	1,357,376	19,478	930,870	3,898,581
St George's Church of England Primary School	360,348	246,196	3,726	201,588	811,858
St Giles Church of England Primary School	906,241	579,368	9,744	364,421	1,859,774
Derby Cathedral School	3,374,909	1,460,711	34,312	1,420,131	6,290,063
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	386,583	272,391	6,311	197,905	863,190
Woodthorpe coFE Primary School	395,345	240,376	7,376	188,179	831,276
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	519,627	286,485	8,412	347,613	1,162,137
Bakewell CofE Infant School	158,412	81,433	3,050	119,790	362,685
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	285,001	183,099	2,550	248,896	719,546
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	824,531	749,129	8,284	441,159	2,023,103
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	366,273	122,591	3,751	137,684	630,299
Trust	31,538	1,277,692	22,110	879,263	2,210,603
ACADEMY TRUST	13,396,392	10,047,359	178,209	7,514,022	31,135,982

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Teaching and educational support staff costs £</i>	<i>Other support staff costs £</i>	<i>Educational supplies £</i>	<i>Other costs excluding depreciation £</i>	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Primary School	541,998	533,523	4,997	258,767	1,339,285
Newbold Church of England Primary School	569,362	572,551	6,963	298,014	1,446,890
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	1,054,458	811,307	10,137	486,775	2,362,677
Christ Church CE Primary School	412,220	436,758	4,743	316,643	1,170,364
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	227,925	183,374	1,868	132,179	545,346
Firs Primary School	1,026,777	1,163,160	16,944	565,271	2,772,152
	1,480,657	1,650,010	23,089	953,956	4,107,712
St George's Church of England Primary School	367,563	316,692	3,549	199,798	887,602
St Giles Church of England Primary School	832,901	746,115	5,012	436,004	2,020,032
Derby Cathedral School	2,568,039	1,373,116	28,103	995,632	4,964,890
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	312,980	292,063	4,665	214,742	824,450
Woodthorpe coFE Primary School	335,801	253,883	4,392	186,540	780,616
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	525,060	340,536	12,174	322,808	1,200,578
Bakewell CofE Infant School	154,303	118,592	2,452	101,260	376,607
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	251,592	188,874	2,647	234,885	677,998
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	716,613	875,988	4,827	392,382	1,989,810
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	111,431	61,759	843	48,390	222,423
Trust	-	1,011,439	18,149	684,036	1,713,624
ACADEMY TRUST	11,489,680	10,929,740	155,554	6,828,082	29,403,056

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

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	32,807,425	32,807,425
Current assets	4,097,909	4,053,660	1,674,333	9,825,902
Creditors due within one year	-	(3,939,385)	-	(3,939,385)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(646)	-	(646)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(508,000)	-	(508,000)
TOTAL	4,097,909	(394,371)	34,481,758	38,185,296

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	32,220,401	32,220,401
Current assets	2,607,935	5,409,422	1,573,022	9,590,379
Creditors due within one year	-	(3,794,404)	-	(3,794,404)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(1,292)	-	(1,292)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(2,499,000)	-	(2,499,000)
TOTAL	2,607,935	(885,274)	33,793,423	35,516,084

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

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	178,212	23,355,204
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	902,873	895,400
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(327,684)	(1,774,500)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	144,335	869,313
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,164,910)	(1,185,276)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited on conversion	-	154,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	385,000	2,069,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	115,000	239,000
Donations of budget surpluses on local authority and school funds on conversion	-	(114,169)
Interest receivable	(643)	(570)
Donated land and buildings	-	(24,950,000)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	232,183	(442,598)

20. Cash flows from financing activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Donations of budget surpluses on local authority and school funds on conversion	-	114,169
NET CASH PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	-	114,169

21. Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,489,897)	(1,065,527)
Capital grants from DfE Group	1,164,910	1,185,276
Interest received	643	570
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(324,344)	120,319

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

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	5,219,015	5,311,176
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	5,219,015	5,311,176

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	5,311,176	(92,161)	-	5,219,015
Debt due within 1 year	(646)	646	(646)	(646)
Debt due after 1 year	(1,292)	-	646	(646)
	5,309,238	(91,515)	-	5,217,723

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

24. Pension commitments

The Academy Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Derbyshire Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £377,298 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £304,214) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The result of the 31 March 2022 valuation is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024 which confirmed that the employer contribution rate for the TPS would increase from 23.6% to 28.6%. Employers are also required to pay a scheme administration levy of 0.08% giving a total employer contribution rate of 28.68%.

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

24. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £2,151,819 (2022 - £1,794,468).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £1,783,000 (2022 - £1,303,594), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,372,000 (2022 - £1,009,637) and employees' contributions totalled £ 411,000 (2022 - £293,957). The agreed contribution rates for future years are between 16.90 and 30.90 per cent for employers and 5.50 per cent for employees.

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

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023 %	2022 %
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.2	4.25
Rate of increase in salaries	3.95	3.75
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.95	3.05

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
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.8	21.1
Females	23.8	22.2
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	21.6	23.8
Females	25.3	25.6

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

24. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis on scheme obligations

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	16,029	15,570
Discount rate -0.1%	16,855	16,396
Salary increase rate +0.1%	16,489	16,023
Salary increase rate -0.1%	16,395	15,943
Pension increase rate +0.1%	16,815	16,359
Pension increase rate -0.1%	16,069	15,607
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	17,100	16,622
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	15,784	15,344

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
	£	£
Equities	10,676,000	9,034,000
Bonds	3,505,000	2,832,000
Property	1,275,000	1,214,000
Cash and other liquid assets	478,000	404,000
TOTAL MARKET VALUE OF ASSETS	15,934,000	13,484,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £(857,000) (2022 - £(771,000)).

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current service cost	1,757,000	3,089,000
Interest cost	115,000	239,000
TOTAL AMOUNT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	1,872,000	3,328,000

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

24. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September	15,983,000	26,343,000
Transferred in on academies joining the trust	-	240,000
Current service cost	1,757,000	3,089,000
Interest cost	722,000	463,000
Employee contributions	411,000	297,000
Actuarial gains	(2,297,000)	(14,344,000)
Benefits paid	(134,000)	(105,000)
AT 31 AUGUST	16,442,000	15,983,000

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

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September	13,484,000	12,957,000
Transferred in on academies joining the trust	-	86,000
Interest income	607,000	224,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	194,000	(995,000)
Employer contributions	1,372,000	1,020,000
Employee contributions	411,000	297,000
Benefits paid	(134,000)	(105,000)
AT 31 AUGUST	15,934,000	13,484,000

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

25. Operating lease commitments

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	421,448	389,938
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,657,822	1,574,510
Later than 5 years	416,559	820,985
	<u>2,495,829</u>	<u>2,785,433</u>

The charitable company is committed to funding payments under the PFI Scheme for Hardwick Primary School. Separate funding is received from the ESFA towards these costs which have been included in the commitment above.

26. Members' liability

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

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

27. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The Derby Diocese are considered related parties due to the both parties being under common control. The rent of the land and buildings owned by the Church (see note 1.8) is donated by the Diocese/Charity at a market rate of rent and is recognised as income of £438,492 (2022: £438,492), with a corresponding expense of £438,492 (2022: £438,492) in the Statement of Financial Activities. The supplemental agreements state a two year notice period and this is recognised within debtors of £876,984 (2022: £876,984) with a corresponding creditor of £876,984 (2022: £876,984).

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust and Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 2 are related parties due to them having the same Members and Trustees. Amounts in relation to recharges and SCA transfers from the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 2 totalled: £294,533 (2022: £598,233) in the financial year, with recharges made of £265,468 (2021: £609,693). As at the 31 August 2023, there were balances due from the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 2 totalling: £20,521 (2022: £322,749) and balance due to, totalling: £1,747 (2022: £11,553).

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust and AMF (UK) Limited are related parties due to the significant influence exercised by certain Directors of AMF (UK) Limited on the Academy Trust in their role as key management personnel. During the prior year the Academy Trust received services totalling £113,500. Of these costs, an element related to costs incurred in providing key management personnel services as detailed in note 9, and an element related to other services provided and costs incurred after the services relating to the role key management personnel ceased. As at the 31 August 2023 the balance due to the company was £Nil.

28. Post balance sheet events

From 1 December 2024 the directors have agreed to expand the Trust by welcoming Long Lane CE Primary School and Marston Montgomery Primary School into the Trust. From 1 March 2024 the directors have also agreed to welcome Stanley Common C of E Primary School into the Trust.

29. Controlling party

The Derby Diocesan Academy Trust is an autonomous body, financed mainly by public funding and files separate entity accounts.

The Academy's sponsor, The Diocesan Board of Education, has the power to appoint Governors to the board of the Academy Trust.