Company Registration Number: 09113542 (England & Wales)

THE PÔPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY CÔMPANY (A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Members

Barberi and Newman Academy Trust (company number 81838030)

Directors

Mrs Angela Briggs, Foundation Director

Mr David Brooks, Foundation Director and Chair of Finance Committee

Mrs Lorna Buchanan, Primary Headteacher

Mr Paul Concannon, Foundation Director and Chair

Mr Adam Jennings, Parent Director (resigned 27 January 2017)

Mr Fraser Long, Secondary Principal and Accounting Officer

Mr Julian Mathias, Foundation Director

Mr Tony O'Donnell, Foundation Director and member of Finance Committee

Mr Stewart Orton, Staff Director

Mr Michael Robarts, Foundation Director and member of the Finance Committee

Mr Rob Walsh, Foundation Director

Mr Adrian Waters, Foundation Director and Vice Chair

Fr Richard Walker, Foundation Director

Mrs Clare Smith, Associate Director, Primary Headteacher

Company registered number

09113542

Company name

The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company

Principal and registered office

Blessed George Napier Catholic School, Addison Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 9DG

Senior management team

Mr Fraser Long, Principal Mrs Lorna Buchanan, Headteacher Mrs Clare Smith, Headteacher Mrs Mary Shurrock, Business Manager

Independent auditors

Whitley Stimpson Ltd, Penrose House, 67 Hightown Road, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 9BE

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Commercial, Education CST, 3rd Floor, Quenn Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1TF

Solicitors

Howes Percival Solicitors, Bell House, Seebeck Place, Knowhill, Milton Keynes, MK5 8FR

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Directors present their annual report, together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company, for the period from 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report, including a strategic report, under company law.

In this report, the term Director and Trustee are interchangeable. For the sake of consistency, the term Director has be used throughout. The term Trust will be replaced by the term Multi Academy Company (MAC).

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC operates two primary Academies and one secondary Academy in the North Oxfordshire area, with a combined pupil capacity of 1,285, with 1,265 pupils currently enrolled across the Academies based on the September 2017 Census which includes our nursery pupils.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC, which was incorporated on 2 July 2014 and opened as a Multi Academy Company on 1 August 2014, is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the MAC.

The following schools trade under the company name:-

- The Pope Francis Catholic MAC, trading as Blessed George Napier Catholic School
- The Pope Francis Catholic MAC, trading as Holy Trinity Catholic School
- The Pope Francis Catholic MAC, trading as St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

The charitable company is also known as The Pope Francis Catholic MAC.

Details of the Directors who served throughout the period are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

The Directors benefit from indemnity insurance purchased by the MAC to cover the liability of the Directors arising from negligent acts, errors or commissions occurring whilst on MAC business. The limit of this indemnity is £5,000,000. Insurance cover was provided by Zurich Municipal under policy number KSC-242051-4643 until 31 July 2017. From 1 August 2017, the MAC Directors decided to opt into the Department of Education's Risk Protection Arrangement ("RPA"). The scheme protects Members, Directors, and Local Academy Committee Reps from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on MAC business. The scheme provides cover up to £10,000,000

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Directors

As a representative of the MAC's corporate member, the Barberi and Newman Academy Trust, the Diocesan Bishop shall appoint the Foundation Directors as set out in its Articles of Association and Funding Agreement as follows:-

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

- Up to 8 Foundation Directors who are appointed by the Members;
- Up to 2 Parent Directors who are elected by the parents of registered pupils at the MAC;
- Up to 2 Staff Directors elected by the staff employed at the MAC;
- Up to 2 Headteachers of the schools belonging to the MAC.

The MAC may appoint up to 3 Co-opted Directors.

Directors are appointed for a four year period, except that this time limit does not apply to the Headteachers. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Director, they can be re-appointed or re-elected.

When appointing new Directors, the Board of Directors will give consideration to the skills and experience mix of existing Directors in order to ensure the Board has the necessary skills to contribute fully to the MAC's ongoing development.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Directors

The training and induction provided for new Directors will depend upon their existing experience but will always include a tour of the school and a chance to meet staff and pupils.

Each Academy within the MAC subscribes to Oxfordshire Governor Services which provides a comprehensive range of services.

All Directors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents they will need to undertake their role as a Director. Induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual. Advantage is taken of specific courses offered by various external organisations, as appropriate.

New Directors also have the opportunity to undertake National Governor Association training and all the Directors receive regular National Governor Association updates.

Throughout the year Directors have the opportunity to meet informally as a team for training that reflects current developments impacting on their roles and responsibilities, and to contribute to the strategic leadership and direction of the MAC.

Organisational Structure

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC Board

The Board of Directors normally meet three times each academic year. The Board of Directors establishes an overall framework for the governance of the MAC and determines membership, terms of reference and procedures of Committees of the Board of Directors and other groups. It receives reports including policies from its Committees for ratification. It monitors the activities of the Committees through the minutes of their meetings and through direct reporting from the elected Chair of each Committee. The Board of Directors may from time to time establish working groups to perform specific tasks over a limited timescale.

There are two Committees of the Board of Directors as follows:-

- · Finance, Resources, Premises and Health & Safety Committee
- · Ethos, Mission, Standards and Provision Committee

Each Committee has its own terms of reference detailing the responsibilities discharged to it.

The following decisions are reserved to the full Board of Directors:-

THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

- To consider any proposals for changes to the status or constitution of the MAC and its Committee structure;
- To appoint or remove the Chair and/or Vice Chair; and
- To appoint the Headteacher(s).

The Directors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual development plan and budget, approving the annual statutory accounts, monitoring the MAC by the use of budgets and other data, and making the major decisions about the direction of the MAC, capital expenditure and appointments of Headteachers.

The Directors have devolved the day-to-day management of theacademies within the MAC to the Headteachers and the Senior Leadership Team ('SLT'). Each SLT comprises of the Headteacher, Deputy Headteachers and Assistant Headteachers. The SLT implements the policies laid down by the Directors and reports back to them on performance.

The secondary school Principal is the MAC's Accounting Officer and has overall responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances. The MAC's Business Manager was appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and works closely with the Accounting Officer through whom they are responsible to the Directors and has direct access to the MAC Board and Finance Committee and attends all the meetings. The CFO has been delegated the responsibility for the delivery of the MAC's accounting processes.

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC Academy Committees

The Board of Directors delegates a number of functions to the Local Academy Committees ('LACs') for each of the MAC's Academies. Each LAC reviews annual plans and budgets, monitors progress against target and OFSTED standards and oversees parent and community liaison. The Chairs of each LAC also sit on the main Board of Directors. The LACs are comprised as follows as at 31 August 2017:-

Blessed George Napier School Academy Committee

Mr Paul Concannon

Mrs Sylvie Allen

Mrs Gillian Crowther

Mrs Josephine Hurst

Mr Anthony O'Donnell

Fr Christopher Yule

Foundation Rep

Foundation Rep

Foundation Rep

Foundation Rep

Foundation Rep

Mr Adrian Waters Foundation Rep (Vice Chair)

Mr Fraser Long Principal

Mr Malcolm Fairbrother Associate Rep Deceased 02/05/2017

Mrs Deb Webb Secretary

Mr Antony Goodman Parent Rep Resigned 25/12/2016
Mr Alan Christie Parent Rep Appointed 16/03/2017

Mrs Teresa Meadows Staff Rep To Be Elected Staff Rep

Holy Trinity Catholic School Academy Committee

Mrs Winefride Anne Maria Brack Foundation Rep (Chair)

Mrs Pauline Brookes Foundation Rep

Mr Vince Kempson Foundation Rep Appointed 01/02/2017

Miss Bernadette May Foundation Rep

Mr George Byrne Foundation Rep Appointed 01/05/2017

Fr Anthony Joyce Foundation Rep
Mrs Lorna Buchanan Headteacher
Mr Adam Jennings Parent Rep

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Mrs Jessica Maunder

Parent Rep

Mrs Andrea Cullen

Staff Rep Appointed 03/10 /2017

Mrs Wendy Smart

Staff Rep

Mrs Lucy Tyrrell

Clerk

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Academy Committee

Mrs Angela Briggs

Foundation Rep (Chair)

Mrs Francesca Jenkins

Foundation Rep (Vice Chair)

Mrs Mary Cronin

Foundation Rep

Mr Peter Rayner

Foundation Rep

Mr Michael Robarts

Foundation Rep

Mrs Adela Scigulinska

Foundation Rep

Fr William Wilton

Foundation Rep

Mrs Clare Smith

Headteacher

Mrs Carrole Ford
To be appointed

Parent Rep Resigned 18/11/2016
Parent Rep

Mrs Danielle Blofeld-Marsh

Staff Rep

Mrs Tracey Dowers

Staff Rep

Mrs Clare Powell

Clerk

Arrangements for Setting Pay and Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The Directors consider the senior management team to comprise the key management personnel of the MAC in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the MAC on a day-to-day basis. The pay of the senior management team is reviewed annually by the Local Academy Pay Committees in line with the Academy's pay and remuneration policy and by reference to published pay scales for both teaching and administrative support staff and in line with job evaluation.

Related Parties and Other Connected Charities and Organisations

There are no related parties or connected organisations which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the MAC.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and Aims

The principal objectives of the MAC, as set out in its Articles of Association, are 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 Catholic
 schools designated as such, offering a broad and balanced curriculum appropriate to the needs of the
 students and conducted in accordance with the Code of Canon Law of the Latin Church.
- Promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Banbury/North Oxfordshire and the surrounding area the
 provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such
 facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, disablement, financial hardship or social and economic
 circumstances for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the
 condition of life of the said inhabitants.

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC has been established to provide outstanding Catholic education in North & West Oxfordshire, by building on all the good things about our school; our ethos, atmosphere, staff, results, and helping our students be the best they can be.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Delivery of excellence in Catholic education for our children with the 'Joy of the Gospel' at its heart is the main aim of the MAC Board.

The vision of the MAC is:-

- To grow, develop and continue to provide opportunities and experiences to encourage our students, at
 every stage of progress, to achieve their full potential, preparing them to face the future with confidence
 and a sense of their place in our diverse society.
- To provide a culture, ethos and practice in each school that is distinctively Catholic, with loving God at the centre, offering service and reconciliation to all.
- To provide outstanding teaching and learning enabling our pupils to become self-motivated, aspirational lifelong learners.
- To enhance, broaden and strengthen effective relationships between our parishes, homes and schools, thereby continuing to grow in faith and understanding together.

The Strategic Committee have developed a three year plan that demonstrates the value that can be added by multiple schools collaborating towards common goals. The plan contains the actions required to deliver the outcomes that will contribute to achieving the aims of the MAC during the year ended 31st August 2017, as summarised below:-

- Continue to be a beacon of Catholic, Christian secondary education in North Oxfordshire, fulfilling our Catholic Mission and strengthening the Catholic Community.
- Support each school with a shared drive to become outstanding.
- Share teaching resources and good practice across the schools, with more shared self-evaluation between the schools. Continue to nurture the talents of our staff, providing development opportunities across the MAC.
- Grow, develop and continue to provide great opportunities for young people.
- Consider all means to improve the facilities of the schools to reflect the growing numbers especially at Blessed George Napier Catholic School.
- Promote the benefits of the MAC to our primary feeder schools.
- Use the MAC website to communicate our achievements to the wider community.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The key priorities for the period are contained in the MAC's Development Plan which is available from the Principal.

The key activities of the Academy Trust for the period ended 31 August 2017 were focused as follows:-

SPIRITUAL LIFE/SMSC KEY PRIORITIES

- Provide a framework for implementing improvements of Catholic & spiritual life by staff.
- Staff training which acts upon feedback collected last year from surveys and groups to improve the spiritual life of the school.
- Develop the role of pupils as leaders in the Catholic and spiritual life of our schools.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

QUALITY OF TEACHING LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

- Continue to embed The Learning Question in all lessons.
- Challenge in all lessons to ensure all students with needs, gifts and talents make the progress expected.
- Development of Triads for specific CPD.

EFFECTIVENESS OF LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- Improve the quality of self-evaluation to ensure an accurate vie of performance and rigorous action planning.
- Review leadership at all levels and develop middle leaders.
- Further monitoring of impacts of Disadvantaged pupils.
- "Life Without Levels" to secure accurate assessments that lead to intervention.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PROGRESSION KEY PRIORITIES

- Key stage 5 pupils moving up the scale of the Alps Grading.
- Key stage 4 pupils gaining both English and Maths GCSEs 70%. Progress 8 to be above +0.2 and attainment to be a positive average grade of B-
- Key Stage 2 pupils build on progress from previous year and ensure that there is a robust assessment procedure in place to reflect the new national expectations.
- Key Stage 1 pupils to be at least in line with the national expectations.
- Early Years Foundation Stage to be at least in line with the national expectations.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR AND WELFARE

- Focus on closing the gap in attendance of Disadvantaged students and others.
- Strategies to reduce exclusions of Disadvantaged students compared to others.
- Continue to empower students through Pupil Voice to identify areas for improvement.

OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

- Improve the progress of disadvantaged pupils across the MAC.
- Stretch middle attainers further.
- To ensure all students are ready for the next phase of their lives.

Public Benefit

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC comprises of one secondary school, Blessed George Napier Catholic School, which has a thriving Sixth Form and two primary schools, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Banbury and Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School, Chipping Norton. The schools within the MAC aim to advance for the public benefit a Christian-based education in the Banbury, West Oxfordshire and surrounding area, offering a broad curriculum and an excellent education environment for its pupils.

Blessed George Napier Catholic School allows use of its facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large in the interests of social welfare and with the interest of improving the life of that community. The school is a Youth Sports Trust Lead Partner School and, as such, provides outstanding opportunities for students to develop leadership skills working with our primary schools. Our students frequently give up their own time to be involved in running and officiating at sporting events, festivals, and competitions all over North Oxfordshire. The school is the hub site for the North Oxfordshire School Sports Partnership. This, together with our strong community links and high standard of work carried out by dedicated and committed staff help us to continue to develop the whole child and improve examination results across the MAC.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The primary schools have a good citizen's policy which is a desire to develop in our pupils a sense of their place in our school community, in the Church, in the communities within which they live and as citizens of the United Kingdom. We aim to develop a commitment in the children to contribute to their communities in a way that benefits all regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender or culture. We understand our role in developing a respect for the democratic processes and rule of law in our society and we have a strong commitment to encouraging our pupils to view themselves as citizens of the world.

The Directors confirm they have complied with the requirement in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the MAC's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

STRATEGIC REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC is in its third year of operation since conversion to a Multi Academy Company on 1 August 2014.

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC is committed to continual improvement which is achieved in a number of ways; including improvement planning, review meetings, continual professional development, lesson observations, performance management, self evaluation, data analysis and action planning.

The particular achievements and performance of the three schools in the MAC during the period ended 31 August 2017 were as follows:-

Blessed George Napier Catholic School

In June this year we had our long awaited Ofsted inspection. The Directors were delighted that the school was judged overall as a Good School and awarded Outstanding for its personal development, behaviour and welfare. Ofsted commented that: "Leaders focus relentlessly on ensuring that pupils grow and develop as unique individuals" and "Pupils positively go out of their way to do good things and act as role models for younger children". It was noted that the school has particular teaching strengths in science, art, modern foreign languages and religious education. Ofsted commented that pupils with special educational needs or other disabilities are supported extremely well and make strong progress. The report referred to parent's comments: "The school creates an incredible sense of community and caring in which staff and pupils respect each other."

Then in July we had the Diocesan Section 48 Inspection which graded BGN as Outstanding in every area of Catholic life at school. "The inspirational headteacher has a clear vision and ambition for the continued development of the school. The governors and leadership team work with rigour to implement monitor and deliver these plans. The report states that pupils are encouraged to develop their considerable gifts and talents and to be of service to others. This aspect of school life is often inspirational. The students speak eloquently about the manner in which school prepares and equips them for life beyond school and speak with immense pride about their Catholic identity.

BGN School was awarded Teaching School Status to start from September 2017 by the DfE due to its outstanding performance across many areas of school life. The Academy Committee and Directors are extremely proud that the school has been recognised for its excellence in this area and the Headteacher has become a National Leader of Education (NLE). BGN is now the only school in Oxfordshire to be a Youth Sports Lead School for Inclusion and we were awarded the Sporting Secondary School of the Year in January 2017 for Oxfordshire.

Key Stage 5 results 2017: Headline figures:

A*-A = 18% A*-B = 41% A*-C = 66% A*-E = 97%

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

This is the first year of the new 'reformed' A Level examinations in 13 subjects and nationally there has been concern about the lack of examination materials available for teachers and students to use to prepare for the examinations. In these subjects students took all their exams at the end of the two years and were not able to resit the AS examinations which are now 'uncoupled' from the A Level. Nationally results are slightly down in these subjects this year. BTEC excelled with 57% achieving Distinction or Distinction Star and the average grade was Distinction.

We are delighted to report that again this year we have students securing an Oxbridge place, one to read Medicine and the other Modern Foreign Languages both at Oxford. 18% of our year 13 are about to start at Russell Group universities. Again we have a very diverse range of higher education destinations including Jazz Music; Policing; Marine Biology; Digital Marketing and Political Science and International Relations as well as the more mainstream Law; History and Physics with Astrophysics!

Internal data indicates that our Level 3 Value Added score has increased from +0.05 to +0.06; EAL students achieved significantly above national average and SEN students achieved slightly better than school average. As nationally this year, boys have achieved better than girls which maybe the result of the new examination format. 63% of students achieved on or above their ALPS target grade and 70 students also achieved the EPQ in addition to 3 other L3 qualifications, adding significantly to the portfolio of results students are able to offer to universities and employers.

Our priorities for 2017-8 include; better monitoring and support for students who achieved mainly Bs and a few As at GCSE to enable them to attain B or above at A Level; improving the accuracy of predicted grades so that in year monitoring is more reliable and supporting girls to raise their attainment.

GCSE 2017

We were delighted by the achievements of our GCSE students this year with 19 students achieving at least one of the new grades 9 in English or Maths (13%) and many achieving more than one grade 9. Nationally only 3% of results are awarded at Grade 9. Overall the cohort did well in a year where there was a lot of change to GCSE exams. The mix of reformed (Grade 9 to 1) and unreformed (Grade A* to C) GCSE courses makes it very difficult to compare the performance of this cohort against previous years. Progress data which is invalidated at the moment has been published by the DfE which shows our P8 score as +0.27 and it is Sig +. Attainment 8 is a measure of our students' attainment across eight subjects in three elements (Maths, English, Ebacc and Open). English and maths both double weighted. The average Attainment 8 score for 2017 was 5.2 which is equivalent to B- and this is in line with the target we had set for this measure. (Grade C=4 points, Grade B=5.5 points)

70% of students achieved the equivalent of grades A* to C in English and Maths. The threshold measure for English and Maths has increased this year from the previous grade C (new grade 4) to Grade 5 (not previously awarded). 51% of our students achieved the new threshold measure of Grade 5+ in both English and Maths.

English and Maths results

Students achieving threshold (5+) and A* to C equivalent (4+) are as follows:

English

5+ 69% (compared 53% nationally) 4+ 86% (compared to 70% nationally)

Maths

5+ 56% (compared to 50% nationally) 4+ 75% (compared to 71% nationally) (*national data from JCQ, UK results 2017 for 16 year olds)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Ebacc Measure 2017:

The Ebacc measure is awarded if a student has been entered for both English Language and Literature, two sciences, a humanity and a language. 47% of the cohort were entered for Ebacc and 37% achieved a strong pass in Ebacc subjects. 40% achieved standard pass and in 2016 approximately one quarter of students achieved this level, so our results are above the national average.

St Joseph's School's Attainment Level Indicators

Early Years Foundation	St Joseph's			National	National		
Stage Profile	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
Good Level of	62%	54%	33%	66.3%	69%	71%	
Development							
Total Average Point	32.3	29.8		34.3	34.5		
Score						1	

Phonics Year 1	St Joseph's			National	National		
	2015	2016	2017	2015	2016	2017	
Working at expected level	77%	73%	69%	77%	81%	81%	

Phonics Year 2	St Joseph's			Nationa	l .		
	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Working at expected level	100%	93%	86%	66%	66%	nya	

Key Stage 1 Attainment	St Joseph's			National			
	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Reading	100%	67%	66%	90%	91%	74%	76%
Writing	93%	67%	55%	86%	88%	66%	68%
Mathematics	100%	70%	66%	92%	93%	73%	75%

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

KEY STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT

Key Stage 2 Attainment	St Joseph's				National			
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Reading, Writing and Maths	67%	80%	44%	46%	79%	80%	53%	61%
Reading	87%	85%	56%	58%	89%	89%	66%	71%
Writing	77%	85%	52%	62%	86%	87%	74%	76%
Mathematics	90%	85%	64%	62%	86%	87%	70%	75%

KEY STAGE 1 TO KEY STAGE 2 PROGRESS

	St Joseph's
Reading	+2.87
Writing	-0.36
Maths	+1.44

St Joseph's had its long-awaited Ofsted inspection in July 2017 and was judged to be a 'Good' school. The lead inspector recognized the enormity of the journey that St Joseph's has been on over the last four years and saw that this is a school where staff "care deeply about children having the best education possible." We are pleased that all of our key priorities over the past four years were specifically praised such as the children's behaviours for learning, the shared high expectations and the pupils' enjoyment of their learning as we know that these are the foundation stones for our continued journey of improvement. We are also proud of the progress that the children make from low starting points (this last cohort of Year 6 in particular) and the very strong progress that our most disadvantaged children make.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Key Stage 2

Key Stage 2	Progress
Progress Score	<u>Score</u>
Reading	2.5
Writing	2.1
Mathematics	0.7

Key Stage 2 Attainment	Holy Trinity			National				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2014	2015	2016	2017
Reading, Writing and	80	100	81%	80%	79%	80%	53%	61%
`Maths ,								
Reading	92	100	96%	96%	89%	89%	66%	71%
Writing	84	100	100%	100%	86%	87%	74%	76%
Mathematics	88	100	92%	84%	86%	87%	70%	75%

This Year in May Holy Trinity was inspected by OFSTED. The school achieved Outstanding in all 6 areas. The inspectors said "Leaders have an unwavering commitment to placing the well-being and academic achievement of all pupils at the heart of this highly aspirational school." "Pupils have exceptionally positive attitudes to learning. They are highly respectful of each other and are extremely polite, friendly and have good manners."

Holy Trinity's Autumn position statement shows that the school was in the top quartile for schools' performance, for the third year in a row. All Key Stage results are above national expectation. With EYFS, Year 1 Phonic screening and Key Stage 2 results being significantly higher than National results. All progress scores are positive which means that children attending Holy Trinity on average, make more progress than those with similar prior attainment nationally. The quality of pupils' learning and their progress in all year groups is outstanding.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The majority of the MAC's income is received from the Education and Skill Funding Agency ('ESFA') in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the period ended 31 August 2017 and the associated expenditure of these grants are shown as Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The MAC also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA and other organisations and funders and these are shown as Restricted Fixed Asset Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. The balance of the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund is reduced by the depreciation charges on the assets acquired using these funds.

For the year ended 31 August 2017, the Academy Trust's total income (excluding capital grants) was £6,928,695 (2016: £7,156,979) while the total expenditure (excluding depreciation and LGPS FRS102 pension cost charges) was £7,039,354 (2016: £7,269,567), resulting in a net deficit for the year of £110,659 (2016: £112,591).

This deficit, which had been planned for by the Directors due to much needed investment in the Academy's facilities and educational resources and due to the increased staff related costs incurred during the year, has been funded from the Academy Trust's reserves. The balance of reserves at 31 August 2017, excluding the restricted fixed asset funds and LGPS liability fund was £917,975 (2016: £1,120,656).

The net book value of fixed assets at 31 August 2017 were £15,088,266 (2016: £15,311,816) The fixed assets held by the Academy Trust are used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to the pupils of the Academy Trust.

The balance of total funds held at 31 August 2017 was £12,948,451 which comprised of the following:-

Restricted Funds (excluding Pension Liability)

Restricted Pension Liability Fund

Restricted Fixed Asset Fund

Unrestricted Funds

£27,994

£3,059,000)

£15,089,476

£889,981

Included within the Academy's balance sheet at year end is a defined pension scheme liability of £3,059,000 which arises from the deficit in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) that is attributable to the MAC. Further details regarding the deficit in the LGPS at 31 August 2017 are set out in note 23 to the financial statements.

The key financial policies reviewed and adopted during the period included the Financial Procedures Policies and Manual, which lays out the framework for the MAC's financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board of Directors, Headteachers, managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as the delegated authorities for spending. The other financial policies reviewed and adopted during the period included Charges and Lettings, Write-Off Policy, Accounting Policy and Asset Management and Insurance.

Reserves Policy

The Directors review the reserve levels of the MAC annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Directors also take into consideration the future plans of the MAC, and the uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks identified during the review.

The Directors have determined that the appropriate level of free cash reserves at 31 August 2017 should be approximately 5% of total recurring income, which equates to approximately £350,000. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipts of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance, long term staff absences etc.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Key Financial Performance Indicators

Although the MAC's Funding Agreement is not subject to a specific carry forward limit on the amount of GAG funding, the main financial performance indicator is the level of reserves held at the balance sheet date and, in particular, the amount of GAG funding carried forward at the balance sheet date. At 31 August 2017, the balance of the GAG Restricted Fund was £Nil, which is after a transfer of £278,234 from Unestricted Funds to fund the deficit of GAG funding in the year.

Further details on the level of reserves held by the Academy Trust are set out in the Reserves Policy section below.

As the majority of the MAC's funding is based on pupil numbers, pupil numbers is also a key performance indicator. As noted earlier in this report, pupil numbers at the most recent census are 1,265 which reflects an increase in some schools and a decrease in others with an overall decrease of 6 from the previous census.

The table below illustrates the percentage costs for the main expenditure areas. Staffing costs are another key performance indicator for the MAC and the percentage of total staff costs of £5,482,138 (excluding supply teacher costs and LGPS FRS102 pension cost adjustments) to total revenue income of £6,928,695 for the period was 79%, while the percentage of staff costs (excluding supply teacher costs and LGPS FRS102 pension cost adjustments) to total costs was 78%.

2016-17	Blessed	Holy Trinity	St Joseph's	MAC	Total
Actual Revenue	George				
Budgets	Napier				
Total Staffing as % of	78.5%	78%	78%		77%
Total Income					
Premises	1%	2%	1.5%	0	1.5%
Expenditure as % of					
Total Income					
Educational Supplies	12%	11%	5%	79%	11%
and Services as % of					
Total Income					
Governance as % of				17%	.02%
Total Income					
Total Expenditure as	102%	102%	101%	97%	102%
% of Total Income					

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Directors, including all Committees, has a reasonable expectation that the MAC 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 Accounting Policies note of the financial statements.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC has produced an Academy Financial Handbook for all staff to ensure that every member of staff is aware of the financial processes in the school.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

To ensure the MAC Directors have an accurate understanding of the reserves, the Chief Finance Officer maintains the detailed three year budget plans of the three schools. These indicate that reserves will be used by the end of year two, and unless there is additional government funding to reflect increased costs incurred as a result of pay awards, pensions increases, Apprenticeship Levy costs and uncertainty of future funding formula with the loss of the ESG, Directors will be forced to implement budgetary cuts which, although they will seek to minimise their impact, could put at risk educational delivery and performance.

The Directors approved that the current surplus of the schools as at 31 August 2017 should be used to support future budgets, due to the effect of possible turbulence to school funding with regard to the delayed outcome of the National Fairer Formula and Sixth Form funding. Each school's reserves, which were built up prior to conversion for building maintenance plans, now form part of the MAC Strategic Plans with each Academy Committee. However, the Directors acknowledge that expenditure may be required to be prioritised across the MAC to ensure that the MAC retains sufficient reserves overall.

The MAC's current level of reserves is £12,948,451 of which £889,981 is free reserves (that is, total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds). Although the current level of free is above the target level identified above, as highlighted above, with the affect of increased costs incurred as a result of pay awards, pensions increases, Apprenticeship Levy costs and uncertainty of future funding formula with the loss of the ESG, the Directors expect these reserves to reduce over the next 2 years to a level which will be more in line with the target reserves level. In the meantime, the Directors continue to look at and evaluate strategies for raising additional income whilst also reviewing key areas of operational expenditure so as to ensure the targeted reserves can be achieved in future years.

The value of the restricted fixed asset fund at 31 August 2017 is £15,089,476 (2016: £15,312,983) which is represented by the fixed assets that are used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to the pupils of the Trust. These funds can only be realised by disposing of the associated tangible fixed assets.

The pension reserve fund has a deficit balance at 31 August 2017 of £3,059,000 which represents the deficit in the LGPS at the balance sheet date. The effect of the LGPS deficit is that MAC is required to make additional pension contributions over a number of years in order to fund the deficit. These additional pension contributions will be funded from the MAC's annual recurring income, which may significantly impact its ability to continue to deliver its educational outcomes with the available public funding it receives. The Directors have noted however that the Government has provided a guarantee that in the event of an Academy closure, any outstanding LGPS liabilities would be met by the Department for Education.

Investment Policy

Investments will be made only in accordance with written procedures approved by the MAC Board of Directors.

Any investments will be recorded in sufficient detail to identify the investment and to enable the current market value to be calculated. During the year ended 31 August 2017, all the school's funding has remained in interest bearing accounts with Lloyds Bank PLC. The Board's Finance Committee have debated the options to invest money and this has been discussed with our Lloyds relationship manager. It was felt that the level of return was not sufficient for the amount that was viable to invest, and that this would be reviewed during next year.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Directors have assessed the major risks to which the MAC is exposed, especially in the operational areas, such as in relation to teaching, health and safety, safeguarding and school trips, and in relation to the control of finances. They have approved the systems in place, including operational procedures internal financial controls in order to minimise risk and have agreed a Risk Management Strategy and Risk Management Plan. Where significant financial risk still remains, the Directors have ensured the MAC has adequate insurance cover in place. The Risk Management Plan is reviewed in light of any new information and formally reviewed annually.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy Trust are as follows:-

Educational

The continuing success of the MAC is dependent on continuing to attract pupil applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk, the Directors ensure that pupil success and achievement are closely monitored and reviewed, with corrective actions embedded at an early stage, and that relationships and partnerships with parents, the local community and other organisations and groups are maintained and are effective in producing a cohesive and supportive community.

Financial Risks

The MAC has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA. In the period, approximately 87% of the MAC's incoming resources was ultimately Government funded and, whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms. Over the next 3 years, the MAC foresees that it will need to use a considerable amount from its surplus reserves to meet operating costs.

The Directors examine the financial health of the MAC formally every month reviewing performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of monthly reports and termly at all full Directors and Finance and Resources Committee meetings.

Failures in governance and/or management

The risk in this area arises from the potential failure to effectively manage the MAC's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns etc. The Directors continue to review and ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.

Fraud and mismanagement of funds

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC has engaged Whitley Stimpson Limited to perform a programme of work aimed at checking and reviewing the financial systems and records as required by the Academies Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep them up-to-date with financial practice requirements and to develop their skills in this area.

Safeguarding and child protection

The Directors continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health and safety and discipline.

<u>Staffing</u>

The success of the MAC is reliant on the quality of its staff so the Directors monitor and review policies and procedures to ensure continued development and training of staff, as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning.

At the balance sheet date, the MAC had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be a significant effect on the MAC's liquidity.

The Directors recognise that the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit represents a significant potential liability to the MAC. However, as the Directors consider the MAC is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, the risk from this liability is minimised.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The MAC strives to continually improve levels of attainment for all pupils, equipping them with the qualifications, skills and character to follow their chosen pathway, whether it be into further and higher education or employment, as well as promoting the continued professional development of its staff.

The MAC's plans for future periods are:-

- To provide outstanding Catholic education for the pupils in North and West Oxfordshire, by developing the role of our pupils as leaders in the spiritual life of our schools.
- To challenge staff and students to develop their vocation and sense of purpose enabling the Catholic nature of our schools to drive pupil aspiration.
- The schools in the MAC will work on joint projects together to build on the success of their recent Ofsted and Diocese inspection judgements.
- Improve the progress and attendance of our disadvantaged pupils to ensure that the barriers to learning
 are minimised and that social circumstances are not an obstacle in achieving potential.
- Ensure that the quality of teaching across the MAC is good, and in most cases, outstanding and provide support to staff where needed.
- Ensure that pupils across the MAC make substantial and sustained progress, developing excellent knowledge and understanding, considering their different starting points. This is to be achieved by introducing various strategies appropriate to each age group including Maths and Language Mastery programmes.
- To provide development opportunities to nurture the talents of our staff across the MAC to build and share innovative practice.
- To promote Inclusion for all our pupils by BGN becoming a Youth Sports Trust Lead School for Inclusion, the only school in Oxfordshire.
- To develop plans for facility improvements across the MAC and especially where pupil capacity is an issue.
- To promote the benefits of the Pope Francis Catholic MAC, our best practices and our experiences with the non-MAC feeder schools to support becoming part of the MAC.
- St Joseph's will continue to develop Nursery assessment and high quality interaction, plus renew their focus on Writing. The theme for this year "Into the deep..." reflects the whole school approach to addressing the issue of challenge for all, and particularly the higher attaining children.
- Holy Trinity will continue to sharpen teachers' ability to deepen pupils' understanding in lessons so the maximum impact is made on learning.
- The MAC will start the next stage of its development with the addition of St John's Catholic Primary School in Banbury during the year, thus safeguarding Catholic Education in North Oxfordshire.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

The MAC and its Directors do not act as Custodian Directors of any other charity.

Blessed George Napier Catholic School does however hold the Post-16 Bursary Funds on behalf of the ESFA, which are distributed to students as required and in line with the terms and conditions of the funds.

AUDITOR

Insofar as the Directors are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the Board of Directors, as company Directors, on 29 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:-

Mr Paul Concannon Chair of Directors

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

As directors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company 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 Directors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Directors' report and in the statement of directors' responsibilities. The Board of Directors has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Directors was as follows:

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs Angela Briggs	. 1	4
Mr David Brooks	4	4
Mrs Lorna Buchanan	2	4
Mr Paul Concannon	3	4
Mr Adam Jennings	0 .	1
Mr Fraser Long	3	4
Mr Julian Mathias	3	4
Mr Tony O'Donnell	3	4
Mr Stewart Orton	0	4
Mr Michael Robarts	2	4
Mr Rob Walsh	1	4
Mr Adrian Waters	4	4
Fr Richard Walker	4	4
Mrs Clare Smith	2	4

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC Board of Directors reviewed the MAC governance structure and the strategic plan at the last meeting of the year in July 2017 to evaluate the impact and effectiveness. The Board are satisfied that the structure in place is compliant and effectual. The Diocese Trustees appoint our Foundation Directors and assess the skills mix of the Board as part of their selection criteria. The Board of Directors have a wide range of skills that contribute to the successful governance of the MAC.

There will be another review of the governance structure next year. Within the Birmingham Catholic Diocese there is a vision that existing MACs will need to join up with other MACs or Academies to be sustainable for the future. The feasibility of the Pope Francis Catholic MAC expanding with another MAC Catholic MAC in the Diocese in the implications of this was also discussed by the Directors at the Board meeting on 11th July 2017.

The Finance and Resources Committee is a sub-Committee of the Board of Directors. Its purpose is to provide oversight, guidance and assistance to the Board of Directors on all matters related to finance, resources, premises and health and safety of the Academy Trust. During the year a new Director joined this Committee, who is also an Academy Representative of St Joseph's School, who has skills that will contribute effectively to this Committee.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr David Brooks	4	4
Mr Paul Concannon	1	4
Mr Fraser Long	4	4
Mr Tony O'Donnell	3	4
Mr Michael Robarts	4	4

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

As Accounting Officer, the Principal 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 Directors 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:

- The Headteachers of the three schools and the MAC Business Manager meet monthly to discuss improving educational outcomes, by sharing good practice and planning together for future collaborative activities which utilise the skills of staff across the MAC. These activities have proved to benefit the pupils of all the schools. These meetings always discuss the shared business practices across the schools and how they can be improved on to ensure that resources are directed effectively to improve the outcomes of all our pupils.
- Our educational outcomes across the MAC have again improved this year with better targeted use of the same resources. This year intervention strategies for targeted pupils at all the schools have proved to be effective by the attainment gained across the MAC. Careful planning of these interventions has ensured that there has been a successful outcome.
- The MAC has continued with the successful intervention of the Sound Training and PETxi at BGN this year in English and Maths which has proved to have a positive impact on Key Stage 4 results as the level of progress in English was +0.36 and Maths was .08.
- The Sixth Form options at BGN have been reviewed in a response to demand and, where it was found to be uneconomical to deliver, changes were made.
- Again, SLT have been involved with Group Mentoring of targeted Year 11 pupils at tutor time to provide support and encouragement to boost their confidence.
- St Joseph's School has developed the English Mastery approach for all pupils and has invested in training of their staff to deliver and build on this successful method.
- The MAC finance teams meet twice a month to monitor budgets and to collaborate on purchasing. This enables the schools to continue to benchmark with each other and benefit from shared suppliers. This year we evaluated our Health & Safety advice provision and decided to change our provider which is proving value for money and a saving for each school. We work very closely as a team to improve the effective use of our resources. After a review of our Insurance arrangements the Directors decided to opt into the RPA scheme from the 1st August 2017, and this will save the MAC considerable money.
- The MAC is a member of a number of local partnerships that promotes sharing best practice, including The Banbury Partnership of Schools and, as such, has been working collaboratively to raise the attainment of certain ethnic groups by targeted intervention.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- The MAC is part of the Diocese Business Managers Group who work together to produce a framework of suppliers that meets the needs of the Academies within the Diocese. This is the Church Marketplace Framework which we are members of and this gives us the ability to use nominated suppliers that cover a wide scope of services. The Academies within the Diocese group benchmark with each other to compare expenditure in all areas; this helps all with our financial planning and decision making. The MAC is also a member of the Oxfordshire Business Managers group that meets termly with the main aim to collaborate effectively. During this year we have worked together in procuring a new Occupational Health provider and secured an new utilities services.
- Income generation has increased for the MAC due to maximising the amount of lettings and an extension of the catering services from Blessed George Napier Catholic School, which continues to provide the catering services for St Joseph's Primary School within the MAC. The school also provides catering services to another feeder primary which will be joining the MAC next year and this has continued to improve the income and the working partnership, which we want to build on for future MAC development plans.
- The MAC Business Manager uses the DfE benchmarking data to measure the financial efficiency of the schools within the MAC. This is discussed at the Finance Committee to assess where we are and where we can improve.

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 The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company for the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Board of Directors 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 Directors 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 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Directors.

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 Directors;
- regular reviews by the Finance Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- · identification and management of risks.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

The Board of Directors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Directors have appointed Whitley Stimpson Ltd, the external auditors, to perform additional checks.

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

- Review of, and testing of, income recognition and recording systems and procedures.
- Review of and testing of payroll systems and procedures.
- Review of and testing of procurement systems and procedures.
- Review of and testing of control account reconciliation procedures.
- Review of and testing of bank control procedures.
- Review of management information preparation procedures, including information prepared for and presented to the Board of Directors.

On an annual basis, the auditors report to the Board of Directors on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Directors' financial responsibilities.

The auditor has conducted an internal assurance review in the spring term that has been reported to the MAC Directors. The review, in the Spring term, assessed that overall the MAC has a high level of assurance that there is an effective financial control environment operating within the MAC.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

As Accounting Officer, the Principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the period ended 31 August 2017, the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditors;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance Committee and a plan to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Directors on 29 November 2017 and signed on their behalf, by:

Mr Paul Concannon Chair of Directors Mr Fraser Long
Accounting Officer

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company 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 ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

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.

Mr Fraser Long
Accounting Officer

Date: 29 November 2017

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Directors (who act as Trustees of The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company) are responsible for preparing the strategic report, the Directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued 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 Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Directors 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 Directors 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 2016 to 2017;
- make judgments 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 Directors 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 Directors are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The Directors 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 Directors on 29 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Paul Concannon, Chair of Directors

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company for the year ended 31 August 2017 which comprise the statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account, 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 FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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.

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 2017 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

BASIS OF 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

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

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY

OTHER INFORMATION

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

- the information given in the Directors' report including the Strategic report for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Directors' 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 Directors' 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 Directors' remunerations specified by law not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities, the Directors (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 Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY

In preparing the financial statements, the Directors 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 Directors either intend to liquidate the Academy Trust's 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.

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. The description forms part of our Auditor's report.

Jonathan Mark Walton ACA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Whitley Stimpson Ltd

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Penrose House 67 Hightown Road Banbury Oxfordshire OX16 9BE

18 December 2017

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 18 October 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company during the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY'S ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 July 2014, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2016, 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 2016 to 2017. 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 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the 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 our conclusions included:

 A review of internal control policies and procedures implemented by the Academy Trust and an evaluation of their design and effectiveness to understand how the Academy Trust has complied with the framework of authorities;

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (continued)

- A review of the minutes of meetings of the Trustees, relevant sub-committees and Local Governing Bodies and other evidence made available to us, relevant to our consideration of regularity;
- Enquiries of the Accounting Officer, including a review of the work undertaken by the Accounting Officer in relation to their Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance; and
- Detailed testing of the income and expenditure of the Academy Trust based on our assessment of the risk of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance. This work was integrated with our audit of the financial statements where appropriate and included analytical review and detailed substantive testing of transactions.

CONCLUSION

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Whitley Stimpson Ltd

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Penrose, House 67 Hightown Road Banbury Oxfordshire OX16 9BE

18 December 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

INCOME FROM:	Note	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities Other trading activities Investments Other income	2 4 3 5	16,252 716,554 218,489 950	11,750 5,964,700 - - -	66,794 - - - - -	94,796 6,681,254 218,489 950	86,931 6,904,030 200,392 1,842 862
TOTAL INCOME		952,245	5,976,450	66,794	6,995,489	7,194,057
EXPENDITURE ON: Charitable activities		792,383	6,590,971	382,323	7,765,677	7,797,505
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	792,383	6,590,971	382,323	7,765,677	7,797,505
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS Transfers between Funds	18	159,862 (346,043)	(614,521) 254,021	(315,529) 92,022	(770,188)	(603,448)
NET EXPENDITURE BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		(186,181)	(360,500)	(223,507)	(770,188)	(603,448)
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23		533,000	-	533,000	(1,329,000)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(186,181)	172,500	(223,507)	(237,188)	(1,932,448)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS: Total funds brought forward		1,076,162	(3,203,506)	15,312,983	13,185,639	15,118,087
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		889,981	(3,031,006)	15,089,476	12,948,451	13,185,639

The notes on pages 33 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

THE POPE FRANCIS CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY

(A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 09113542

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	£	2017 £	£	2016 £
FIXED ASSETS				•	
Tangible assets	15		15,088,266		15,311,816
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	16	134,159		160,424	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,170,917		1,330,765	,
		1,305,076		1,491,189	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	17	(385,891)		(369,366)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			919,185		1,121,823
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILIT	16,007,451		16,433,639		
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23		(3,059,000)		(3,248,000)
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION SCHEME LIABILITIES			12,948,451		13,185,639
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY					
Restricted income funds:					
Restricted income funds	18	27,994		44,494	
Restricted fixed asset funds	18	15,089,476		15,312,983	
Restricted income funds excluding pension		45 447 470		15,357,477	
liability Pension reserve		15,117,470 (3,059,000)		(3,248,000)	
•					
Total restricted income funds			12,058,470		12,109,477
Unrestricted income funds	18		889,981 	1	1,076,162
TOTAL FUNDS			12,948,451		13, 185, 639

The financial statements on pages 30 to 54 were approved by the Directors, and authorised for issue, on 29 November 2017 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Mr Paul Concannon Chair of Directors

The notes on pages 33 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	(68,819)	(191,098)
Cash flows from investing activities: Interest from investments Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets Purchase of tangible fixed assets Capital grants from DfE/ESFA Capital funding received from sponsors and others		950 - (158,773) 66,794 -	1,842 1,400 (85,290) 31,719 4,500
Net cash used in investing activities		(91,029)	(45,829)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(159,848)	(236,927)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		1,330,765	1,567,692
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	21	1,170,917	1,330,765

The notes on pages 33 to 54 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The Directors 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 Directors 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 next twelve months 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.

1.3 Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.4 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 Directors.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Directors for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Department for Education 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 and include grants from the Department for Education.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.5 Income

All income is recognised once the Academy Trust has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

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

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

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account in the period in which it is receivable, where receipt is probable and it is measurable.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

1.6 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.

Expenditure on charitable activities are costs incurred on the Academy Trust's educational operations, including support costs and those costs relating to the governance of the Academy Trust appointed to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.7 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 Bank.

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £2,000 are capitalised 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 incorporating income and expenditure account 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 incorporating income and expenditure account. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property

2% straight line for buildings, land is depreciated over

the remaining term of the lease

Motor vehicles
Fixtures and fittings
Computer equipment

25% straight line15% straight line

33% 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 incorporating income and expenditure account.

1.9 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.10 Debtors

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.11 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

1.13 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Governments Pension Scheme ("LGPS"). These are defined benefit schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy 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. As stated in note 23, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore 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 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 incorporating income and expenditure account 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.14 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised costs as detailed in note 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instruments.

1.15 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as agent in distributing bursary funds from the ESFA. Payments received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and any balances held are recognised in note 26.

1.16 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2017. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgment:

There are no key judgements that the Trust has made which have a significant effect on the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

. INCOME FROM DONATIONS					
	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	funds 2017	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Donations .	16,252	11,750	-	28,002	25,917
Capital Grants	-	•	66,794	66,794	31,719
Other grants			-	<u> </u>	29,295
	16,252	11,750	66,794	94,796	86,931
Total 2016	14,852	35,860	36,219	86,931	
. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIE	E S				
,	Un	restricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	funds	funds
		2017 £	2017 £	2017 £	2016 £
Lettings income		78,166		78,166	69,531
Other income		140,323	-	140,323	130,861
*		218,489	-	218,489	200,392
	_			`	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

ı	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
· ·	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2017 £	2017 £	2017 £	2016 £
	L	£	Z.	L
DfE/ESFA grants	•			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	•	5,580,806	5,580,806	5,572,434
Other DfE/EFA grants `	-	281,226	281,226	291,852
	-	5,862,032	5,862,032	5,864,286
Other government grants				
SEN funding	•	81,813	81,813	69,636
Other local authority grants	60,099	8,415	68,514	94,711
•	60,099	90,228	150,327	164,347
Other funding			<u></u>	
Trip income	179,013		179,013	173,788
Catering income	352,878	•	352,878	336,722
Other income	124,564	12,440	137,004	364,887
•	656,455	12,440	668,895	875,397
	716,554	5,964,700	6,681,254	6,904,030
Total 2016 .	933,877	5,970,153	6,904,030	
INVESTMENT INCOME				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2017	2017	2017	2016
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest	950	-	950	1,842
Total 2016	1,842		1,842	
I Ulai ZU I U	1,042	-	1,042	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

6.	EXPENDITURE					
		Staff costs 2017 £	Premises 2017 £	Other costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
	Activities: Direct costs Support costs	4,769,943 1,072,392	229,680	687,508 1,006,154	5,457,451 2,308,226	5,497,578 2,299,927
		5,842,335	229,680	1,693,662	7,765,677	7,797,505
	Total 2016	5,740,855	243,618	1,813,032	7,797,505	

In 2017, of the total expenditure, £792,383 (2016 - £1,001,559) was to unrestricted funds and £6,973,294 (2016 - £6,795,946) was to restricted funds.

7. DIRECT COSTS

	Educational Activities £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Technology costs Other costs	13,142 674,366	13,142 674.366	12,085 784,881
Wages and salaries	3,576,922	3,576,922	3,693,132
National insurance	339,521	339,521	295,878
Pension cost	853,500	853,500	711,602
·	5,457,451	5,457,451	5,497,578
At 31 August 2016	5,497,578	5,497,578	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

8.	SUPPORT COSTS			
		Educational Activities £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 . £
	LGPS interest cost Technology costs Premises costs Other costs Wages and salaries National insurance Pension cost Depreciation	69,000 65,380 229,680 489,451 858,688 54,108 159,596 382,323	69,000 65,380 229,680 489,451 858,688 54,108 159,596 382,323	66,000 65,166 243,618 529,962 844,141 45,528 150,574 354,938
		2,308,226	2,308,226	2,299,927
	At 31 August 2016	2,299,927	2,299,927	-
9.	NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)			•
	This is stated after charging:			
			2017 £	2016 £
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by the charity Operating lease rentals		882,323 31,212 ———	354,938 20,255
10.	AUDITORS' REMUNERATION			
	•		2017 £	2016 £
	Fees payable to the academy's auditor for the audit of the academy's annual accounts Fees payable to the academy's auditor in respect of:		8,000	7,500
	All other non-audit services not included above	a	10,250 	12,750

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

11.	STAFF COSTS	
	Staff costs were as follows:	

	2017	2016
,	£	£
Wages and salaries	4,354,384	4,462,841
National insurance	393,629	341,406
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	1,013,096	862,176
	5,761,109	5,666,423
Apprenticeship levy	2,822	· , · -
Supply teacher costs	78,404	74,432
	5,842,335	5,740,855
•		

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

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers	83	88
Administration and support	111	123
Management	4	4
·	198	215
Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent:		
	2017	2016
	No.	No.
Teachers	· 74	74
Administration & support	60	68
Management	4	4

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

		2017	2016
	·	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000		4	1
in the band £90,001 - £100,000	•	1	. 1

The above employees participated in the Teachers Pension Scheme during the year. Pension contributions payable to the scheme in respect of these employees were £56,464 (2016: £25,182)

The key management personnel comprise the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by the senior management team for their services to the academy during the year was £312,493 (2016: £293,514).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

12. CENTRAL SERVICES

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

- Insurance
- Educational Pyschology
- School Business Management
- Payroll

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

Actual costs of the central services provided are allocated according to usage.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Blessed George Napier	64,922	57,911
Holy Trinity Primary	22,895	20,752
St Joseph's Primary	24,922	23,146
	112,739	101,809
Total		

13. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

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

		2017 £	2016 £
Mr Fraser Long	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	90,000-95,000 15,000-20,000	90,000-95,000 10,000-15,000
Mrs Lorna Buchanan	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	60,000-65,000 10,000-15,000	55,000-60,000 5,000-10,000
Mr Stewart Orton	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	45,000-50,000 5,000-10,000	45,000-50,000 5,000-10,000
Mrs Clare Smith	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	60,000-65,000 5,000-10,000	50,000-55,000 5,000-10,000

During the year ended 31 August 2017, no Directors received any reimbursement of expenses (2016 - £NIL).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

14. DIRECTORS' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice, for the period to 31 July 2017 the Academy Trust purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2017 was £1,794 (2016 - £1,432).

From 1 August 2017, the Academy Trust 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 Directors and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Long-term leasehold property	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£	, £	£
Cost .				
At 1 September 2016	15,558,000	318,155	132,367	16,008,522
Additions	9,150	119,894	29,729	158,773
At 31 August 2017	15,567,150	438,049	162,096	16,167,295
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2016	534,942	88,972	72,792	696,706
Charge for the year	271,096	63,426	47,801	382,323
At 31 August 2017	806,038	152,398	120,593	1,079,029
Net book value				
At 31 August 2017	14,761,112	285,651	41,503	15,088,266
At 31 August 2016	15,023,058	229,183	59,575	15,311,816

The long term leasehold property comprises the land and buildings of the individual Academies within the Academy Company which were transferred to the company on conversion by the Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees. The company occupies the land and buildings under a 125 year lease arrangement with the Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees.

The leasehold property also includes the playing fields for Blessed George Napier Roman Catholic Academy, which the Company occupies under a 125 year lease arrangement with Oxfordshire County Council.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

16.	DEBTORS		
		2017	2016
•		£	£
	Trade debtors	5,102	10,018
	VAT recoverable	37,128	19,712
	Other debtors	970	631
	Prepayments and accrued income	90,959	130,063
		134,159	160,424
17.	CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		
		2017	2016
		£	£
	Trade creditors	82,774	99,025
	Other taxation and social security	97,383	97,277
	Other creditors	95,405	94,168
	Accruals and deferred income	110,329	78,896
		385,891	369,366
		2017	2016
	· ·	£	£
	Deferred income		
	Deferred income at 1 September 2016	63,430	80,272
	Resources deferred during the year	100,022	63,430
	Amounts released from previous years	(63,430)	(80, 272)
	Deferred income at 31 August 2017	100,022	63,430

Deferred income relates to funding received in advance of the year end for expenditure to be incurred during the year ending 31 August 2018.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

18. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

·	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
Designated funds						
Property maintenance	6,671			-	-	6,671
General funds						
Unrestricted	1,069,491	952,245	(792,383)	(346,043)	, -	883,310
Total Unrestricted funds	1,076,162	952,245	(792,383)	(346,043)	_	889,981
Restricted funds						
General Annual Grant		5 500 000	(= 0=0 0 40)	070 004		
(GAG) Other DfE/EFA funding	- 38,708	5,580,806 281,226	(5,859,040) (285,263)	278,234 (24,213)	-	- 10,458
Local authority funding Other grants and	-	90,228	(90,228)	-	-	-
donations	5,786	24,190	(12,440)	- ,		17,536
Pension reserve	(3,248,000)	, <u>-</u>	(344,000)	-	533,000	(3,059,000)
	(3,203,506)	5,976,450	(6,590,971)	254,021	533,000	(3,031,006)
Restricted fixed asset fur	nds				•	
Fixed asset funds	15,311,816	-	(382,323)	158,772	-	15,088,265
Devolved Formula Capital	1,167	66,794	-	(66,750)	-	1,211
-	15,312,983	66,794	(382,323)	92,022	-	15,089,476
Total restricted funds	12,109,477	6,043,244	(6,973,294)	346,043	533,000	12,058,470
Total of funds	13,185,639	6,995,489	(7,765,677)	-	533,000	12,948,451

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

18. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2016 £
Designated funds						
Property maintenance	6,671	-	·	-	-	6,671
•	6,671				_	6,671
General funds						
Unrestricted	1,221,668	1,150,962	(1,001,559)	(301,580)	-	1,069,491
•	1,221,668	1,150,962	(1,001,559)	(301,580)	-	1,069,491
Total Unrestricted funds	1,228,339	1,150,962	(1,001,559)	(301,580)		1,076,162
Restricted funds					٠	
General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DfE/EFA funding Local authority funding Other grants and donations	35,924 - - -	5,572,434 290,006 69,636 73,938	(5,842,998) (287,222) (69,636) (68,152)	270,564 - - -	· -	38,708 - 5,786
Pension reserve	(1,746,000)	-	(173,000)	-	(1,329,000)	(3,248,000)
	(1,710,076)	6,006,014	(6,441,008)	270,564	(1,329,000)	(3,203,506)
Restricted fixed asset fu	nds					
Fixed asset funds	15,599,824	37,081	(354,938)	31,016	-	15,312,983
•	15,599,824	37,081	(354,938)	31,016		15,312,983
Total restricted funds	13,889,748	6,043,095	(6,795,946)	301,580	(1,329,000)	12,109,477
Total of funds	15,118,087	7,194,057	(7,797,505)	-	(1,329,000)	13,185,639

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

The General Annual Grant is used for the educational purposes in line with the Academy's objects and its funding agreement with the EFA.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

18. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Other DfE/EFA grants include Pupil Premium which is used to support children from families on low income or children in care.

Local Authority funding includes Special Educational Needs funding used to provide specialist support for children.

Other grants and donations relate to amounts received for specific purposes.

The pension reserve represents the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Restricted fixed asset funds include assets inherited on conversion as well as capital funding received since conversion and transfers from other funds.

ANALYSIS OF ACADEMIES BY FUND BALANCE

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Blessed George Napier Holy Trinity Primary St Joseph Primary Central Services	723,279 65,668 125,612 3,416	877,513 109,968 132,940 235
Total before fixed asset fund and pension reserve	917,975	1,120,656
Restricted fixed asset fund Pension reserve	15,089,476 (3,059,000)	15,312,983 (3,248,000)
Total	12,948,451	13,185,639

ANALYSIS OF ACADEMIES BY COST

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 depreciat- ion £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Blessed George						•
Napier	3,147,720	885,227	237,128	823,114	5,093,189	5,336,079
Holy Trinity Primary	604,323	88,991	26,446	180,330	900,090	866,346
St Joseph Primary	742,900	98,175	13,478	194,395	1,048,948	1,053,076
Central Services	-	-	-	(2,871)	(2,871)	14,066
	4,494,943	1,072,393	277,052	1,194,968	7,039,356	7,269,567

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

19. ANALYSIS OF NET ASS	ETS BETWEEN FUNDS
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•	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017	Total funds 2017 £
Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors due within one year Provisions for liabilities and charges	889,981 - -	413,884 (385,890) (3,059,000)	15,088,265 1,211 - -	15,088,265 1,305,076 (385,890) (3,059,000)
	889,981	(3,031,006)	15,089,476	12,948,451
ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS -	PRIOR YEAR			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total
	funds	funds	fixed asset funds	funds
	2016	2016	2016	2016
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets			15,311,816	15,311,816
Current assets	1,074,762	415,260	1,167	1,491,189
Creditors due within one year	1,400	(370,766)	-	(369, 366)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(3,248,000)	-	(3,248,000)
	1,076,162	(3,203,506)	15,312,983	13,185,639

20. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2017 £	2016 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(770,188)	(603,448)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	382,323	354,938
Interest from investments	(950)	(1,842)
Profit on the sale of fixed assets	`-	(862)
Decrease in debtors	26,265	<i>34,654</i>
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	16,525	(111,319)
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(66,794)	(36,219)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	275,000	107,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	69,000	66,000
Net cash used in operating activities	(68,819)	(191,098)
	=	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

21. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

·	2017 £	2016 £
Cash in hand	1,170,917	1,330,765
Total	1,170,917	1,330,765

22. 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.

23. PENSION COMMITMENTS

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £90,215 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2017 (2016 - £93,559) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers 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. 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 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

23. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay, including a 0.08% employer administration charge (currently 14.1%)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £471,760 (2016 - £496,463).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2017 was £333,000 (2016 - £337,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £257,000 (2016 - £259,000) and employees' contributions totalled £76,000 (2016 - £78,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 16.9% plus lump sum payments of £35,000 per annum for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

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

	2017	2016
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.60 %	2.20 %
Expected return on scheme assets at 31 August	2.60 %	2.20 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.20 %	4.10 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.70 %	2.30 %

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

23. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

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

	2017	2016
Retiring today Males Females	23.4 25.5	23.3 25.8
Retiring in 20 years Males Females	25.7 27.9	25.6 28.1
Sensitivity analysis	At 31 August 2017 £	At 31 August 2016 £
Discount rate +0.1% Discount rate -0.1% Mortality assumption - 1 year increase Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease CPI rate +0.1% CPI rate -0.1%	5,200,000 5,461,000 5,499,000 5,164,000 5,433,000 5,228,000	4,867,000 5,121,000 5,120,000 4,867,000 5,095,000 4,892,000
The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:		
	Fair value at 31 August 2017 £	Fair value at 31 August 2016 £
Equities Bonds Property Other assets Cash and other liquid assets	1,400,000 448,000 148,000 187,000 87,000	1,141,000 282,000 125,000 135,000 61,000
Total market value of assets	2,270,000	1,744,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £246,000 (2016 - £208,000).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

23. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account are as follows:

•	2017 £	2016 £
Current service cost Interest income Interest cost	(532,000) 41,000 (110,000)	(366,000) 55,000 (121,000)
Total	(601,000)	(432,000)
Actual return on scheme assets	241,000	208,000
Movements in the present value of the defined benefit obligation we	re as follows:	
	2017 £	2016 £
Opening defined benefit obligation Current service cost Interest cost Employee contributions Actuarial (gains)/losses Benefits paid	4,992,000 532,000 110,000 76,000 (333,000) (48,000)	3,023,000 366,000 121,000 78,000 1,482,000 (78,000)
Closing defined benefit obligation	5,329,000 —————	4,992,000
Movements in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme	e assets:	
	2017 £	2016 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets Interest income Actuarial losses Employer contributions Employee contributions Benefits paid	1,744,000 41,000 200,000 257,000 76,000 (48,000)	1,277,000 55,000 153,000 259,000 78,000 (78,000)
Closing fair value of scheme assets	2,270,000	1,744,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

24. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2017 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2017 £	2016 £
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	23,880	24,711
Between 1 and 5 years	57,252	39,909
Total	81,132	64,620

25. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust's operations 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 trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

Mrs E Walsh, the spouse of Mr Rob Walsh who is a Director of the Academy Company, is employed by the company as a Teaching Assistant at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. Mrs Walsh was already employed by the school prior to its conversion to Academy status on 1 August 2014, which was also prior to Mr Rob Walsh's appointment as a Director on 26 January 2015. The total cost to the company of the employment of Mrs E Walsh during the year ended 31 August 2017, including pension contributions, was £8,594 (2016: £7,144).

Mrs S O'Donnell, the spouse of Mr Tony O'Donnell who is a Director of the Academy Company, is employed by the company as a Deputy Head Teacher at Blessed George Napier School. The total cost to the company of the employment of Mrs S O'Donnell during the year ended 31 August 2017, including pension contributions, was £64,121 (2016: £60,437). The company employed Mrs S O'Donnell following an arms' length recruitment process in which Mr Tony O'Donnell neither participated in nor influenced.

26. AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the year ended 31 August 2017 the trust received £7,684 and distributed £7,298. An amount of £1,879 is included as undstributed funds that is repayable to the ESFA.