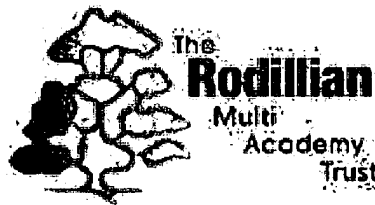


The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust



The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 August 2020



**Company Registration Number:
07990619 (England and Wales)**

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

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The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	J Bennett M Foster (resigned 2 March 2020) A Hudson (resigned 2 March 2020) M Wade D White (appointed 15 February 2020) A Winn (resigned 23 January 2020)														
Trustees	J Bennett I Comfort (resigned 5 October 2020) D Fergus (appointed 30 January 2020) J Field (appointed 6 December 2019) A Goulty (CEO and Accounting Officer) S Harper (appointed 9 January 2020) A Hall (Chair, appointed 20 January 2020) P Hudson (appointed 21 April 2020, resigned 22 July 2020) A Hunter (appointed 20 November 2019) L Hunter (resigned 7 November 2019) I Smyth (appointed 13 December 2019) P Wheeliker (appointed 26 November 2019)														
Secretary	A Marham (appointed 28 September 2020)														
Senior Management Team:	<table><tr><td>A Goulty</td><td>Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer</td></tr><tr><td>L Bradley</td><td>Principal - Rodillian Academy</td></tr><tr><td>W Bush</td><td>Principal – The Featherstone Academy</td></tr><tr><td>N Lawson</td><td>Chief Financial Officer</td></tr><tr><td>S Luffman</td><td>Principal – BBG Academy</td></tr><tr><td>A Moon</td><td>Principal – Brayton Academy</td></tr><tr><td>K Newby</td><td>Principal – Southway (resigned 31 October 2020)</td></tr></table>	A Goulty	Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer	L Bradley	Principal - Rodillian Academy	W Bush	Principal – The Featherstone Academy	N Lawson	Chief Financial Officer	S Luffman	Principal – BBG Academy	A Moon	Principal – Brayton Academy	K Newby	Principal – Southway (resigned 31 October 2020)
A Goulty	Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer														
L Bradley	Principal - Rodillian Academy														
W Bush	Principal – The Featherstone Academy														
N Lawson	Chief Financial Officer														
S Luffman	Principal – BBG Academy														
A Moon	Principal – Brayton Academy														
K Newby	Principal – Southway (resigned 31 October 2020)														
Principal and Registered Office	The Rodillian Academy Longthorpe Lane Lofthouse, Wakefield WF3 3PS														
Company Registration Number	07990619 (England and Wales)														
Independent Auditor	Saffery Champness LLP Mitre House North Park Road Harrogate North Yorkshire HG1 5RX														
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Park Row Leeds Branch PO Box 1000 BX1 1LT														
Solicitors	Michelmores LLP 48 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1JF														

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's reports of the group and charitable company for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies on pages 34 to 39 of the attached financial statements, and comply with the charitable company's memorandum and articles of association, the Companies Act 2006, and the requirements of 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 (FRS102) (Effective 1 January 2015) (SORP 2019).

The Trust currently operates three secondary academies in West Yorkshire and one in North Yorkshire. Its academies have a combined Planned Admission Number of 831 and had a roll of 3,421 in the 2020 Autumn School Census. In addition, there are 163 post-16 students at Rodillian Academy.

The Trust also works with a number of other academies to support school improvement.

Southway at The Rodillian Academy Ltd is a subsidiary company of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust. It was originally set up to provide alternative education for those students who may otherwise be excluded from seven secondary schools in the south of Leeds. Southway is a registered independent school which now provides services to schools throughout Leeds and from the surrounding area.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust 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 Academy Trust.

The Trust has three members and during the year one member was recruited and three members have resigned. The Trust is continuing to look to recruit members with the intention to have five members in line with the stated preference of the Department for Education.

The Trustees of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust (TRMAT).

TRMAT is the parent company to Southway at the Rodillian Academy Ltd (Southway). TRMAT is the sole shareholder of the company and decisions on strategic direction and funding are made by the company's directors.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 3.

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.

TRMAT is the parent company to Southway at the Rodillian Academy Ltd.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Trustees' Indemnities

TRMAT is a member of the Risk Protection Arrangement which is an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. The cost of this line of cover is not separately available.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

Trustees are appointed by the members of the Company. The Trust Board consisted of ten Trustees as at 31 August 2020; an increase of 5 Trustees since 31 August 2019. Subsequent to the 31 August 2020, 1 Trustee has resigned. The Board is actively seeking to recruit further Trustees. In the last year, the Trust has worked closely with the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Education and Skills Funding Agency to strengthen the Trust Board. The Trust recruits Trustees through a variety of channels including the use of Academy Ambassadors. The Trust has also recently appointed a Head of Governance and Compliance who has been appointed Company Secretary and Clerk to the Board of Trustees.

Under the Articles of Association of the Company, the minimum number of Directors (Trustees) shall not be less than 3 but (unless determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum. The Articles of Association set out the categories of Directors and this includes the following:

- Directors appointed under Article 50
- The Chief Executive Officer
- The Trust Board has decided to recruit parents to the Local Review Board of each Academy rather than recruiting parent directors to the Trust Board.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

All newly appointed Trustees are required to attend Trustee training and a full induction to the Trust is provided. New Trustees are trained in the first instance by training organised by the Clerk to the Trust Board. The Trust also uses a training package called Virtual Learning, supplied by National Governance Association, which is available for all Trustees to participate in and renew / refresh their knowledge. The Trust executive arrange training sessions for Trustees. In the current Academic year this is to include the OFSTED Framework, Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment Training together with any other training requirements identified by Trustees. The Trust is also a member of the Confederation of School Trusts ("CST") and receives various materials through the CST.

Any declarations of interest are requested at each committee and Trust Board meeting. A declaration of interest form is requested each year from each member of the Trust Board and monitored for any conflicts of interest.

Organisational Structure

The Trustees are responsible for exercising oversight of the governance and management of the Trust. In exercising their responsibilities, Trustees consider the advice given by the CEO, Academy Principals, other members of the Central Trust Staff and the Chairs of the Local Review Boards, as appropriate.

An external review of the Trust's governance was conducted and the Trustees are using the outcomes of the review to strengthen the Board of Trustees and enhance the future governance of the Trust. Examples of this mentioned above include the recruitment of new members, new Trustees and the appointment of the Head of Governance and Compliance.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Trust by the use of results and budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The CEO is the Trust's Accounting Officer.

To improve the quality of the advice on internal controls, systems and processes, the Trustees have completed a programme of work that reviewed governance and the scheme of delegation, looked at the effective use and condition of IT and facilities assets, reviewed the provision of SEND and financial system security. This work was delivered by external providers including a Chief Financial Officer from another Trust, a legal firm and subject specialists.

The Trust will build on this work and has appointed an internal auditor, Haines Watts, to deliver a programme of internal scrutiny. The Trust will develop a Board Assurance Framework to record the identified risks, their potential impact on the Trust and the controls in place to mitigate the risks.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The key management personnel are the Trustees and Senior Management Team. Trustees who are not employees do not receive any remuneration.

The pay and remuneration of the CEO is set by the full Trust Board following a recommendation from the People, Pay and Performance Committee. The People Pay and Performance Committee considers the performance management cycle taking account of the scope of the role and benchmarking the salary to similar sized roles in the Wakefield/Leeds region. The Committee receives advice from an external advisor to the Trust who is currently a retired CEO of another Trust. The pay and remuneration of the other key management personnel is set by the Trust Board following a recommendation from the CEO following a performance management cycle taking account of the scope of the role and benchmarking the salary to similar sized roles in the region. The salary ranges for the key management personnel are reviewed periodically and the Trust makes the award taking account of the benchmarking exercise and the operational requirements of the Trust.

Trade union facility time

The following information has been gathered in relation to the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017 which came into force on the 1st April 2017. Facility Time is the provision of paid or unpaid time off from an employee's normal role to undertake TU duties and activities as a TU representative. There is a statutory entitlement to reasonable paid time off for undertaking union duties. There is no such entitlement to paid time off for undertaking activities.

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
1	1

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	0
1% to 50%	1
51% to 99%	0
100%	0

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	£620
Total pay bill	£15,485,000
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	0.00%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	0.00%
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Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Southway at The Rodillian Academy Ltd, a subsidiary company of TRMAT, was born of a government initiative regarding exclusions. Initially, Southway provided alternative provision to Woodkirk Academy, Bruntcliffe School, Royds School, Cockburn School, Morley Academy and The South Leeds Academy as well as Rodillian Academy. Due to its success the centre now takes admissions from other schools in the city and from other local authority areas, under individual agreement. Southway at The Rodillian Academy Ltd was registered as an independent school in March 2019.

Rodillian also has a partnership with the local Specialist Inclusive Learning Centre (SILC), Broomfield, who has use of the facilities at the academy for the purposes of bringing together pupils on the rolls of the SILC and the academy in a way which maximises progress educationally, socially, physically and emotionally for all.

The Trust has worked with Roundhay School, Copley Academy and Leeds Advanced Manufacturing UTC. The Trust has continued to support Leeds Advanced Manufacturing UTC in 2020/21. Other than Southway and Copley Academy (part of Great Academies Educational Trust (GAET)) the above entities are not considered as related or connected parties.

Great Academies Educational Trust is a related party as A Hall is a Trustee of both TRMAT and GAET. TRMAT charged GAET £254k relating to staff secondments to Copley Academy (2019- £38k). GAET owed TRMAT £20k at the year-end (2019 - £38k) and this amount is included in debtors.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trustees recognise that the teaching and support staff are fundamental and core to the delivery of its vision. The success of the Trust depends on attracting, training, retaining and motivating employees. The Trust is committed to remaining a responsible employer and the Trustees factor the implications of pay and benefits, health and safety and the workplace environment in to decisions where relevant and feasible.

The Trust considers effective engagement to be a key element in understanding how it can maximise the benefit to the students and the wider community – it recognises that our staff are our greatest asset. The views of the workforce can help inform on matters such as pedagogy, student progress, operational effectiveness, identification and management of risks and the delivery of the strategy. Staff engagement is particularly important at times like these; when normal working patterns have been disrupted by Covid-19 and staff are working and delivering results from home. The Trust has strived to maintain a dialogue with staff and where appropriate has engaged with representative bodies. The leadership team regularly engages with staff through a variety of formal and informal channels including personal addresses from the CEO, face to face and team meetings with the principals and other executive leaders and through regular email correspondence and via the intranet. The Trust has established a number of working groups to address issues arising from staff surveys.

The Trust expanded the remit of the Remuneration Committee in 2020 – this committee is now the Pay People and Performance Committee and within its responsibilities is consideration of the Trust's approach to mental health, the outcomes of the staff survey and feedback from the staff working groups.

The Trust recognises its responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and has approved an Accessibility Policy. The Trust Board:

- Monitor recruitment procedures to ensure that candidates with disability are given equal opportunities;
- Ensure that staff with disabilities are supported with special provision to ensure that they may carry out their work effectively without barriers;
- Where necessary, undertake reasonable adjustment to enable candidates and staff to fully access the workplace.

Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the trust

The Trust Board recognise that the Trust needs responsible business partners and suppliers with expertise that is not available within the Trust. The Trust seeks to build strong relationships with suppliers built on fair terms. The Trust has developed a preferred supplier list, the financial scheme of delegation has been reviewed and the levels of delegation revised. Consequently, any contract in excess of £3,000 is only awarded following a formal procurement process and large contracts are subject to scrutiny and approval by Trustees before they are awarded.

To ensure fairness and best practice the Trust Board has an anti-bribery and corruption policy and all staff adopt the Trust's code of conduct. The Trust Board consider it important to pay suppliers promptly. The Trust recognises that during the Covid-19 pandemic it has a responsibility to support our suppliers and the wider community and has paid suppliers ahead of the normal contractual obligations.

The Trust Board recognise the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook to seek approval for entering in to contractual arrangements with related parties and has disclosed relevant transactions in this report.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

Our objects as set out in the Articles of Association are:

- To advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing academies offering a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To promote, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Wakefield, Featherstone, Kirklees and Selby and the surrounding areas, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need for such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or 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.

Our aims are:

- Create a safe, secure and positive environment where young people feel listened to and valued
- Develop a stimulating, flexible curriculum in order to meet the needs and aspirations of different individuals
- Create varied learning and enrichment opportunities to encourage the personal development of young people so that they gain the positive attributes and ethical grounding needed to make a valuable contribution to their society
- Develop high quality teaching and learning provision alongside effective student support structures, so that every young person is able to achieve their full academic potential
- Ensure access to relevant, engaging and effective professional development opportunities so that staff, as well as students, become lifelong learners
- Collaborate with the wider community and work in partnership with relevant organisations in order to enhance our educational provision and strengthen community spirit
- Ensure high quality and effective communication and consultation with staff, students, parents/carers and the wider community
- Be an innovative and flexible organisation, receptive to new ideas that will bring further improvement to our learning community

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

TRMAT's objectives are for its students to be successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve both their full potential and targets set; are confident individuals who have a sense of self-worth and personal identity and are responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

The strategic aim for our schools is to provide a broad based education supported by a wide range of extra-curricular activities including sport, music, drama, and the opportunity to participate in cultural trips and visits, which broaden the horizons of all students.

In pursuit of these aims, the Principal at each academy draws on its School Improvement Plan with progress against the Plan being reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer.

In order to plan and review medium term strategic development, rolling School Improvement Plans incorporate key areas. The targets continue to build on previous strategies.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

The aim of this is to further improve Student Attainment and provide an outstanding education for students at our academies and partner schools.

TRMAT strengthened its Trust Board during 2019/20 and apart from the CEO there is only one current Trustee who was in place on 1 September 2019. The Trust Board are developing a revised Corporate Strategy, which will be finalised in 2021, intended to guarantee the stability of TRMAT, balanced against growth and development and to ensure success in our core purpose as a sponsor to improve education through spreading the Rodillian ethos.

Public Benefit

In setting the objectives, Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and supplementary guidance on education as published on their website. The main public benefit delivered by the Trust is the provision of a high quality education to its students.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

The DfE's multi-Academy Trust performance tables were published in January 2020 and confirmed that the Rodillian Multi Academy Trust was in the top 15 Trusts in the country for Secondary Progress 8. The students' Progress 8 performance was above average at 0.09.

Addressing the Financial Notice to Improve

Following the Trust receiving a Financial Notice to Improve (FNTI) in February 2018, a second letter was received in September 2019 as a written notice to improve the financial management, control and governance at the Trust. The Trust took the following actions:

- The Chair designate undertook a forensic analysis of the problems raised by the ESFA, scrutinised previous practices and identified what conditions were required for the removal of the FNTI
- The Chair designate and Chair held weekly and monthly meetings with ESFA officers to discuss progress and raise confidence that the mitigation of identified weaknesses were progressing at a pace
- To support this, the Chair designate and Chair worked closely with the executive as an FNTI Action Group to ensure that efforts were focussed on the rapid progress against key objectives
- During the Autumn and Spring terms, experienced and skilled trustees were recruited and the committee structures were re-organised to ensure that they were fit for purpose
- External expertise was obtained to ensure there was appropriate rigour in addressing legal, HR and governance issues highlighted by the ESFA

The financial position of the Trust has improved rapidly over the last two years; the revenue reserves have moved from a deficit of £1.3m in 2018 to a surplus of £1.8m in 2020. Over the same period, the cash position has improved by £2.5m which provides the assurance that the cash advance will be repaid in full to the ESFA in 2021.

As a direct consequence of the above actions, the ESFA confirmed that they had closely monitored the Trust's progress against the conditions set out in the FNTI and that they were satisfied that the conditions had been met. The ESFA lifted the FNTI in September 2020.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Response to the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the operations of the Trust. The executive and Trustees have worked tirelessly together to address the issues affecting students and staff; reacting at times at very short notice to Government guidance to plan how best to provide the best quality education possible whilst ensuring the welfare of all affected parties.

The Chair moved quickly to set up a COVID Task and Finish Group comprising a combination of Trustees and staff to monitor the Trust's response to the pandemic and support the executive with quick and timely decision making. The COVID Task and Finish Group have:

- Agreed the Terms of Reference of the Group with the Trust Board
- Reviewed and updated policies and risk assessments to ensure they are appropriate for the changing circumstances
- Received reports on the risks associated with different staff groups including staff who are clinically vulnerable, pregnant, BAME and by age profile
- Monitored the provision and adequacy of PPE
- Monitored absence and learning loss
- Reviewed the steps being taken to mitigate learning loss including the provision of remote learning and devices to support students
- Agreed the protocol of when schools/year groups should be closed
- Ensured that students received free school meals while the schools were closed
- Assessed the impact on staffing resources including the agreement to recruit additional cover supervisors
- Monitored the additional expenditure due to COVID

The Trustees recognise that the response to the COVID pandemic has been significant and sustained and has only been achieved through the hard work of the executive and staff working in conjunction with the Trust Board.

Key Performance Indicators

Brayton Academy continues to perform highly, 70% of its students achieved 4+ in English and Maths in 2020. This builds upon its successful OFSTED of "Outstanding" of 2019. Student numbers have significantly grown with 74 pupils leaving Year 11 and 186 starting in Year 7.

The Rodillian Academy had another successful year with 77% of students gaining 4+Basics (Standard Pass) and 59% gaining 5+ Basics (Strong Pass). The Ofsted inspection report in January 2016 judged that Rodillian Academy's overall effectiveness was Good and this was confirmed by a school inspection in October 2019.

The Featherstone Academy latest Ofsted inspection, in February 2017, led to an outcome of Good overall with Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare being considered Outstanding. In 2020 63% of students gained 4+Basics (Standard Pass) a 10% increase on the previous year.

BBG Academy joined the Trust in July 2015 after it had been placed in special measures in October 2014. The last Ofsted inspection report in March 2016 rated the academy's overall effectiveness as Good with all four inspection categories rated as Good. The outcomes for students have continued to improve with 81% of students gaining 4+Basics (Standard Pass) and 57% gaining 5+ Basics (Strong Pass).

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

All four schools in The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust are rated as Good or better by OFSTED.

Southway is a top performing alternative provision both locally and nationally. The data indicates that Southway remains in the top 1% of similar provisions.

The Trust continues to provide school to school support within the local area. Support has been provided to Roundhay School, Copley Academy and Leeds Advanced Manufacturing UTC. We will continue to support Roundhay School and Leeds Advanced Manufacturing UTC in 2020/21.

Going Concern

In February 2018 the Trust was issued with a financial notice to improve by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). An updated written notice to improve financial management, control and governance was issued in September 2019. The Trust worked closely with the ESFA and developed a detailed recovery plan that aimed to return the Trust to a stable financial position by August 2021. These financial statements show that the Trust has revenue reserves before pensions movement of £1.8m at 31 August 2020. The budgets for 2020/21 onwards show that the Trust plans to be in surplus for each of the next five years. The financial results for the first two months of 2020/21 show that the Trust is operating in surplus and ahead of budget.

A cash advance was received from the ESFA and a repayment plan was agreed which deferred repayment until the Trust was in a stronger financial position (Note 15 refers). All repayments have been made in accordance with the agreed schedule and the cashflow forecast demonstrates that the Trust can make the repayments to the ESFA without adversely impacting the operation of the Trust. The cash advance will be fully repaid during 2020/21.

The Trustees have led the Trust from a financial deficit of £1.5m in August 2017 to make a surplus in year of £2.1m in August 2020. The Trust Board has addressed issues identified with governance and the holding of the executive to account. Consequently, the ESFA removed the Financial Notice to improve in September 2020.

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

Promoting the success of the company

The Trust Board has a clear framework for determining the matters within its remit and has approved Terms of Reference for the matters delegated to its committees. The Trust Board has approved a Scheme of Financial Delegation which sets out thresholds to identify matters requiring Trustees' approval and there is a wider Scheme of Delegation that sets out the delegation and approval process for the wider operations of the Trust.

When making decisions, each Trustee ensures that they act in a manner that they consider to be good faith that would most likely promote the Trust's success for the benefits of its members as a whole. The Trust expects the Trustees to adopt the Nolan Principles – the seven principles of public life.

The Trust Board approve the Strategic Plan and associated medium to long-term budgets and ensure that their decisions take account of the likely consequences of any decision in the long term, the impact on Trust employees, suppliers and the community and environment when appropriate and relevant.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Financial Review

The majority of the Trust's income is received from the ESFA in the form of grants the use of which is restricted to specific purposes. These grants received in the year to 31 August 2020 and associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities (SOFA).

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets, either as an allocation per student or as a grant for a given project. Following a bid for funds from the Condition Improvement Fund, the Trust received grants of £1,901k in 2019/20 to fund capital projects. This income is shown in the SOFA as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The major expenditure in the year was in building a 12 classroom extension at BBG Academy, and replacing roofing and heating at Brayton Academy. The restricted fixed asset fund is reduced each year by depreciation charges calculated in line with the Trust's accounting policies over the expected useful life of the asset. At 31 August 2020, the net book value of fixed assets was £35,588k (£34,565k August 2019).

Total funds at 1 September 2019 were £29.7m and decreased to £26.9m at 31 August 2020. In the year ended 31 August 2020, the Trust received total income of £23.6m. Total expenditure was £21.5m which indicates that the Trust had net income of £2.1m for the year before gains, losses and transfers of -£4.9m. After gains, losses and transfers the Trust was in deficit of £2.9m.

The restricted general fund balance is £1,002k (£-309k, 2019) and the unrestricted income fund balance is £749k (£377k, 2019). The in-year surplus on the restricted general fund and the unrestricted income fund is £1,683k.

The Academy Trust (which excludes the subsidiary) held fund balances at 31 August 2020 of £27m comprising £35.8m of restricted fixed asset funds, a surplus of £1m on the aggregate of unrestricted general funds and the general fund (excluding pension fund) and a pension deficit of £9.7m. Net current assets have increased from £0.8m at August 2019 to a balance of £1.2m August 2020. The bank balance has increased from £1.3m to £2.4m.

The deficits in the Local Government Pension Schemes are recognised on the balance sheet in accordance with FRS 102. The consolidated pension deficit has increased by £5.7m to £10.6m. (See Note 25.)

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a three-year budget with the intention to increase reserves to £2.0m by August 2022. This level of reserves is deemed appropriate to establish the financial stability of the Trust, provide sufficient working capital to allow the Trust to operate effectively whilst allowing for investment in the building infrastructure and ICT.

Investment Policy

A return on working capital should be optimized whilst allowing easy access of the funds. In balancing risk against return, the policy of TRMAT is clearly geared to avoiding risk rather than to maximising return.

TRMAT operates interest bearing current accounts with a bank approved by the Trust Board and maintains a balance in those accounts that is sufficient to cover immediate payroll costs and make the repayments to the ESFA as they fall due.

The investment in the subsidiary is valued at cost.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trust Board is responsible for the management of risks faced by TRMAT. The major risks to which the Trust is exposed have been identified on a Risk Register. Consideration of the risks is undertaken by the Trustees. The Trustees ensure that the Senior Management Team actively manage the risks and report progress to the Trustees and that risks will be identified, assessed and controls established on an ongoing basis.

The main risks to TRMAT, which have been identified and are being managed, are:

- Student progress does not hold at Above Average for the Trust
- The impacts of COVID-19 on students and staff
- Succession planning to mitigate the loss of key personnel
- Addressing identified financial and governance issues
- The effectiveness of the Trust Board is affected by the quality, resilience and retention of Trustees
- Maintaining financial viability now that the Trust is in a cumulative surplus
- Addressing the condition of the premises and IT assets
- The potential impact of system loss following the centralisation of IT systems
- The Trust is not ready to take on another academy

Through the risk management processes established at TRMAT, the Trust Board is satisfied that the major risks have been identified and will be adequately mitigated where appropriate. It is recognised that systems and procedures can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

The main controls used by TRMAT are:

- The recruitment of Trustees with the necessary skills and experience to ensure proper governance of the Trust
- Formal agendas for all Trust Board, committee and Local Governing Body (LGB) meetings
- Terms of reference for the Trust Board, committees and all LGBs (annually reviewed to ensure continuing relevance)
- Written Scheme of Delegation
- Comprehensive planning, budgeting and management accounting
- Established organisational structure and lines of reporting
- Formal written policies which are subject to periodic review to ensure that they are relevant and appropriate
- Clear authorisation and approval levels
- Implementation of vetting and clearance procedures as required by law for the safe-guarding of children and young people
- Engagement of external auditors to examine the accounts and financial practices of the Trust
- External assessments on the effectiveness of internal controls and procedures

Fundraising

The Trust does not actively raise funds from the public. In the period to August 2020 the Trust received donations totalling £2k from The Friends of Rodillian.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

Carbon Reporting

		2019/20
	Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	4,967,396
Scope 1	Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	
	Gas	568.14
	Owned transport – mini buses	10.65
	Total scope 1	578.79
Scope 2	Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	
	Purchased electricity	426.98
Scope 3	Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	
	Business travel in employee owned vehicle	11.1
	Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	1,016.88
	Intensity ratio: Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.3
Number of students per census:		3,422

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2020 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

Measures taken to improve efficiency

The Trust replaced the heating system at one school and has started a phased move to LED lighting at two schools. Video conferencing has been installed to reduce travel between sites.

Plans for Future Periods

In order to plan and review medium term strategic development, a rolling School Improvement Plan incorporates key areas. These objectives are described fully in the section above entitled objectives, strategies and activities.

The Trust plans to:

- Ensure that all Trust schools are judged Good or better by OFSTED
- Ensure that all students progress
- Ensure that students catch up following the Covid pandemic
- Ensure that staffing, curriculum and accountability systems are in place to deliver high quality outcomes
- Incorporate our resilience, Rise and Read literacy improvement and mastery curriculums in every academy

TRMAT is creating a structure with the capacity to drive transformational and rapid educational achievement in its sponsored academies

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report (continued)

The key objective of the Trust Board is to ensure that the students continue to achieve above average academic results. The Trustees will ensure that the committee structures are significantly developed. There will be a complete review of the Scheme of Delegation undertaken by Browne Jacobson and the Confederation of School Trusts will support the establishment of professional structures that will result in a more focussed and efficient accountability framework supported by improvements in clerking.

The Trust has strengthened the Trust Board with the appointment of new trustees during 2019/20. The Chair and all the Trustees will work together to improve the governance and financial oversight of the Trust and to hold the Accounting Officer and Executive to account. The Trustees will agree a new strategic plan for the Trust early in 2021.

The Trust will implement new staffing structures and ensure that the structures will deliver the desired educational outcomes whilst being able to demonstrate that they are value for money.

The Trust must consolidate its financial position and deliver financial stability; delivering an appropriate level of reserves whilst giving due consideration to capital expenditure requirements.

The Trust will plan for controlled expansion when the Trust is financially stable and the staffing, systems and processes are sufficiently embedded. Any schools joining the Trust will be subject to rigorous due diligence and will not be considered if there is risk they may affect adversely the educational or financial position of the Trust as a whole.

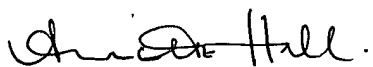
Southway is now a registered independent school. The Trust Board will review the nature and operations of Southway to assess its current model and whether it is scalable.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 18 January 2021 and signed on the board's behalf by:



Annette Hall
Chair of Trustees

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Scope of Responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Trust Board has formally met eight times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Trust Board was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall (Chair)	7	8
J Bennett	8	8
I Comfort	2	8
D Fergus	3	4
J Field	4	5
A Goulty	5	6
S Harper	4	5
P Hudson	2	2
A Hunter	6	7
L Hunter	1	2
I Smyth	3	4
P Wheeliker	6	6

The Trust has three members, one of whom is also a Trustee. During the year the Trust has recruited six new Trustees to strengthen the Trust Board and broaden the skills and experience available to the Trust. The new Trustees have backgrounds in SEND/safeguarding, finance, governance, risk and general management in addition to experience in education and the academy sector.

The Chief Executive Officer is the only Trustee who is also an employee.

To enhance the Board's effectiveness, an external review of governance was conducted during the year and the Trustees are taking the appropriate action arising from the review's observations. This work was informed and supported by the Confederation of School Trusts and Browne Jacobson. The Trust has worked closely with the ESFA and the Regional Schools Commissioner to address the issues raised in the Financial Notice to Improve (FNtI). The Chair led a group to monitor the progress and delivery of the actions required to satisfy the FNtI. In September 2020, the ESFA confirmed that they were satisfied that the conditions of the Financial Notice to Improve had been met which the Trustees welcomed as reflective of the hard work that had been undertaken.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

As part of a governance review, the Trustees agreed to establish the following sub-committees to promote good governance:

- 1) The Standards Committee – The committee's role is to support the Trust in its responsibilities for ensuring strong educational outcomes for the pupils in the trust
- 2) The Pay, People and Performance Committee – The committee's role is to ensure the highest standard of governance in relation to people-related processes. This includes overseeing performance management (including the CEO's performance management), agreeing the remuneration and recruitment policies, reviewing and monitoring the Trust's organisational design and to ensure the Trust has a robust policy for staff health and wellbeing.
- 3) The Finance and Resources Committee – The committee's role is to support the Trust to ensure high standards of governance in financial management and to use resources effectively. This includes reviewing and recommending the Trust's revenue and capital budgets, monitoring and reviewing the management accounts, ensuring that the financial statements are prepared and reviewed and that reviewing and approving finance policies
- 4) The Audit and Risk Committee – The committee's role is to support the Trust to ensure the highest standards of governance in relation to all audit and risk-related activities within the Trust. This includes advising the Trust Board on the Trust's annual and long term audit programme which includes a programme of internal scrutiny, to oversee the Trust's internal and external audits and production of the financial statements, to review the assessment of the overall population of risk identified within the risk register and provide assurance to the Trust Board and oversee all policies that impact on audit and risk.

As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the Trust Board approved the establishment of a Covid-19 Task and Finish Group. This focus was to provide an agile strategic support and decision-making group to:

- Monitor the impact of Covid-19 and to facilitate the executive team to plan for responsibilities including safeguarding, health and safety and staff and student wellbeing
- Set the strategic direction for the return to school
- Assess the impact on pupil outcomes in 2020/21

Attendance at Covid Task and Finish Group in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	4	4
J Field	4	4
A Goulty	3	3
A Hunter	2	4
P Wheeliker	4	4

Attendance at Audit and Risk Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	1	1
D Fergus	1	1
S Harper	1	1
P Hudson	1	1

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

Attendance at Finance and Resources Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	3	3
J Field	3	3
A Goulty	2	2
I Smyth	3	3

Attendance at the Remuneration Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	1	1
J Bennett	1	1
I Comfort	1	1
A Goulty	0	1

Attendance at the People, Pay and Performance meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	1	1
P Wheeliker	1	1
I Comfort	0	1
A Goulty	1	1

Attendance at the Finance and Audit and Risk Committee meeting in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	2	2
J Bennett	2	2
I Comfort	0	2
D Fergus	1	1
J Field	1	1
A Goulty	2	2
S Harper	1	1
P Hudson	1	1
A Hunter	1	1
L Hunter	1	1
I Smyth	1	1
P Wheeliker	1	1

Attendance at the Standards Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	3	4
J Bennett	4	4
A Hunter	2	4
A Goulty	3	3

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

Attendance at the Annual General meeting in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Hall	1	1
J Bennett	1	1
I Comfort	0	1
D Fergus	0	0
J Field	1	1
A Goulty	1	1
S Harper	0	0
P Hudson	0	0
A Hunter	0	1
L Hunter	0	0
I Smyth	0	0
P Wheeliker	0	1

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Assessing its staffing requirement now and in the near future and deciding how best to secure talented staff and develop them. The Trust used an integrated financial and curriculum planning model to assess its teaching requirements and determine the most appropriate curriculum for each of the schools in the Trust. Account was taken of the level of support required to improve the educational outcomes of the academies in the Trust and a projection was made, based on recent experience, of the level of resource required to support any anticipated expansion of the Trust. The Trust has reduced the number of teaching staff and the contact ratios and pupil teacher ratios have improved. A number of staff are also seconded to schools outside the Trust for their personal development.
- The Trust conducted a review of its executive remuneration and revised the salary ranges of its senior staff. An extensive review of teaching staff structures in all schools has been conducted and will be implemented in 2020/21 with the full impact being seen in future years. The Trust will also review its support staff structures in 2020/21 to ensure that they are appropriate for the current size of the Trust and for the near future.
- The Trust recognised that it was not leveraging the full benefit of being a multi Academy Trust and that it did not have the procurement skills and resources available within the Trust to make a rapid impact. The Trust also recognised that savings could be made by improving procurement compliance.
- The Trust recruited a procurement specialist to review its current procedures and practices. New procedures were developed and briefed to staff which will strengthen controls on ordering. A full contract review was conducted and a contract database is being populated. As contracts are renewed, more contracts are being let at a Trust level and savings of over £50k were made when contracts for photocopiers, electricity and gas, planned maintenance, software, and ground maintenance were re-negotiated.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

The Trust commissioned external reviews of the condition of its IT assets and premises. The reviews identified a programme of works that will be implemented over the next 3-5 years. In determining the timing of the contracts, the Trust will leverage its position by aggregating contracts and maximising economies of scale.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Trust Board identified that an increased focus on the management and monitoring of risk within the Trust was required. The Trust Board 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 Trust Board is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Trust Board.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

The Trustees recognised that the internal controls have not been as strong as they should be. To address this, the Trustees are working with the Chief Financial Officer to identify and address improvements that are required to ensure that the system for internal financial control is appropriate, adequate and strengthened where necessary. During the year, the Trust commissioned reports to:

- test payroll systems
- test the security of the finance systems
- review the SEND provision in the schools
- review the condition of the IT and premises estates to inform a prioritised investment plan
- review executive remuneration
- review governance arrangements
- review the use of CLFPs within the Trust

These reviews were conducted by the CFO of another trust, another academy trust, external consultants (SEN, legal, IT and premises) and representatives of the Confederation of Schools Trusts. In addition, the Trust worked with a SRMA who made recommendations on how the Trust could use its resources more efficiently.

Following a competitive tender, the Trust Board have appointed Haines Watts as internal auditor from September 2020. The Trust Board will also commission reports from subject specialists where Haines Watts do not have the necessary skills and expertise in-house.

Following a review of the finance team, the Trustees supported the Chief Financial Officer and strengthened the team by recruiting additional qualified accountants. The team has been further strengthened by the appointment of an additional temporary accountant.

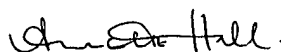
Review of Effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor/reviewer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 18 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Annette Hall
Chair of Trustees



Andrew Goulty
Accounting Officer

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, 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 2019.

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 2019.

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the Board of Trustees and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the Board of Trustees and ESFA:

Non financial issues

- Contingency and business continuity planning is not up to date having expired in 2018

Financial issues

- During the year, the Academy Trust was under a FNTI and was required to gain approval from the ESFA for any new lease agreements. A new lease agreement was agreed for a total value of £75k, but prior approval was not obtained from the ESFA.



Andrew Goulty
Accounting Officer

Date: 18 January 2021

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who act as governors of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

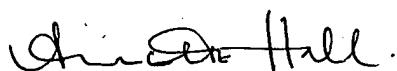
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 18 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Annette Hall
Chair of Trustees

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of the Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, Consolidated and Academy Trust's Balance Sheets, Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the group and of the parent charitable company's state of affairs as at 31 August 2020 and of the group's 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 Companies Act 2006, Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company'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.

Other information

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of the Rodillian Multi Academy Trust (continued)

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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Annual Report which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report and Strategic Report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 24, the Trustees (who are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of the Rodillian Multi Academy Trust (continued)

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the group or the charitable company, or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with that Act.

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. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

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

.....
Sally Appleton (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Saffery Champness LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Mitre House
North Park Road
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG1 5RX

Date:

Saffery Champness LLP is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 29 September 2020 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by the The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 have been applied to purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state to them 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 Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated July 2014 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 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 Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- an assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across the Academy Trust's activities;
- evaluation of the processes and controls established and maintained in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance of the use of public funds through observation and testing of the arrangements in place and enquiry of the Accounting Officer;
- consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance; and
- limited testing on a sample basis of income and expenditure for the areas identified as high risk.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Non financial issues

- Contingency and business continuity planning is not up to date, having expired in 2018

Financial issues

- During the year, the Academy Trust was under a FNTI and was required to gain approval from the ESFA for any new lease agreements. A new lease agreement was agreed for a total value of £75k, but prior approval was not obtained from the ESFA.

.....
Sally Appleton

Reporting accountant

For and on behalf of

Saffery Champness LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Mitre House

North Park Road

Harrogate

North Yorkshire

HG1 5RX

Date:

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2020 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	-	2	1,941	1,943	2,637
Charitable activities:						
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	3	2,317	18,775	-	21,092	19,524
Other trading activities	4	553	-	-	553	984
Investments	5	1	-	-	1	1
Total		2,871	18,777	1,941	23,589	23,146
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	501	-	-	501	1,029
Charitable activities:						
Academy Trust educational operations	7	1,697	18,199	1,115	21,011	19,703
Total		2,198	18,199	1,115	21,512	20,732
Net income		673	578	826	2,077	2,414
Transfer between funds	17	(301)	-	301	-	-
Other recognised losses:						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	17,25	-	(4,929)	-	(4,929)	(2,087)
Net movement in funds		372	(4,351)	1,127	(2,852)	327
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		377	(5,274)	34,627	29,730	29,403
Total funds carried forward		749	(9,625)	35,754	26,878	29,730

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Company Number 07990619

	Notes	2020 £'000	2020 £'000	2019 £000	2019 £000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		35,588		34,565
Current assets					
Stock					
Debtors	13	1,560		2,031	
Cash at bank and in hand		3,125		1,678	
		4,685		3,709	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,768)		(2,586)	
Net current assets			1,917		1,123
Total assets less current liabilities			37,505		35,688
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15				(993)
Net assets excluding pension liability			37,505		34,695
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	25		(10,627)		(4,965)
Total net assets			26,878		29,730
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	17	35,754		34,627	
General fund	17	1,002		(309)	
Pension reserve	17	(10,627)		(4,965)	
Total restricted funds			26,129		29,353
Unrestricted income funds	17		749		377
Total funds			26,878		29,730

The financial statements on pages 30 to 58 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 January 2021 and are signed on their behalf by



Annette Hall
Chair of Trustees

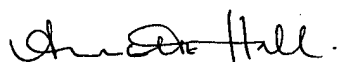
The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Academy Trust Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2020

Company Number 07990619

	Notes	2020 £000	2020 £000	2019 £000	2019 £000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		35,547		34,529
Current assets					
Stock					
Debtors	13	1,460		1,971	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,365		1,348	
		3,825		3,319	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,616)		(2,537)	
Net current assets			1,209		782
Total assets less current liabilities			36,756		35,311
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15				(993)
Net assets excluding pension liability			36,756		34,318
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	25		(9,737)		(4,504)
Total net assets			27,019		29,814
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	17	35,754		34,627	
General fund	17	1,002		(309)	
Pension reserve	17	(9,737)		(4,504)	
Total restricted funds			27,019		29,814
Unrestricted income funds	17				
Total funds			27,019		29,814

The financial statements on pages 30 to 58 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 January 2021 and are signed on their behalf by



Annette Hall
Chair of Trustees

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	2020 £000	2019 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	21	1,644	1,046
Cash flows (used in) investing activities	22	(197)	(13)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		1,447	1,033
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2019		1,678	645
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2020	23	3,125	1,678

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020

1 Statement of accounting policies

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The consolidated financial statements comprise the accounts of The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust and its subsidiary, Southway at the Rodillian Academy Limited, made up to 31 August 2020. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

No separate SOFA has been presented for the Academy Trust alone as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and paragraph 397 of the SORP. The deficit of the Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £2,795k.

Going Concern

At the end of August 2017, the Trust had a carried forward deficit of £1,513k and the Trust was issued with a financial notice to improve by the ESFA in February 2018. Subsequently an updated financial notice to improve was issued in September 2019.

At August 2020, the Consolidated Balance Sheet shows that the Trust has a small carried forward surplus of £1.8m; a surplus of £1m on the General Fund and a surplus on the Unrestricted Income Funds of £0.8m. The Trust has budgeted surpluses annually for the next five years and the management accounts received by Trustees show that the Trust is operating in surplus in 2020/21. The Trust has also produced a five year forecast for 2020/21 onwards which confirms that the Trust will be in surplus for the foreseeable future.

The ESFA granted the Trust a cash advance to address the short term funding position. The repayment of all money due was deferred until 2020 and a repayment schedule was agreed (Note 15). The cashflow forecasts demonstrate that the Trust is generating a cash surplus which is sufficient to meet its operational requirements and meet the repayments to the ESFA.

Given that the Trust has moved in to a revenue surplus and addressed governance concerns the financial notice to improve was lifted by the ESFA in September 2020.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Income

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

- **Grants**

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

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

Capital grants are recognised 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. Capital grants are recognised in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant.

- **Donations**

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

- **Other Income**

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

- **Donated goods, facilities and services**

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

- **Donated fixed assets**

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Statement of accounting policies (continued)

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 Raising Funds**

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

- **Charitable Activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible Fixed Assets

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

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

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

- Long leasehold buildings and improvements 10 - 125 years
- Furniture and Equipment 5 years
- ICT equipment 3 years
- Motor vehicles 5 years

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Statement of accounting policies (continued)

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.

Liabilities

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

Provisions

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

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

Leased Assets

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

Investments

The Academy's shareholding in the wholly owned subsidiary, Southway at the Rodillian Academy Limited, is included in the balance sheet at the cost of the share capital owned less any impairment. There is no readily available market value and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived.

Taxation

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

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

Pensions Benefits

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

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Statement of accounting policies (continued)

and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employees. As stated in note 25, 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 multi employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate Trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

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 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 14. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Academy Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

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

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Statement of accounting policies (continued)

Agency Arrangement

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from 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 Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 28.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Academy Trust 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 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Capital grants	-	1,901	1,901	2,625
Other donations	-	2	2	12
Donated Fixed assets	-	40	40	-
	-	1,943	1,943	2,637
2019 Total	-	2,637		2,637

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
DfE / ESFA grants				
. General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	16,723	16,723	15,904
. Start Up Grants	-	3	3	7
. Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,773	1,773	1,020
	-	18,499	18,499	16,931
Other Government grants				
. Local authority grants	-	276	276	348
. AIP funding	1,933	-	1,933	1,829
. Other grants	-	-	-	-
	1,933	276	2,209	2,177
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations				
. Other income	384	-	384	416
	2,317	18,775	21,092	19,524
2019 Total	2,245	17,279		19,524

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Staff secondments	165	-	165	651
School fund	-	-	-	8
Hire of facilities	9	-	9	15
Staff placements/training	23	-	23	38
Management fees	339	-	339	185
Miscellaneous	17	-	17	87
	<u>553</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>553</u>	<u>984</u>
2019 Total	<u>984</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>984</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Short term deposits	1	-	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
2019 Total	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

6 Expenditure

	Non Pay Expenditure			Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
	Staff Costs £000	Premises £000	Other £000	£000	£000
Expenditure on raising funds	501	-	-	501	1,029
Academy's educational operations:					
· Direct costs	13,493	1,115	1,209	15,817	14,463
· Allocated support costs	2,225	1,960	1,009	5,194	5,240
	<u>16,219</u>	<u>3,075</u>	<u>2,218</u>	<u>21,512</u>	<u>20,732</u>
2019 Total	<u>15,692</u>	<u>2,648</u>	<u>2,392</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,732</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Operating lease rentals	150	224
Depreciation	1,115	1,002
(Gain)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	1
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- audit	31	31
- other services	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

7 Charitable activities

	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Direct costs – educational operations	15,817	14,463
Support costs – educational operations	5,194	5,240
	21,011	19,703

Analysis of support costs

	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Support staff costs	2,225	2,561
Technology costs	77	59
Recruitment and support	41	42
Maintenance of premises and equipment	1,307	983
Cleaning	128	134
Rent and rates	260	268
Energy costs	189	177
Insurance	78	84
Security and transport	55	98
Catering	172	139
Governance costs	39	29
Other support costs	623	666
Total support costs	5,194	5,240

8 Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the period were:

	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Wages and salaries	11,464	11,659
Social security costs	1,196	1,212
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	3,169	2,410
	15,829	15,281
Supply staff costs	356	370
Staff restructuring costs	34	41
	16,219	15,692

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	34	27
Severance payments	-	14
	34	41

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

b. Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-contractual severance payments totalling £0 (2019: £0).

c. Staff numbers

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

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Teachers	204	233
Administration and support	149	181
Management	6	6
	359	420

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2020 No.	2019 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	10	11
£70,001 - £80,000	5	5
£80,001 - £90,000	3	3
£90,001 - £100,000	2	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	1
£220,001 - £230,000	1	1

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £919,300 (2019: £851,990).

9 Related Party Transactions – Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. Other Trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy Trust in respect of their role as Trustees.

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

A Goulty (Accounting Officer, CEO and Trustee):

Remuneration £225,000 – £230,000 (2019: £225,000 - £230,000)

Employer's pension contributions £50,000 - £55,000 (2019: £35,000 - £40,000)

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

9 Related Party Transactions – Trustees' remuneration and expenses (continued)

During the year ended 31 August 2020, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £1.7k were reimbursed or paid directly to 4 Trustees (2019: £0 to 0 Trustees).

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy has 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 £10,000,000 on any one claim. The cost for the 12 months ended 31 August 2020 is not identifiable from the RPA.

11 Tangible fixed assets – Group

	Leasehold Land and Buildings £000	Assets under construction £000	Furniture and Equipment £000	Computer Hardware £000	Motor Vehicles £000	Total £000
Cost						
At 1 September 2019	34,953	2,365	507	748	88	38,661
Additions	1,837	-	101	138	63	2,139
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(3)	(3)
Transfer	2,365	(2,365)	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2020	39,155	-	608	886	148	40,797
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2019	3,073	-	398	562	63	4,096
Charged in year	897	-	95	107	16	1,115
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 August 2020	3,970	-	493	669	77	5,209
Net book values						
At 31 August 2020	35,185	-	115	217	71	35,588
At 31 August 2019	31,880	2,365	109	186	25	34,565

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Tangible fixed assets – Parent

	Leasehold Land and Buildings £000	Assets under construction £000	Furniture and Equipment £000	Computer Hardware £000	Motor Vehicles £000	Total £000
Cost						
At 1 September 2019	34,953	2,365	497	697	73	38,585
Additions	1,837	-	101	138	42	2,118
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(3)	(3)
Transfer	2,365	(2,365)	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2020	39,155	-	598	835	112	40,700
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2019	3,073	-	395	531	57	4,056
Charged in year	897	-	93	99	10	1,099
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 August 2020	3,970	-	488	630	65	5,153
Net book values						
At 31 August 2020	35,185	-	110	205	47	35,547
At 31 August 2019	31,880	2,365	102	166	16	34,529

12 Investments

The Multi Academy Trust has a 100% interest in its trading subsidiary which is registered in England, being £1 share capital. Southway at the Rodillian Academy Limited operates a pupil referral unit used by a number of local schools.

Total comprehensive loss of £54,917 (2019: loss £14,984) was made in the year ended 31 August 2020. The result before the actuarial gain on the defined benefit pension scheme was a profit of £241,119 (2019: profit of £181,037). At 31 August 2020 the shareholder's funds were in deficit by £140,361 (2019: deficit of £85,444).

13 Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:

	Group 2020 £000	Parent 2020 £000	Group 2019 £000	Parent 2019 £000
Trade debtors	773	615	975	842
Other debtors	59	59	1	1
VAT recoverable	166	166	404	404
Prepayments and accrued income	544	602	651	724
	1,542	1,442	2,031	1,971

Amounts falling due in more than one year:

	Group 2020 £000	Parent 2020 £000	Group 2019 £000	Parent 2019 £000
Other debtors	18	18	-	-
	18	18	-	-

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2020 £000	Parent 2020 £000	Group 2019 £000	Parent 2019 £000
Trade creditors	391	319	1,211	1,190
Other tax and social security	304	281	117	117
Amounts due to funding body	993	993	500	500
Other creditors	344	317	216	217
Accruals and deferred income	736	706	542	513
	2,768	2,616	2,586	2,537

	Group 2020 £000	Parent 2020 £000
Deferred income at 1 September 2019	45	-
Resources deferred in year	68	68
Amount released from prior year	(45)	-
Deferred income at 31 August 2020	68	68

The deferred income balance comprises income for services provided to other schools and rates relief received from the ESFA in relation to the next year.

15 Creditors: amounts falling due in greater than one year

	Group 2020 £000	Parent 2020 £000	Group 2019 £000	Parent 2019 £000
Amounts due to funding body	-	-	993	993
	-	-	993	993

The above amount is interest free and is repayable to the ESFA in instalments of £100k that will be deducted from Rodillian Academy's monthly GAG payment commencing April 2020. The ageing of the repayment is shown below:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Amounts due within one year	993	500
Amounts due between one and five years	-	993
Amounts due after five years	-	-
	993	1,493

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

16 Central Services

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

- School improvement and leadership support
- Human resources
- Finance services
- Others as arising

All schools in the Trust are charged 7% of GAG funding for these services. The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Rodillian Academy	632	523
Featherstone Academy	173	133
BBG Academy	377	301
Brayton	201	142
	1,383	1,099

17 Funds

Consolidated Funds:

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(309)	16,723	(15,412)	-	1,002
Start Up Grant	-	3	(3)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,773	(1,773)	-	-
Local Authority	-	276	(276)	-	-
Other grants	-	2	(2)	-	-
Pension reserve	(4,965)	-	(733)	(4,929)	(10,627)
	(5,274)	18,777	(18,199)	(4,929)	(9,625)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	30,767	-	-	-	30,767
DfE/ESFA capital grants	3,701	1,901	(1,115)	301	4,788
Capital expenditure from other funds	159	40	-	-	199
	34,627	1,941	(1,115)	301	35,754
Total restricted funds	29,353	20,718	(19,314)	(4,628)	26,129
Total unrestricted funds	377	2,871	(2,198)	(301)	749
Total funds	29,730	23,589	(21,512)	(4,929)	26,878

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

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

The General Annual Grant and other restricted funds were paid specifically to cover the running costs of the Trust for the year to 31 August 2020, together with grants from different funding bodies.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2020.

The Academy Trust has used integrated financial and curriculum planning to target teaching staff reductions and increase the average teaching loads. Support staff costs have also been reviewed, non-staff costs have been reduced and where possible contracts are being re-negotiated on a Trust-wide basis.

Other restricted funds include Pupil Premium which is used to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and Special Education Needs income which is received for the provision of education to high needs pupils.

The restricted fixed asset fund includes the net book value of the assets held, plus the balance of the devolved capital grants and CIF funding given by the ESFA and unspent. The main restriction is that it is to be spent on capital assets.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2019 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(1,418)	15,904	(15,097)	302	(309)
Start Up Grant	-	7	(7)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,020	(1,020)	-	-
Local Authority	-	348	(348)	-	-
Other grants	-	12	(12)	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,276)	-	(602)	(2,087)	(4,965)
	(3,694)	17,291	(17,086)	(1,785)	(5,274)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	30,767	-	-	-	30,767
DfE/ESFA capital grants	2,078	2,625	(1,002)	-	3,701
Capital expenditure from other funds	159	-	-	-	159
	33,004	2,625	(1,002)	-	34,627
Total restricted funds	29,310	19,916	(18,088)	(1,785)	29,353
Total unrestricted funds	93	3,230	(2,644)	(302)	377
Total funds	29,403	23,146	(20,732)	(2,087)	29,730

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

Total fund analysis by academy

Fund balances of The Academy Trust (excludes Southway at the Rodillian Academy Limited) at 31 August 2020 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
The Rodillian Academy	1,157	421
Featherstone Academy	(404)	(512)
BBG Academy	807	390
Brayton Academy	(558)	(294)
Central services	-	(314)
Total before fixed asset fund and pension reserve	1,002	(309)
Restricted fixed asset fund	35,754	34,627
Pension reserve	(9,737)	(4,504)
Total	27,019	29,814

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £000	Other support staff costs £000	Educational supplies £000	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £000	Total 2020 £000	Total 2019 £000
Rodillian Academy	5,078	267	177	1,642	7,164	7,191
Featherstone Academy	1,328	339	45	380	2,092	1,957
BBG Academy	3,017	216	100	814	4,147	3,904
Brayton Academy	1,639	255	54	475	2,423	2,109
Central services	1,176	773	120	79	2,148	2,605
	12,238	1,850	496	3,390	17,974	17,766

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	35,588	35,588
Current assets	941	2,775	969	4,685
Current liabilities	(192)	(1,773)	(803)	(2,768)
Non current liabilities	-	-	-	-
Pension scheme liability	-	(10,627)	-	(10,627)
Total net assets	749	(9,625)	35,754	26,878

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

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	34,565	34,565
Current assets	491	2,618	600	3,709
Current liabilities	(114)	(2,472)	-	(2,586)
Non current liabilities	-	(455)	(538)	(993)
Pension scheme liability	-	(4,965)	-	(4,965)
Total net assets	377	(5,274)	34,627	29,730

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

19 Capital commitments

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	38	2,194

20 Commitments under operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2020 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	Group 2020 £000	Parent 2020 £000	Group 2019 £000	Parent 2019 £000
Amounts due within one year	1,247	1,245	968	966
Amounts due between one and five years	4,532	4,530	3,589	3,584
Amounts due after five years	9,778	9,778	8,212	8,212
	15,557	15,553	12,769	12,762

Included above is the PFI agreement for the Rodillian Academy, under which the Trust is committed to pay a standard contribution. The standard contribution for the 2019/20 Financial Year and Future years will be calculated in order to meet the relevant proportion of the Unitary Charge less the PFI grant, paid under section 31 of the Local Government Acts 2003. The standard contribution for PFI includes the PFI factor as noted above as well as other amounts for services supplied. The annual charge for the current year was £828,132 (2019: £864,656). The agreement expires in 2034.

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

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period	2,077	2,414
Adjusted for:		
Loss on disposal of fixed asset	-	1
Depreciation	1,115	1,002
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,941)	(2,625)
Interest receivable	(1)	(1)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	621	545
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	112	57
(Increase)/decrease in stock	-	1
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	471	(1,013)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(810)	665
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	1,644	1,046

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

22 Cash flows from investing activities

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Interest receivable	1	1
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,139)	(2,639)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	1,901	2,625
Other donations	40	-
Net cash (used in) investing activities	(197)	(13)

23 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 31 August 2020 £000	At 31 August 2019 £000
Cash in hand and at bank	3,125	1,678
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,125	1,678

24 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.

25 Pension and similar obligations

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £234,100 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2020 (2019: £61,058) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 (amended) 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 2016 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 (amended). The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.48%, which was payable from September 2015. As a result of the latest valuation based on membership data as at 31 March 2019, TPS employees paid an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from 1 September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.08%). The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,739,519 (2019: £1,400,355).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate Trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £632,000 (2019: £562,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £467,000 (2019: £407,000) and employees' contributions totalled £165,000 (2019: £155,000). The agreed employer contribution rates for future years are between 12.1% and 21.7% dependent on the pension fund.

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.

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

In addition to the agreed contribution rates, two academies are contributing additional payments to mitigate the pension deficit. The level of contributions is reviewed at each triennial valuation of the pension fund.

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55 %	3.25 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.3 %	2.0 %
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7 %	1.9 %
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.3 %	2.0 %
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50%	50.0%

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

	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.8	22.2
Females	24.6	25.4
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.5	23.2
Females	25.7	27.2

Sensitivity analysis

For the principal assumptions used to measure scheme liabilities, the measurement of scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in the relevant assumption that were reasonably possible at the balance sheet date. The table below shows the effect on the net liability of changes to the assumptions used:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(526)	(352)
Discount rate -0.1%	546	361
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	(753)	(496)
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	773	501
CPI rate +0.1%	94	181
CPI rate -0.1%	(94)	(139)

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	Fair value, at 31 August 2020 £000	Fair value at 31 August 2019 £000
Equity instruments	7,781	7,664
Debt instruments	1,587	1,579
Property	474	486
Cash	201	226
Other	275	224
Total market value of assets	10,318	10,179

The actual return on scheme assets was £194,000 (2019: £250,000)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Current service cost (net of employer contributions)	(606)	(269)
Past service cost	(23)	(276)
Interest income	194	250
Interest cost	(298)	(307)
Total operating charge	(733)	(602)

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

	2020 £000	2019 £000
At 1 September	15,144	11,037
Current service cost	1,073	676
Past service cost	23	276
Interest cost	298	307
Employee contributions	165	155
Actuarial loss/ (gain)	4,525	2,922
Benefits paid	(283)	(229)
At 31 August	20,945	15,144

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2020 £000	2019 £000
At 1 September	10,179	8,761
Interest income	194	250
Actuarial (loss)/gain	(404)	835
Employer contributions	467	407
Employee contributions	165	155
Benefits paid	(283)	(229)
At 31 August	10,318	10,179

26 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the AFH, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2020 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

Southway at the Rodillian Academy Ltd is a related party as it is a 100% subsidiary of The Rodillian MAT. The following transactions took place during the year:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Purchase of Alternative Provision	271	99
Recharge of goods and services	143	177
Recharge of central services	82	100

The following balances were outstanding at the year end (eliminated on consolidation):

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Amounts owed from Southway included in debtors	43	7
Amounts owed to Southway included in creditors	43	7

Great Academies Educational Trust (GAET) is a related party as A Hall is a Trustee of both The Rodillian MAT and GAET. The following transactions took place during the year and the following balances were outstanding at the year end:

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Income regarding staff secondment	254	38
Purchases	-	-
Amounts owed from GAET included in debtors	20	38

The Rodillian Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

26 Related party transactions (continued)

As at the year end £27,654 (2019: nil) was owed from Andrew Goulty, the chief executive of the Trust. This is in relation to expenses paid in prior years, which have been agreed to be repaid by the CEO by August 2022.

27 Principal subsidiaries

The wholly owned trading subsidiary Southway at the Rodillian Academy Limited is incorporated in the United Kingdom (company number 08492483). Southway at the Rodillian Academy Limited provides alternative education services.

The summary financial performance of the subsidiary alone is:

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
Turnover	2,224	1,998
Administrative expenses	(1,975)	(1,817)
Interest payable and similar expenses	(8)	-
Profit for the financial year	241	181
Actuarial loss on defined benefit pension scheme	(296)	(196)
Total comprehensive income for the year	(55)	(15)

The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:

	2020	2019
	£000	£000
Fixed assets	41	36
Current assets	944	501
Current liabilities	(235)	(161)
Provision for liabilities (pension)	(890)	(461)
Total net liabilities	(140)	(85)

28 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2020, the Academy Trust received £19,637 and disbursed £20,916 from the fund. An amount of £44,212 is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.

Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2019 are £24,963 received, £7,235 disbursed and £45,491 included in other creditors.

29 Events after the end of the reporting period

In September 2020, the ESFA confirmed that they were satisfied that the conditions of the Financial Notice to Improve had been met. Consequently, the Financial Notice to Improve was lifted on 15 September 2020.