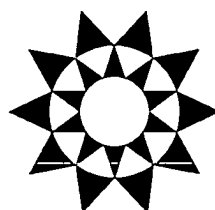


WADE DEACON TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022



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COMPANIES HOUSE

<p>WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Mr D Findon Mr I Hann Ms G Lacey Mr P Wasley Ms P A Wright
Trustees	P Fowler, Chair C McLeod, Vice Chair P Choudhary (Resigned 11 March 2022) D Darlington M Dickinson I Hann C E Marsland N McGee M Murphy (Resigned 31 August 2022) J K Woodroffe
Company registered number	08278808
Company name	Wade Deacon Trust
Principal and registered office	Wade Deacon High School Birchfield Road Widnes WA8 7TD
Company secretary	Mr I Kirkham
Chief executive officer	Mr G Kelly
Independent internal auditor	Beever and Struthers Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors St George's House 215-219 Chester Road Manchester M15 4JE
Independent external auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Drake House Gadbrook Park Northwich Cheshire CW9 7RA

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Bankers	HSBC Bank Plc Vista St Davids Park Chester Cheshire CH5 3DT
Solicitors	Business Services Group Hill Dickinson LLP No. 1 St Paul's Square Liverpool L3 9SJ
Senior management team	Mr G Kelly - Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer Mr I Kirkham - Chief Operations Officer Mr S Robertson - Chief Finance Officer Mr S Corner - Lead Principal Secondary/Principal Wade Deacon High School Ms J Brown - Lead Principal Primary Mrs A Ryan - Principal Hillside High School Mr I Critchley - Principal The Grange Academy (To 31 August 2022) Principal Halewood Academy (From 1 September 2022) Ms T Rollings - Principal Halewood Academy (From September 1 2021 to 31 August 2022) Mrs K Highcock - Principal Widnes Academy Mr I Cooper - Principal Whiston Willis Primary Academy Mrs R O'Hanlon - Principal Yew Tree Primary Academy Mrs R Harrison - Principal Sylvester Primary Academy

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

For the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 the trust operated as a Multi Academy Trust. The Trust currently serves the towns of Widnes and Runcorn in the borough of Halton, Bootle in the Borough of Sefton and Huyton, Whiston & Halewood in the Borough of Knowsley.

The Trust as of September 2021 had a pupil capacity of 6,070 (excluding nursery & DSP provision) across its eight schools.

The membership of Wade Deacon Trust as at 31 August 2022 is:

- Wade Deacon High School, Widnes (Halton) 11-16 (converted 1 March 2013). Capacity 1,600 (Planned Admission Number 320). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Yr7-11) is 1612 students.
- Widnes Academy, Widnes (Halton) 3-11 (converted 1 February 2015) Sponsored Academy. Capacity 210 plus 52 Nursery (Planned Admission Number 30). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Reception-Y6) is 133 students.
- Hillside High School, Bootle (Sefton) 11-16 (converted 1 March 2015) Sponsored Academy. Capacity 970 (Planned Admission Number 194). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Yr7-11) is 646 students.
- Sylvester Primary Academy, Huyton (Knowsley) 3-11 (converted 1 January 2017) Converter Academy. Capacity is 245 plus 52 Nursery (Planned Admission Number 35). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Reception – Y6) is 216 students.
- Halewood Academy, Halewood (Knowsley) 11-16 Sponsored Academy. Capacity is 1,200 (Planned Admission Number 240). Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Yr7-11) is 1088 students.
- The Grange Academy 3-16 (converted 1 January 2018) Converter Academy. This is an all through school with a capacity of 1,320 plus 52 Nursery and check numbers place resource base (Planned Admission Number Primary 60, Secondary 180). Number on Role Autumn Term census 2021 (Reception –Y11) is 1054 students.
- Whiston Willis Primary Academy, Whiston (Knowsley) (converted 1 May 2018) Converter Academy. Capacity is 315 plus 52 Nursery (Planned Admission Number 45) Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Reception –Y6) is 297 students.
- Yew Tree Primary Academy, Halewood (Knowsley) 3-11 (converted 1 September 2018) Converter Academy. Also has a Designated Specialist Provision (DSP). Capacity 210, plus 28 DSP. Number on roll Autumn Term census 2021 (Reception –Y6 & DSP) is 227 students.

Teaching school status ceased on 31st August 2021 and reverted to wider strategic alliance with partner schools to further the development of the Teaching School and school-to-school support.

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

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

The charitable company's memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing document of the Academy Trust. The charitable company is known as Wade Deacon Trust.

The Trustees of Wade Deacon Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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

The Trustees undertake the strategic review of the Academy Trust and powers are delegated to local Governing Bodies; the levels of which are subject to the needs of each individual school.

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnities

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Governor or other officer or Auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust.

Professional Indemnity Insurance is in place to protect Trustees, Governors, and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring on Trust business.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Consideration is given to the skills of Trustees and Governors which would enhance the effectiveness of the Trust in line with the Articles of Association.

The appointment of Trustees may be made by the Members passing a resolution as contained within the Articles of Association.

With regards to the appointment of parent and staff Governors, procedures are in place for their nomination, election and appointment.

WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees are inducted into the workings of the Trust, including details of policies and procedures, together with an appropriate training schedule depending upon their existing area of expertise.

f. Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Trust and Academies by the use of financial management information, making strategic decisions about the direction of the Trust and capital expenditure, making senior appointments and approving the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

As at 31st August 2022 the MAT consists of eight Academies, the teaching school ceased trading on 31st August 2021.

The Trustees delegate the leadership and management of the Trust to the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operations Officer, Lead Principals and Principals. Each Academy has a Senior Leadership Team (SLT) structure in place to support the delegation of responsibilities.

The level of delegation will be subject to assessment and review of performance and also the capacity of each Academy. A small focused central team supports the operation of the Trust. The Senior Leadership Team (SLT), as appropriate to each Academy, would normally consist of Principal, Vice Principals, Assistant Vice Principals and a Business Manager (or equivalent post holder). These leaders control the Trust and Academies at a senior level, implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees & Local Governing Bodies and reporting back to them. As a group the SLT is subject to relevant delegation being granted and responsibility for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff (excluding the appointment of a Principal).

Senior Leadership teams will operate at each Academy and are responsible for the day to day operation of the Trust and the Academies. In particular they are responsible for organising the staff (teaching and support), facilities and students.

The Wade Deacon Multi Academy Trust Board of Trustees has an Audit & Compliance Committee and a Standards Committee.

The role of the Audit and Compliance Committee is to advise the Board on matters relating to the Trust's finance and audit arrangements, systems of internal control, risk management and statutory compliance. The Committee will also advise and aid the Board in ensuring the sound management of the Trust's finances and resources. This will include proper planning, monitoring and probity. The Audit & Compliance Committee is responsible to the Trust Board.

The role of the Standards Committee is to advise the Board on matters relating to Trust's curriculum, quality and standards. The Committee will also advise and aid the Board in ensuring the standards of leadership and management is high. This will include proper planning, monitoring and probity. The Compliance Committee is responsible to the Trust Board.

Both the Board of Trustees and the Audit and Compliance group meet regularly throughout the year. Members meet on a termly basis. An appropriate meeting in each academic year being used to hold the Annual General Meeting following the submission of accounts.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Academy Trustees are non-salaried and therefore no pay and remuneration scales are applicable.

The Academy Trust continues to refer to School Teachers' Pay & Conditions Document (STPCD) and National Joint Council (NJC) to support relevant grade and pay range allocations.

The setting of salaries (and pay range) for Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Vice Principals is undertaken using the STPCD Leadership Pay Group section guidance.

The setting of salaries (and pay range) for the CEO and other non-teaching leaders is undertaken with reference to the Academies Handbook, STPCD, NJC and available benchmarking data.

h. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	7
Full-time equivalent employee number	7

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	4
1%-50%	3
51%-99%	-
100%	-
Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
Total cost of facility time	285
Total pay bill	28,642,816
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	- %
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i. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The transactions with respect to related parties and other connected charities and organisations have been disclosed in note 29 to these financial statements.

<p>WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

j. Engagement with employees

Key to the way we work and our success, are our colleagues and partners who collectively have the knowledge, skills and experience to continually improve the offer for our pupils. We work together to solve problems, overcome barriers, to test things out and continually improve.

Our expectation in all of our academies is that our colleagues are highly skilled, that they continue to develop and are as ambitious for themselves as well as our pupils.

Working within a common structure and bound by our vision of 'A Commitment to Excellence', our academies are supported and encouraged to maintain their own distinctive characteristics and to tailor their curriculum so that it meets the needs of their pupils and to best serve their communities. Our principals are responsible for the academy they lead and are accountable for the outcomes their pupils achieve. Being part of a partnership of academies brings with it challenge and support as well as opportunities to share ideas, share best practice and to share resources where this adds value.

One of Wade Deacon Trust's key objectives is to be a great employer and we are fully committed to our employee's continued professional development. The Trust offers strong CPD opportunities for all of our employees; we believe this is an essential part of our role as an employer and as educators.

With a range of exciting opportunities for aspiring teachers and educational leaders, Wade Deacon Trust provides the very best support and training to assist staff in achieving their goals.

We are passionate about providing tailored support from the journey to all levels of educational development. We offer a wide range of services from collaborative working through to training and support for school improvement and governance with the three key priorities focusing on:

- Initial Teacher Training
- Continuing Professional & Leadership Development
- School-to-School Support

At Wade Deacon Trust we know that having employees who are happy and enthusiastic is an extremely important part of creating successful schools that provide the first-class education that our students deserve. Therefore, we aim to provide a working environment that keeps our employees satisfied in their jobs.

The Wade Deacon Trust employs a diverse range of people in a variety of professions and sectors, who all work together to create wonderful community. Our Trust is about so much more than just teaching, and we strive to give opportunities to as many people, in as many fields, as possible.

Our Trust ensure the best possible facilities and provisions to keep our employees engaged and working hard for the benefit of our students. We appreciate the work of each and every person within Wade Deacon Trust, and recognise that everyone plays an equally valuable part in ensuring that The Wade Deacon Trust runs smoothly all year round for our students.

We have a number of options and benefits available for our employees that come as part of the employment package with Wade Deacon Trust. These include competitive salary and benefits and career progression opportunities. We are always evaluating the pay and benefits we offer our employees and taking account of the changing environment around us to ensure that we continue to be a first-choice employer for prospective and existing staff. We ensure that employees are paid fairly and well. To compliment this, we provide opportunities for salary progression and we take this opportunity very seriously. We know that our employees work hard and we do the best that we can to recognise, celebrate and reward hard work, dedication to our students and achievement.

WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Engagement with employees (continued)

Employees who are disabled or become disabled are encouraged to tell the Trust about their condition so that we can support the employee as appropriate. The Trust may consult with medical advisers about possible adjustments, and considers adjustments carefully to try to accommodate employees' needs. Job applicants are encouraged to report disability to ensure adjustments are put in place for interviews. Provision of this information is voluntary and it will not adversely affect an individual's chances of recruitment or any other decision related to their employment. The information is removed from applications before shortlisting. The Trust monitors the physical features of its premises to consider whether they place anyone with a disability at a substantial disadvantage. Where necessary, the Trust takes reasonable steps to improve access.

k. Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Academy Trust

Wade Deacon Trust treats all of the suppliers it engages in business with as partners in realising the Trust's principles and aims to work together with them to adapt to both changing times and emerging demands from society. This is precisely why the entire Trust also works hard to ensure the practice of fair transactions and competition amongst its suppliers.

Wade Deacon Trust engages with a large number of suppliers across the Academies. We always look to be honest with our suppliers and aim to maintain strong dialogue with all of our suppliers. Strong buyer-supplier relationships are built on collaboration and as a Trust we look to be pro-active with our suppliers.

As a Trust, whilst following the clear guidelines set out by the Academies Trust Handbook with regards to obtaining value for money, we encourage our Academies to seek local suppliers where practical. Our Academies are an integral part of their communities and by adopting a policy of looking to support local businesses if possible we can provide support to those communities and benefit the stakeholders to the academies.

We report every six months on the prompt payment of suppliers (in line with government requirements) and work towards improving our payment terms and conditions wherever possible.

The main customers who use the Trust are based around the use of our facilities across the academies. During the last 18 months we have undertaken a policy across the Trust of prioritising the use of the facilities for local users as well as looking to prioritise use which aligns with our strategic goals. Examples of this include engaging with local youth sports teams to utilise 3-G sports facilities across our sites as well as making resources available for local groups to use however this has been severely limited by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The main objectives of the Trust are summarised below:

- To facilitate a smooth transition to Academy status
- To raise the standard of educational achievements of all pupils in the Trust's academies
- To ensure that every child enjoys the same high-quality education in terms of resourcing, teaching and learning
- To improve the effectiveness of the Academies by keeping the curriculum and organisational structures under continual review
- To comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities (continued)

- To provide value for money for the funds expended
- To conduct the Trust and Academy business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trusts' main strategy is to develop and maintain a culture of excellence across our organisation that continues to provide opportunities for our students.

Wade Deacon High School converted to 'Academy' status in March 2013 and founded the Wade Deacon Trust. This status was adopted because of our quest to continually improve the quality of learning and teaching for the benefit of all students. In addition, all the Trustees of the Trust are committed to training and the life-long learning of all our members of staff and the community.

Students and staff work side-by-side with the latest technological developments to enhance further the quality of our teaching and learning. We help students to develop real life solutions to real life problems, using industry standard equipment to achieve their goals.

As a major contributor to the concept of lifelong learning, we are a Trust that makes a difference within our school Academy communities. We achieve this by engaging in collaborative projects with our community partners and sharing our resources with them.

Throughout all the Trust's Academies, students are encouraged to take pride in themselves, their actions and their achievements. We have high expectations of students' academic work, the manner in which they conduct themselves around their Academy campus and their presence in the local community beyond. An orderly and disciplined environment is a key feature of our work in the Trust. The success of this is based on enhancing and maintaining excellent standards of self-discipline, school uniform and the promotion of a sense of pride and belonging to the Trust and its Academies.

High levels of attendance are expected throughout each year group so that everyone can take full advantage of the range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities available. Levels of attainment are most easily raised when students attend all lessons, allowing continuity of the teaching and learning environment.

Regular extended learning is an integral part of the learning culture of the school. Tasks set are intended to broaden and develop an individual's scope for independent learning as well as reinforcing work completed during the school day.

The Trust as a whole continues on its journey to becoming the finest education provider across the Merseyside region. Through careful management and development, the Trust has provided significant value added experience to both the pupils and staff at all eight of our academies.

c. Public benefit

The principal objective of the Trust is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing the Academies, offering a broad and balanced curriculum. In setting the Trust's objectives and planning its activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities (continued)

d. Trust Development

The current Trust Board of Trustees are from a diverse range of backgrounds and each one has a different type of expertise to offer; however they all have one thing in common and that is a commitment to an exceptional education, where tradition is respected and innovation is encouraged. The vision is for every school in the Trust to be an outstanding school where every child receives an exceptional education.

As the Trust develops and grows, the Trustees will have regard for the operational processes of the schools within the Trust, and will make adjustments to both the structure and membership of the relevant bodies in order to ensure that the Trust can manage the schools in accordance within the required Ofsted framework and ensure that the core principles are sustained.

The Trust believes in giving every student the opportunity to develop his or her talents to the full and expects every student to work very hard in order to achieve this. The Trust is committed to an exceptional education where tradition is respected and innovation is encouraged. The Academy is committed to training and the life-long learning of all our members of staff and the community. Students and staff work side-by-side with the latest technological developments to further enhance the quality of our teaching and learning.

Students are helped to develop real life solutions to real life problems, using industry standard equipment to achieve their goals. As a major contributor to the concept of lifelong learning, all Trust schools make a difference within their communities. We achieve this by engaging in collaborative projects with our community partners and sharing our resources with them.

Throughout school, students are encouraged to take pride in themselves, their actions and their achievements. We have high expectations of students' academic work and the manner in which they conduct themselves around the school campus and in the community beyond. An orderly and disciplined environment is a key feature of work in our schools.

The success of the school is based on promoting and maintaining excellent standards of self-discipline and school uniform, along with the promotion of a sense of pride and belonging to the school.

High levels of attendance are expected throughout each year in school, so that everyone can take full advantage of the range of curricular and extracurricular opportunities available.

The success we achieve in the classroom is enhanced by a wide range of enrichment courses which are made available to all students. Everyone is encouraged to use part of their recreation time for participation in one or more of these opportunities. Clubs and societies, clinics and extra classes are all designed to broaden the experiences of the school's young people outside of their compulsory curriculum diet.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

WADE DEACON TRUST

The Trust has during the year focussed primarily on improving the outcomes within our eight academies. Our future growth and development strategy is based upon proving that we as a Trust have a track record of developing and improving the Academies within our Trust. This year has seen a series of Ofsted visits, all of which have seen Ofsted recognising improvement in the Schools they have visited. Key metrics show improvement across the board and the Trust is now in an excellent position to welcome and develop new Schools who are looking to join up with a dynamic improving Trust.

The Trust recognises the below the individual achievements and performance of each of its constituent academies and is rightly proud of everything that they achieve.

WADE DEACON HIGH SCHOOL

Academy Performance and Improving Outcomes

Wade Deacon High School continues to offer a very high standard of education. GCSE outcomes in 2022 are very positive and reflect the impact of leaders' work over the last year and throughout the pandemic. Attendance is significantly above the local and national averages despite the impact of the Pandemic.

In terms of attainment measures, 81% of students achieved grades 4+ with English and maths and 66% of students achieved 5+ with English and maths, an increase of 5% and 8% respectively from 2019. Student attainment in maths and English at grade 7+ improved from a strong position in 2019, with 21% 7+ in English and maths. 22 students achieved at least a Grade 8 on average across the 9 or 10 subjects they studied, with 149 top-level Grade 9s achieved in all. The overall Progress score currently sits at 0.34, an improvement from 0.22 in 2019 and now significantly above the national average. This reflects the quality of education students receive, the effectiveness of assessment and the leadership of quality assurance systems.

Outcomes from Disadvantaged students have improved considerably. The progress 8 score for Disadvantaged students has changed from -0.48 in 2019 to 0.04 in 2022, reflecting significant growth. Disadvantaged students achieving a grade 4+ in English and Maths has increased from 54% to 72% (the National Average in 2019 was 45%), and at grade 5+ in English and Maths increased from 38% to 46% (the National Average in 2019 was 45%).

The school remains oversubscribed and has continued to go from strength to strength as indicated by internal and external reviews. Both Challenge Partners Quality Assurance Reviews in 2021 / 22 judged the school to be Leading, the highest judgement.

The Academy's impact on the local community

The school continues to support the local community in a variety of ways. First and foremost, we provide very high standards of education to over 1600 students. The vast majority of our students remain in the borough for post 16 studies and achieve very well. Transition rates and ETT figures (Students entering education, employment or training) are higher than the local and national average.

We have also continued to provide support to local families and local charities and have held a number of fund-raising events throughout the year. Food parcels, uniform swap shops and cost of living support strategies / events have been very well received throughout the year.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Highlights and Successes

The way in which the school has been able to provide so many opportunities to students in the last year, considering the challenges we have faced, is a highlight. The opportunities for students to take part in so many clubs, trips, leadership opportunities, performances and events should be celebrated. This has been a priority so that students can once again have the full curriculum experience that has been lost in the two previous years. These opportunities were planned from the start of the year and have been pivotal in supporting students to re-engage with school and manage their own well-being.

The GCSE outcomes, especially for vulnerable groups of students is also a highlight. Students have been able to achieve very well, despite the many challenges they faced, and leave with very competitive qualifications. The dedication, expertise and commitment of our staff to should be highlighted as a major success.

The final success, should be the collaboration across the Trust. The quality assurance model and commitment across the secondary phase to support each other resulted in improved progress in all of the schools and with two schools securing a good judgement.

HALEWOOD ACADEMY

Academy Performance and Improving Outcomes

The outcomes at Halewood Academy showed a positive improvement in both the Attainment 8 and Progress 8 measures. The predictions were a close reflection of actual results which demonstrates a strengthening in assessment and leadership / knowledge within subjects when compared to 2019.

Headline figures for English and Maths grew by 2% and 7% for 4+ and 5+ respectively. More pleasing was the increase in the 5+ plus measure. English maintained their 2019 performance with slight increases in 4+ and 5+. Historically English Literature has been stronger than Language but with new leadership and changes to the curriculum, Language and Literature are now more aligned.

Maths 4+ and 5+ showed an increase by 4% and 6% for the same measures. Further work needs to be done to convert the high proportion of 3's in maths and English. Compared to 2019, there was a 4% increase in 9-7 grades in English and 5% in Maths.

There was an improved picture in the separate sciences compare to 2019. Biology at 9-4 has seen a 30% increase; Chemistry a 42% increase; Physics a 46% increase at the same measure. Combined Science continues to be the subject that has the greatest need for improvement. Predictions were too generous and the 9-4 measure is well below the National Averages. However, there has been an 11% improvement from 2019.

Within the EBacc suite of subjects MFL has improved it's 9-4 performance by 27% when compared to 2019 and with new leadership and a more selective options programme we are aiming for further improvements towards National Average. History and Geography have both improved their 9-4 performance (18% and 24% respectively) when compared to 2019 results.

Many open pool subjects continued to perform well and there was continued strength when compared to 2019 in GCSE PE, and Sports Science, Drama, Dance, Photography, Business and Enterprise, Child Development & Care and Health & Social.

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The Academy's impact on the local community

Halewood Academy is an integral part of the local community and being oversubscribed in Year 7 shows how much the school is valued locally. Parents' evening attendance showed that our families work closely with the school with an average attendance of 70%

The school continues to work closely with the local primary school and the schools collaborated on projects in both English and Music. There are plans for 2022-23 to expand this further. During the summer term the school hosted a scholastic book fair in which Halewood Academy parents and carers were invited alongside parents from the local primary school.

Highlights and Successes

The highlight of 2021-22 would be the judgement that Halewood Academy continued to be a 'good' school. This followed a section 8 inspection from OfSTED in March 2022. Halewood continues to benefit from the support and rigour of Challenge Partners and this provides excellent CPD for senior leaders to support and challenge other schools. Many leaders across the school have completed and currently undertaking a range of approved NPQs which demonstrates a commitment to ongoing CPD.

The extra-curricular programme continues to grow and sporting success continues to be a strength of the school, especially football. The careers team at Halewood Academy have been shortlisted for in the Knowsley Education Awards as was a Year 8 student for their charity work.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

HILLSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Academy Performance and Improving Outcomes

The whole school Progress 8 score was -0.12, this represents an excellent improvement in the progress made by pupils at Hillside. Using this measure this makes us the best school in South Sefton and 7th best in the whole of Sefton. Also of great significance was the progress made by Disadvantaged pupils (-0.09) demonstrating excellent achievement by this group. Highlights include:

English and maths combined at grade 4+ has improved by 8% and grade 5+ improved by 11%.

English – Improvements of nearly 10% at grades 9-4 and 14% at grades 9-5 demonstrating higher than national growth. Biggest growth has been in English Literature which is in line with national at grades 9-4 and has increased by 24% in both 9-4 and 9-5 when compared with 2019 results.

Maths - Improvement of 5% at grades 9-4 and 13% in grades 9-5 compared to 2019 results. Growth is in line with national growth at grades 9-4 and 5% above national growth at 9-5.

Other Subjects of significance - Significant increase from 2019 in Art, Business and Computer Science. These subject areas are also performing above national in nearly all measures.

Gender – Headline figures show that girls have outperformed boys in a number of measures. This is in line with predictions. Attainment at 4+ in maths shows no gender gap and the gap between attainment at 5+ in maths is 6%. There is a gap of 1% between pupils who have achieved 2 sciences at 4+.

Disadvantaged – Attainment figures show that gaps still exist between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils. However the gap has closed significantly for A8 and disadvantaged pupils have achieved higher than the 2019 NA for this group.

Predictions – GCSE 2022 outcomes exceeded P2S3 predictions - this was primarily due to Subject leaders being conservative with grade boundaries, however patterns between groups within data remained the same.

English literature exceeded at all boundaries except 8&9. By 20% on some boundaries.

Spanish exceeded national growth at most grade boundaries and significantly at grade 4 (+20%)

Science Trilogy exceeded national growth for grades 2-7 by between 2-7%.

Improving whole school attendance continues to be key priority

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Impact on the local community

We have been delighted to return to running our community events which included the first ever Christmas Market and Hillside Carnival celebrating our 90th Birthday. Both events were extremely well attended by a broad section of the local community with an excess of 400 visitors.

For our STEM community evenings in October and March we welcomed over 25 family groups ranging from Year 4 to Year 8 to take part in hands-on activities.

Our Summer School welcomed over 50 Year 5 and Year 6 pupils from a range of Primary schools. Hillside Arts Showcase, Hairspray, Remembrance Evening and the Christmas production have brought significant numbers of families and children into school and showcased a wealth of talent in the Arts. Last year our staff and pupils raised a significant sum for local and national charities and other local good causes such as local foodbanks.

Highlights and Successes

- As a result of a strong Primary Liaison Programme paired with a new marketing approach led to a significant increase in the number of Year 7 pupils recruited for September 2022, from 120 in Sept. 2021 to 148 in Sept. 2022.
- Our learning culture continues to permeate not only internally but externally; last academic year we have led CPD within the Trust, the local authority and across the North West area. We are very pleased that Mrs Wardale, Vice-Principal had been shortlisted for Teacher of the Year at the Educate awards.
- Staff engagement and motivation to improve their own practice continues to flourish with several staff enrolled on additional training programmes including NPQs and Research and Mastery Lead programmes.
- There is now strong positive evidence of impact from external data that the work on curriculum intent and implementation is leading to accelerated progress, in many cases higher than national averages and exceeding national growth patterns.
- We have been delighted with feedback from external visitors including Challenge Partners, Trust Quality Assurance and representatives from the DFE which recognised the great progress we have made and confirmed our areas for further development.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

THE GRANGE ACADEMY

2022 GCSE results saw another improvement for The Grange Academy. Robust assessments and moderation ensured that school predictions were accurate. Despite not having formally examinations for the last two years the progress of pupils at The Grange has continued to grow. Progress 8 score for 2019 was -0.91 which improves significantly in 2022 to -0.18, demonstrating the journey the school has been on whilst TAGs and CAGs have been in place. There has been a significant improvement in the core subjects and headline figures when comparing to 2019.

Despite grade inflation these outcomes surpass that which demonstrates genuine growth and improvement. The percentage of pupils achieving 4+ in English rose from 58% to 69%. Those achieving 5+ saw an increase from 42% to 57%. Maths saw some larger increases, the percentage of pupils achieving 4+ in Maths rose from 44% to 57% and at 5+ a huge increase from 19% to 41%. English and Maths combined at 4+ increased from 42% to 51% and at grade 5+ from 17% to 35%. This bodes well for the future as staffing in both departments is stable and leadership is strong.

Within the Ebacc suite of subjects MFL has attained well with 81% achieving 4+ and 67% achieving 5+. History and Geography have not achieved as highly as expected and there is some work on outcomes moving forward even though Geography at 4+ has increased on 2019 figures by 11%.

Results in Primary held steady again this year with improvement in progress from KS1 to KS2 and also improved numbers of pupils achieving the higher levels of attainment, particularly in Reading and Writing. At EYFS students achieved in line with National and scored above Halton schools in some key areas. Y1 Phonics results are in line with National and our average score was 33.5/40 which is a good standard. At KS1 pupils attained in line with National standards including those pupils attaining Greater Depth. KS2 pupils attained well in Reading and Writing. Attainment in Maths tests remains a challenge and is a focus for this year across the Primary phase. Standards in lessons are good and this has been externally verified. The issue is exam technique and pace.

In the Primary phase we are particularly proud of the work we have completed on personal development. Working with a consultant we have implemented the strategies from The Happy at School Project (THASP). These have impacted on staff wellbeing as well as supporting pupils. We have now incorporated the strategies into the whole school behavior policy and are embedding the skills across the phases. We believe we are truly preparing the whole child for life outside and beyond The Grange Academy.

Impact on the local community

In 2021-2022 The Grange Academy further developed initiatives to support the local community. The community shop continued to run for parents that needed additional support with food. At Christmas time the student leadership team created food hampers to families in need. We also ran a successful uniform recycle scheme in the Summer whereby parents could donate uniform that their children had outgrown. Parents could then collect a uniform from school for their children in the Summer holidays. As a school we also ran a Ukraine appeal collecting items of clothing and food to be sent to those affected by war. During the academic year school also ran parental information sessions for parents of SEND children where outside support organisations would come into school to explain to parents what additional support is available.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Successes

The big success for the academic year 2021-2022 was the Ofsted visit in May 2022. Following a two day section 5 inspection, inspectors graded the school good in every category including the grading for EYFS. Inspectors could see the journey that the school had been on in recent years and the improvements that had been made.

Numbers of pupils on roll in secondary was another success this year. The Year 7 intake year group was at PAN, meaning that the school continues to grow in size.

The all through curriculum remains strong and continues to be reviewed and reflected upon. Leaders within school have designed a broad and ambitious curriculum to ensure that children and pupils, irrespective of the challenges they may face, achieve as well as they should

SYLVESTER PRIMARY

Academy Performance and Improving Outcomes

At Sylvester, we have continued to develop our whole school curriculum in order to achieve our aim of providing our children with an engaging, exciting and empowering curriculum, that equips them for today and tomorrow. Our curriculum recognises children's prior learning and experiences, provides first hand learning experiences, allows the children to develop interpersonal skills and become critical thinkers. Curriculum coverage allows all pupils to access content and make progress, with clear knowledge progression and sequencing of concepts being fundamental elements of curriculum planning. Our curriculum reflects our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Resilience effectively.

There has been a considerable focus on ensuring teachers are confident and have good subject knowledge in all areas of the curriculum. All subject leaders have received subject specific training, with all being given the opportunity to feedback to all staff and monitor their subjects on a half-termly basis.

New assessment and marking policies have been put into place this year, taking into account all core and foundation subjects.

Progress of pupils in EYFS at Sylvester is exceptionally good, relative to their extremely low baseline assessments. In 2022, Sylvester pupils performed better than their LA and National peers (at GLD).

In 2022, in Key Stage 1, pupils performed more highly than their local authority peers in both writing and maths.

In Key Stage 2 in 2022, pupils performed better than their local authority and national peers in writing and maths.

Progress in writing and maths from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 was also well above Local Authority and National.

We ensure that we instil the core values of the school, embedded in our curriculum, so our pupils are aspirational and motivated to become global citizens in later life with a love of learning to enable them to fulfil their potential.

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The Academy's impact on the local community

Since the Covid restrictions have been lifted, links have been forged with the local community, through participation in community events and parents are invited to the school for various activities, such as coffee mornings, "Stay and Play", "Meet the Teacher" and various assemblies.

We have formed a "Toddler Group" at school and prospective parents and members of the community are invited into school with pre-school age children.

We offer 30-hour Nursery provision, to meet the needs of our working parents and this has attracted families to our setting.

We work in co-operation with our local community hub and have a resource area there, where our families can access high quality second- hand school uniforms free of charge. We also have links with local food banks, where we donate food items, but are also able to refer families to.

We have recently set up a Parents and Community association in school and have worked with a local councillor to provide courses for adults in basic literacy and numeracy skills development, to enable them to access the workplace.

We have been working alongside Knowsley Local Authority to increase our pupil admission number in September 2023 to 60, in order to meet the demands of the growth in housing in the local area.

Highlights and Successes

Over the last year, we have seen a steady growth in pupil numbers, in terms of entry into Reception and in-year admissions.

In order to facilitate the future growth in PAN, we have had a substantial investment in building work from the Wade Deacon Trust. This has included the development of an area to house wraparound and extra-curricular provision, two new classrooms and refurbishment of toilet areas across school.

We have successfully recruited additional staff members to our team, including an ECT and administration staff.

We have continued to work successfully with other schools across the Trust on successful strategies, such as moderation and peer review.

<p>WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

WIDNES ACADEMY

Academy Performance and Improving Outcomes

Phonics and Key Stage One results remain strong and show the impact of the work we have continued to do in these areas through our catch up funding. Writing and Maths in particular have shown.

Key Stage Two results and progress scores were disappointing but did reflect our predictions. Senior Leaders have a clear picture of the way forward which is reflected in the School Development Plan and our allocation of support for this years cohort.

Small and inconsistent cohorts which result in mixed age classes across Key Stage 2 have an impact upon our results as well as the increasing number of EAL pupils which is now above national average (21.9%)and present challenges for our small school.

The Academy impact upon the Local Community

The Academy is very much at the heart of the local community and we are working hard to engage with the increasing numbers of EAL families. We remain at the centre of life within the West Bank area and are continuing to look for ways in which we can support the local area.

Mental Health Support – We now have a Mental Health Support Team attached to our school following a pilot and this has now become part of our provision. Our Mental Health Practitioner offers support to both children and families and is a great source of advice and information for all.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Highlights and Successes

We have finally been able to engage with events involving families and it has been lovely to see everyone back together. Below is a list of events over the year which we feel reflects how our curriculum offer of extended experiences to all of our children enhances our academic provision.

Residentials: These have been reintroduced following the restrictions and are offered to three different year groups - Year 6 2 nights at PGL, Year 5 2 nights at Conway, Year 2/3 1 night at Tattenhall.

Visits: Year 3 Catalyst museum, Year 5/6 Safety Central, Y6 Shakespeare trip to Brindley, Y1 and Y2 Philharmonic Hall concert,

Events: Santa Dash, Christmas Jumper Day, Panto, World Book Day, Year 4 Catalyst workshops and visit, Year 5 Chemistry workshop, HPAN Art exhibition and performance, History workshop in school, Year 4 Cricket competition, , Whole School Jubilee party, Sports Day with parents attending, Reception new parent meetings, Summer Fair.

Throughout the year we have continued with whole school music tuition in Year 4/5 (guitars) and Year 5/6 (Brass). We have also been able to offer after school tuition for a small group who are hoping to extend their guitar playing further.

We have now been awarded the Music Mark in recognition of our commitment to music provision across school and will continue to build upon this across the coming year.

After School clubs reintroduced this year: Choir, Art and craft, Dance, Football (two sessions per week) and Breakfast Judo.

WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

WHISTON WILLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Academy Performance and improving outcomes

External verification of the high-quality work being completed has been given from external partners through Peer review processes, EY2P consultancy reports and through successful work with St John Vianney English Hub.

A commissioned SEND review highlighted strength in provision for pupils with SEND. This is key for the academy as contextual changes have increased the proportion of pupils with SEND.

A high-quality curriculum that goes beyond the National Curriculum is in place and ensures high ambition for all learners.

Subject leadership has been strengthened across the year and the intended curriculum in all subjects has been carefully considered and is underpinned by curriculum thinking that ensures that pupils build on learning year on year. This is implemented well in all subject areas and has positive impact on pupil outcomes Internal evaluation processes are strong and the quality of education across all phases is evaluated as excellent.

Pupil outcomes have remained at least in line with national averages and above in cases at all key external assessment points.

End of Key Stage 2 assessments continue to be particularly strong in terms of attainment and progress. The proportion of pupils achieving expected or better in combined reading, writing and maths was 32% above national figures.

The Academy's impact on the local community

WWPA have continued to support the local community and stakeholders throughout the last academic year. Fundraising was completed for local charity groups such as the James Greenop Foundation in addition to supporting wider national fundraising campaigns such as Children in Need and Macmillan Cancer research. Donations were also collected for local foodbanks at points across the year. A uniform donation system has also been set up so that families have access to pre-worn uniform that is still in good condition at no cost.

The Household support fund (from KMBC) was used to support eighteen families with additional supermarket vouchers at key pinch points during the year.

Within the daily work of the academy, sharp focus has remained on developing pupils personally so that they play an active role in their local community. An example of this is curriculum work that was completed across KS2 working with LFC foundation on #Iwill project that saw all classes complete a social action project to raise money to address key issues within the area.

Feedback received from a local high school indicates that they have found the new pupils they have received from Whiston Willis to be well rounded and well behaved citizens. This is a testament to the work we complete with children in their time at Whiston Willis

WADE DEACON TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Highlights and successes

Reaccreditation of International Schools award for commitment to developing internationalism across the curriculum. Links with two partner schools in France and South Africa have been further developed. 123 pupils across KS2 graduated at Children's University for a significant commitment to extra-curricular provision. 85% of pupils across school attended extra-curricular activity.

Sporting success included Y3/4 Knowsley and Merseyside gymnastics champions, Y5/6 Knowsley dodgeball champions, Y3/4 Knowsley dodgeball champions and Y5/6 Knowsley hockey champions.

YEW TREE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Academy Performance and Improving Outcomes:

- Phonics – Significantly improved outcomes at Phonics Screening Check (PSC) and on exit from KS1 – 80% Y1 mainstream cohort (73% whole school) achieved 80% outcomes in PSC and End of KS1 – 92% of children – only one child moved to Y3 without success in PSC.
- EYFS outcomes on trajectory of improvement – new lead in role from Summer Term
- KS2 Outcomes – Significantly improved outcomes across reading, writing, maths and combined scores – most improvement in Reading – increase of 16% in mainstream
- KS2 progress – greatest levels of progress in last 5 years – Reading +1.4; Writing +1.7 and Maths +0.4 – first time all subjects achieved positive scores for progress
- Continued work with Maths Hub and English Hub – supporting further progress and fidelity in delivery of RWI – DfE approved Prog for SSP – Phonics Lead and staff delivering RWI across EYFS, DSP and KS1 and LKS2 high levels of RWI consultant CPD. NW3 Maths Hub – Mastering Number Programme with NCETM- to secure firm foundations in the development of good number sense for all children from Reception through to Year 1 and Year 2. 1 The aim over time is that children will leave KS1 with fluency in calculation and a confidence and flexibility with number
- Speech and Language – successful delivery and outcomes from WellComm – every child in amber progress group is now working at age related expectations from 84% working below on entry. Continued intensive support from both private and NHS Speech and language therapist across EYFS and DSP has resulted in exceptional individual progress.
- Introduction of AAC devices (augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) device, is a tablet or laptop that helps someone with a speech or language impairment to communicate in place for children within the DSP enabling pre-verbal children to express their needs and preferences.
- Impact of DSP outdoor area in physical development, communication and language and sensory regulation in particular.
- Trajectory of improvement in outcomes for Foundation Subjects
- Successful introduction of new MFL language – Spanish – now in line with Halewood Academy and support development of MFL across KS2/3
- High levels of Staff CPD - internal and external through WDT, LA, Southern Area Schools, Special School Alliance, Safeguarding Governors, School Improvement Liverpool, Occupational Therapist, Trust PILs, Speech and Language Therapists, Educational Psychologist, Autism Specialist Teacher, Literacy Tree Consultants, NPQH and NPQSL and Coaching etc
- Subject Leaders all involved in Subject Review – positively highlighted the improvement journey of school and strength in middle leadership
- Positive outcomes, identifying strong progress across school culture and subject developments as well as continued strength of SEND by School Improvement Partner visits.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The Academy's impact on the local community

We continuously provide extended support for our families. Support is hugely varied and depends on the needs of the family. It can include listening to a family's fears and anxieties, providing practical and emotional support, support through bereavement and grief, wrap around care during stressful times, safeguarding welfare concerns, collecting those children who are struggling to come into school, and operating an open-door policy to our vulnerable families.

Funding provided to support individual needs of families eg food, clothing, heating, white goods, bedding, housing support etc

Library open to families on a weekly basis.

Increased Family Learning opportunities – face to face and online as needed – focus on mental health and anxiety – linked to post COVID – behaviour support, Autism awareness through Advanced Solutions

Hosting Coffee Morning with Knowsley Parent Carer Voice for families of children with SEND across mainstream and DSP

Families returning to school for assemblies, face to face meeting, parents evening – whilst still offering remote support

Hosted IQM (Inclusion Quality Mark) Regional Cluster Inclusive Sports Day

Highlights and Successes – (Additional to two sections above)

IQM Flagship status – 4 years in row

Attachment and Trauma Aware School Bronze Award

Outcomes from LA SEND Inspection – positive school visit by inspector who met with SLT, families and children – described our setting and provision to Assistant Director of Education for Knowsley as, 'breath-taking'.

Positive outcomes from Trust Peer Review and LA Peer Review processes

Reception admissions continue to increase and this year we were once again oversubscribed – having three In Year applications taken to appeal panel.

Primary Improvements Leads for Trust x 2 – SEND

SEND Reviews carried out by AP across Trust schools

Staff member completed intensive Forest Schools Level 3 training – awaiting outcome of final assessments.

SLT member completed NPQH

SLT Member continues as Lead Moderator for Y6 Writing for Knowsley and is now Inclusion and Diversity panel and Lead Practitioner for Literacy Tree.

School has been nominated and now shortlisted for two Knowsley Education Awards – Inclusion and Diversity and Primary School of the Year 2021-22

Schools has a more positive reputation in the local authority and has received positive feedback from a number of individuals and groups.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

a. Key performance indicators

Primary

2021-22 KS2 SATs % pupils at/above expected – Pupils in Year 6

School	Reading	Writing	R&W Combined	Mathematics	GPS
Sylvester	65%	80%	65%	85%	80%
The Grange	65% [69%]	70% [71%]	50% [52%]	57% [58%]	56% [57%]
Whiston Willis	89%	86%	81%	84%	84%
Widnes Academy	47%	58%	42%	58%	53%
Yew Tree	69% [73%]	63% [67%]	59% [63%]	69% [73%]	53% [57%]
Totals	69%	72%	59%	68%	64%

National Averages:

Reading 74%

Writing 69%

Maths 71%

GPS 72%

RWN Combined 59%

Note – The additional figures for Yew Tree and The Grange are the mainstream only equivalent figures.

2022 Progress Measures

School	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Sylvester	+0.1	+2.7	+3.6
The Grange	-0.7	+1.4	-2.1
Widnes Academy	-5.8	-2.7	-3.5
Whiston Willis	+3.2	+4.1	+2.4
Yew Tree	+1.4	+1.7	+0.4

Secondary

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

	2022 Performance Data			
	Wade Deacon High	Halewood Academy	Hillside High	The Grange
Number of Students	333	215	132	118
Average KS2 Prior Engagement	104.54	4.76	4.72	4.69
Attainment 8	54.16	39.35	42.36	42.09
Attainment 8 PP	46.95	33.62	40.34	36.47
A8 English	11.62	8.39	9.2	9.44
A8 Maths	10.61	7.11	7.67	8.08
A8 EBACC	15.37	11.03	12.47	11.25
A8 Open	16.51	12.83	14.13	13.31
%4+ English	90%	65%	76%	69%
%5+ English	79%	45%	54%	57%
%4+ Maths	82%	53%	62%	57%
%5+ Maths	70%	29%	42%	41%
%4+ Maths & English Combined	81%	45%	58%	51%
%5+ Maths & English Combined	66%	27%	32%	35%
EBACC Entered	19%	23%	17%	21%
%4+ EBACC	16%	6%	7%	15%
%5+ EBACC	14%	5%	3%	9%

Pupil Numbers

Year Group	HA	HHS	SPA	TGA	WDHS	WWPA	WA	YTPA	Year Totals
N1			2	1		0	0	0	3
N2			19	26		32	16	21	114
R			35	52		45	13	30	175
1			37	51		45	22	33	188
2			31	52		45	14	30	172
3			31	40		43	26	31	171
4			26	60		42	22	36	186
5			35	62		40	17	35	189
6			21	64		37	19	32	173
7	206	124		187	325				842
8	239	135		117	329				820
9	225	124		136	308				793
10	200	131		112	316				759
11	218	132		121	334				805
School Totals	1,088	646	237	1,081	1,612	329	149	248	5,390

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue 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.

The Trust is confident that the financial position reported within the financial statements to 31 August 2022 and the projections made within the Trusts 3-year financial budget projections give the Trust the financial scope to be able to respond to the challenges which the whole education sector will face over the coming years. The Trust has married a fiscally prudent strategy alongside a use of reserves programme targeted at School improvement to ensure that it maintains best value with public funds.

c. Promoting the success of the company

The Trust makes all decisions based upon the best interests not only of the Trust itself but all of its key stakeholders. The Trust Board are fully involved in key decision-making processes and utilise information both from the Trust senior management team but also the School Local Governing Bodies in all decision making processes.

The sector is strongly regulated by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as well as other key legislation and the Trust ensures that all regulatory requirements are considered in all aspects of work conducted by the Trust.

As noted earlier within this report the above approach is reflected in the achievements and performance of the Trust as well as noted earlier in how the Trust interacts with, customers suppliers and other key stakeholders.

Financial review

Financial Performance

The majority of the Trust and Academy income is obtained from the Education and Skill Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA in the period ended 31st August 2022 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also received grants from the ESFA and other organisations. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP FRS102), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the restricted general fund and fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

During the period ended 31 August 2022, total expenditure (excluding depreciation and actuarial pension adjustments) of £37,700,889 (2021: £34,462,301) was covered by recurrent grant income from the ESFA together with other incoming resources which totalled £39,421,010 (2021: £37,019,321). After transfers to capital funds of £1,082,792 (2021: £932,541), there is a net revenue surplus for the year of £637,328 (2021: £1,624,279). Total funds carried forward amount to £57,226,731 (2021: £39,206,710) which include revenue funds of £5,445,867 (2021: £4,808,539). This is in line with the Trust's strategy to build and maintain adequate reserves.

Ensuring Value for Money across the Trust and financial performance

During the year The Trust has provided a fully managed central services to its academies during the year. Each academy school pays a 'top slice' of their General Annual Grant income to The Trust's Central Services fund which pays for key staff, systems or services vital to the running of The Trust. This includes ensuring that wherever possible the Trust seeks best value across procurement and spending whilst also trying (within the prescribed framework) to support local providers and local businesses in order to support the wider local community.

The Trust continues to maintain a solid financial position moving forwards. Within the next 12-24 months there are a number of financial uncertainties facing the sector as a whole, most notably around potential funding constrictions with the increase in funding potentially not keeping pace with inflation pressures on all expenditure lines but most notably salaries and utility costs.

The Trust is in a strong position to mitigate these with a strong reserves position and long term fixed contracts already in place in response to rising costs of utility and other areas of expenditure.

a. Reserves policy

The Trustees and Governors review the level of reserves on an annual basis. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of the reserves. The Trusts current level of revenue reserves (total reserves less the amounts held in fixed asset reserve and the pension fund reserve) is £5,445,867 (2021: £4,808,539).

The Trustees have decided wherever possible to adopt a prudent approach to reserves and aim to build a group reserve of designated funds to safeguard against unforeseen circumstances, capital improvements or developments and other emergencies. This is sound commercial practice designed to safeguard the quality of education received at the academies within the Trust. The current financial position of the Trust is testament to this approach.

In addition, the net liability due to the Trusts participation in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) amounts to £6,980,000 (2021: £23,671,000) showing a significant reduction in the liability as at 31 August 2022. 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. This guarantee provides comfort to the Trustees in the unlikely event of an Academy closure.

The free reserves of the Trust are £2,557,146 (2021: £1,834,019).

WADE DEACON TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

b. Investment policy

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Trustees can deposit or invest funds not immediately required. It has been decided that cash balances are to be safeguarded by investing them in interest bearing current and deposit accounts with HSBC, a recognised sound commercial bank.

In recent years the levels of returns available for depositing funds have never created a compelling argument to invest large sums in long term deposits however recent increases in the UK base rate of interest will allow the Trust to potentially take advantage of deposit activity to generate additional funds.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks to the Trust are documented and managed using a risk management policy and a risk register which is regularly reviewed. The main risks are seen as the loss of reputation through failing standards at the Academies, falling student numbers, failure to safeguard our students, national budget constraints to all schools and failure on high profile school-to-school support commissions. Key controls in place to mitigate these risks are:

- An organisational structure with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and authorisation levels,
- Documented terms of reference for the committees and sub-committees of the Trust,
- Financial planning, budgeting and regular management reporting highlighting key areas of financial risk,
- Formal written and published policies for employees,
- Vetting procedures as required by legislation for the protection of the vulnerable, and
- Robust due diligence procedures in place for new contracts and commissions.

Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The main financial risks are mitigated through the employment of sound financial management and internal control processes. Balanced budgets are set for each of the Academies within the Trust and limited budgets are further delegated to departments and faculties. Actual performance against agreed budgets is closely monitored by the Trust's central finance team and via regular (termly) meetings of the finance committee of each LGB. Bank and cash reconciliations are carried out routinely and signed by the authorised officers of the Trust's central finance team. All orders and payments are signed off by the finance team with appropriate segregation of duties in place. An exercise to ensure fixed asset registers are in place is ongoing and there are processes in place for the acquisition, adaptation and disposal of assets. Payroll is outsourced and checked by more than one individual each month. The appropriateness and integrity of internal controls is assessed and reported to the Trustees by the responsible officer and external auditors.

The security of data is administered by an in-house team of IT professionals. Remaining risks are mitigated to a large extent via comprehensive insurance policies.

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

d. Utilisation of the surplus funds

The Trust has supplemented an element of its surplus to support projects using the schools' capital funding allocation. The Trust has undertaken a large capital project at Wade Deacon High School, being the construction of a School Inclusion Centre funded by a combination of capital grants and revenue funding as well as using revenue funds to support two Primary Schools (Whiston Willis Primary and Sylvester Primary) increasing their capacity following requested from the LEA to provide additional places. This can all be done as a result of careful financial management of the Trust and the Trusts ongoing quest to seek value for money from public funds.

Although the Trust does not formally adopt a 'GAG pooling' policy the CEO and Principals work together to identify a use of reserves policy which each School contributes to based upon current reserve levels. These 'earmarked' funds are managed by the CEO and Lead Principals and distributed as educational support across the Trust where deemed necessary.

Fundraising

The Trust in its approach to fundraising follows undertakes the following:

- Voluntary Contributions - outlined in its charging and remissions policy Section 5, Voluntary contributions can be invited from parents towards the cost of the academy activities which are related to the life and work of the academy. Such contributions will be genuinely voluntary and no child whose parents feel unable to contribute will be treated differently from the rest.
- Charitable fundraising takes place at each school for charities nominated at each school.
- Other school organised events (fete's, bingo etc.) are undertaken through voluntary donations of prizes and time. Income raised is used to purchase resources that the school identify.
- All charity and school fundraising is undertaken internally and we do not currently make use of commercial participators/professional fundraisers.
- All internal fundraising is monitored and reviewed with the Trust audit systems.
- Any complaints would be reviewed in line with the Trust's complaints policy.
- All fundraising events are voluntary and undertaken in a manner to support local and national charities and for school based events to also support proactive community engagement.

<p>WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Fundraising (continued)

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

Annual energy usage and associated annual greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions are reported pursuant to the Companies (Directors' Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018 ("the 2018 Regulations") that came into force 1 April 2019.

Organisational boundary

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions are for those assets owned or operated within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary. This includes all 8 schools controlled during the reporting period and minibuses along with the mandatory inclusion of scope 3 business travel in employee-owned or hire vehicles (grey fleet).

Reporting period

The annual reporting period is 1 September to 31 August each year and the energy and carbon emissions are aligned to this period.

Quantification and reporting methodology

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

The electricity and gas consumption were compiled from invoice records. Where invoices did not cover the full reporting period, estimation techniques were applied, such as: pro-rata extrapolation, direct comparison, and the Annual Energy Usage Rating from recent DEC's. Mileage records and claims were used to calculate energy use and emissions associated with scope 1 Trust-owned vehicles and grey fleet respectively. Generally gross calorific values were used except for grey fleet mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

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

Intensity ratio

Two intensity ratios are reported showing emissions (tCO₂e) per pupil and per square meter floor area. Emissions per pupil is the recommended ratio for the sector for consistency and comparability and pupil numbers are based on the Autumn 2021 Census. Emissions per square meter floor area is reported to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the source of the majority of emissions.

Energy efficiency action during current financial year

This year, the Trust has continued to use video conferencing facilities to limit business travel. Two of the Academies within the Trust are housed within PFI buildings, and the Trust is working with the PFI teams to try to improve energy efficiency, such as monitoring data consumption. Regarding future action, the Trust is planning to replace boilers with newer, more energy efficient boiler systems.

WADE DEACON TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting (continued)

Breakdown of energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh):

Energy type	2020/21	2021/22
Mandatory requirements:		
Gas	6,565,861	6,231,214
Purchased electricity from the grid	3,136,470	2,939,707
Transport fuel	5,072	7,669
Total energy (mandatory)	9,707,403	9,178,589

Breakdown of emissions associated with the reported energy use (tCO₂e):

Emission source	2020/21	2021/22
Mandatory requirements:		
<u>Scope 1</u>		
Natural gas	1,202.6	1,137.4
Company owned vehicles (minibuses)	0.7	0.6
<u>Scope 2</u>		
Purchased electricity (location-based)	666.0	568.5
<u>Scope 3</u>		
Category 6: Business travel (grey fleet)	0.5	1.3
Total gross emissions (mandatory)	1,869.8	1,707.8
<u>Intensity ratios (mandatory emissions only)</u>		
Tonnes of CO ₂ e per pupil	0.353	0.317
Tonnes of CO ₂ e per square meter floor area	0.032	0.029

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Plans for future periods

Cost of Living Crisis and the implications for future Trust plans and risk

In the wake of the pandemic the importance of personalising the Trust's approach to meeting individual need is greater than ever. The return to full time education provision requires increased flexibility and contingency planning in responding to the challenges arising from the pandemic in order to ensure that pupils are supported to fulfil their potential academically, socially and emotionally.

The Trust is confident that the financial position reported within the financial statements to 31 August 2022 and the projections made within the Trusts 3 year financial budget projections give the Trust the financial scope to be able to respond to the challenges which the whole education sector will face as a result of the pandemic.

The Trust has a collaborative working approach across all of its academies and therefore has the ability to utilise resources across the whole Trust where required. The Trust is well positioned to deal with the cost of living crisis and is looking where possible to support staff, students and their families as part of the local community. Plans have also been enacted to deal with increased energy costs anticipated to take effect over the next few years.

Plans for future periods

The overall performance in this reporting period was extremely robust and as a consequence will directly reinforce the Trust's medium to long-term strategy. The Trust's main annual objectives for the next year are:

- To ensure the Academy Improvement Strategy that creates the culture, attitude and aspiration necessary to secure successful outcomes for young people is embedded into all Trust Schools.
- To build on the excellent reputation of our Academy.
- To seek options for growth of the Trust in line with its strategic development plan.
- To strive for continuous improvement in examinations results and all indicators of performance in all of the Trust's academies.
- To seek to increase numbers on roll at unsubscribed schools.
- To build adequate financial reserves to fund building and other investment needs.
- Development of the roles and separation of duties at each layer of Governance.

Key to success is the leadership and management of the Trust, ensuring that high quality leaders are in place through a rigorous recruitment system. The Trust will also take steps to identify future leaders within the Academy staff members and support them to gain middle and senior leadership opportunities, thus adding to the strengths of the Trust and all its academies.

Excellent standards of behaviour will be maintained to create a well ordered community with the learning and the support of students at the heart.

Teaching and learning will continue to have pace, purpose, variety and rigour. Students will be able to progress as a result of a suitable curriculum and relevant personalised programmes of study.

Staff will be confident practitioners with appropriate professional development opportunities. Educational outcomes in all performance indicators will be well above national averages and the Academies will be in the "high performing" category. The strategic development of the Academies will be effectively planned, monitored and supported by well-equipped and committed local governing bodies and the main Board of Trustees.

<p>WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Disclosure of information to auditors

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

The auditors, WR Partners, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 7 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



P Fowler
(Chair of Trustees)

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

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 Wade Deacon Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is 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 Report of Trustees and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
P Fowler, Chair	6	6
C McLeod, Vice Chair	5	6
P Choudhary	1	3
D Darlington	6	6
M Dickinson	6	6
I Hann	6	6
C E Marsland	6	6
N McGee	5	6
M Murphy	5	6
J K Woodroffe	6	6

The main responsibilities of the Board and issues dealt with during the year were as follows:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Hold the executive to account for the educational performance of the Trust's academies and their pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- Oversee the financial performance of the Trust and make sure its money is well spent.
- Ensure that appropriate and correct decision making is undertaken in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuring that the Trust adequately meets its responsibilities to the Trust's stakeholders.
- Provide a link to local School Governing bodies who meet on a regular basis to add an additional layer of governance challenge to the Trust Executive Team.

WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Trust completed the DfE's School resource management self-assessment checklist during the year.

The checklist helps governing bodies and trust boards to:

- check they have appropriate financial management and governance arrangements
- check they are meeting the right standards to achieve a good level of financial health and resource management
- Identify areas for change to make sure resources are used to support high-quality teaching and the best education outcomes for pupils.

The outcomes of the review were very positive. The Trust Board was subject to significant change just over two years ago. A significant amount of work was undertaken in ensuring that the Board structure was such that it was able to challenge and lead the Trust to ensure that it meets its strategic objectives.

The Trust Board will be looking to engage our newly appointed independent internal auditors to undertake a review of our governance procedures as part of next year's internal audit cycle and will welcome any recommendations which may come from this.

Conflicts of interest

On an annual basis the Trust requires completion of precuniary interest forms and declaration of eligibility for all Trustees and Members. In addition staff must make self-declarations across the Trust. Where required by the Academies Trust Handbook this information is published on the Trust website. This is communicated to all Business Managers across the Schools to ensure that any transactions may lead to a conflict of interest are managed and dealt with before any such transactions are approved.

The Audit & Compliance Committee, which is a committee of the Trust Board, is responsible for overseeing the financial affairs of the Academy and reporting to the Trust Board. The Audit & Compliance Committee meets at least once a term or more frequently should the need arise. During the year to 31 August 2022 the Committee met formally 6 times.

In relation to the Audit & Compliance Committee the main responsibilities and issues dealt with during the year were as follows:

- The initial review and detailed analysis of the annual budget
- The regular monitoring of actual expenditure and income against budget
- Ensuring the annual financial statements are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; the Charities SORP, the Academies Accounts Direction and other guidance issued by the ESFA;
- Ensuring that all of the financial returns required by the ESFA are correctly prepared and submitted on time;
- Capital project monitoring, procurement and reporting
- Authorising changes to the Trust's personnel establishment;
- Reviewing the reports of the internal auditors and ensuring all responsible officer requirements are met

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Committee Member	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Colin McLeod	5	6
Michael Dickinson	5	6
John Woodroffe	6	6

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the chief executive officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- The economic, efficient and effective use of all resources to produce better educational results.
- The avoidance of waste and extravagance.
- The prudent and economical administration of the organisation.
- The establishment and maintenance of a system of financial governance, including sound internal spending controls, keeping up to date financial records, continuous financial monitoring and timely reporting.
- Ensuring all financial transactions represent value for money.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an 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 Wade Deacon Trust for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

The Trust maintains a detailed risk register and the controls in place to mitigate risk are reviewed on a regular basis in line with regulatory requirements and agreed good practice across the sector. The controls that the Trust maintains ensures that risks are managed as far as possible.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees;
- Regular reviews by the finance and general purposes committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties.

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Beever and Struthers

Following a tender process Beever and Struthers were appointed as our independent internal audit partners in January 2021.

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

- Governance
- Key Financial Controls
- Safeguarding

This is part of an ongoing three year contract with the internal auditors which will look at a number of areas across the Trust across this timeframe. The internal audits undertaken each year are determined based upon consideration of the Trust Risk register and the key areas identified by the Audit and Compliance Committee.

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

The internal audit reports provided noted some management actions in each area to undertake in order to further improve the systems and controls in place and the Senior Leadership Team are actioning all of the points raised in order to ensure improved systems and controls in these areas.

WADE DEACON TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

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

- The work of the internal auditor;
- The work of the external auditor;
- The financial management and governance self assessment process;
- The work of the senior leaders and 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 and a plan to address areas for improvement and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

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


Paul Fowler
Chair of Trustees


Mr G Kelly
Accounting Officer

WADE DEACON TRUST
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STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Wade Deacon Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

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



Mr G Kelly
Accounting Officer
Date:

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 7 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



P Fowler
(Chair of Trustees)

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE DEACON TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Wade Deacon Trust (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE DEACON TRUST (CONTINUED)

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE DEACON TRUST (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- We reviewed the susceptibility of the Trust's financial statements to material misstatement and identified the principal risks, implementing a series of testing procedures to provide us with sufficient comfort to issue our opinion.
- We reviewed the Trust's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the Trust and its environment and identify any instances of non-compliance.
- We also assessed the Trust's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.
- The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and Trust awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

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 Auditors' report.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WADE
DEACON TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Use of our report

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



Fran Johnson BSc BFP FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
WR Partners

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Drake House

Gadbrook Park

Northwich

Cheshire

CW9 7RA

16 December 2022

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WADE DEACON TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 7 December 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Wade Deacon Trust during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Wade Deacon Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Wade Deacon Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 27 February 2013 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

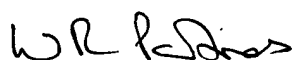
Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity and propriety of the Academy's income and expenditure.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Reporting Accountant
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Date: 16.12.22

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	232,103	-	1,437,152	1,669,255	1,568,220
Other trading activities		178,329	-	-	178,329	292,937
Charitable activities:	4					
Educational operations		203,725	38,806,853	-	39,010,578	36,426,327
Teaching School		-	-	-	-	200,377
Total income		614,157	38,806,853	1,437,152	40,858,162	38,487,861
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		-	39,511,889	1,828,251	41,340,140	37,786,818
Total expenditure		-	39,511,889	1,828,251	41,340,140	37,786,818
Net income/(expenditure)		614,157	(705,036)	(391,099)	(481,978)	701,043
Transfers between funds	19	-	(1,082,792)	1,082,792	-	-
Total transfers		-	(1,082,792)	1,082,792	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		614,157	(1,787,828)	691,693	(481,978)	701,043
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	-	589,737
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	18,502,000	-	18,502,000	(3,433,000)
Net movement in funds		614,157	16,714,172	691,693	18,020,022	(2,142,220)

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Note					
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	1,834,019	(20,696,481)	58,069,171	39,206,709	41,348,929
Net movement in funds	614,157	16,714,172	691,693	18,020,022	(2,142,220)
Total funds carried forward	2,448,176	(3,982,309)	58,760,864	57,226,731	39,206,709

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

The notes on pages 52 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08278808

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	57,622,992	57,420,132
		<u>57,622,992</u>	<u>57,420,132</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	1,771,472	1,160,137
Cash at bank and in hand		6,011,784	5,622,603
		<u>7,783,256</u>	<u>6,782,740</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(1,184,536)	(1,295,201)
Net current assets		<u>6,598,720</u>	<u>5,487,539</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>64,221,712</u>	<u>62,907,671</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(14,981)	(29,962)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>64,206,731</u>	<u>62,877,709</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	26	(6,980,000)	(23,671,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>57,226,731</u></u>	<u><u>39,206,709</u></u>
Funds of the Academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	19	58,760,864	58,069,171
Restricted income funds	19	2,888,721	2,974,519
		<u>61,649,585</u>	<u>61,043,690</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	19	61,649,585	61,043,690
Pension reserve	19	(6,980,000)	(23,671,000)
Total restricted funds	19	<u>54,669,585</u>	<u>37,372,690</u>
Unrestricted income funds	19	<u>2,557,146</u>	<u>1,834,019</u>
Total funds		<u><u>57,226,731</u></u>	<u><u>39,206,709</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 47 to 80 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08278808

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022



P Fowler
(Chair of Trustees)

Date: 7 December 2022

The notes on pages 52 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>
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**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	21	996,371	2,259,761
Cash flows from investing activities	23	(592,209)	(966,167)
Cash flows from financing activities	22	(14,981)	(14,980)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		389,181	1,278,614
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		5,622,603	4,343,989
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	24, 25	<u><u>6,011,784</u></u>	<u><u>5,622,603</u></u>

The notes on pages 52 to 80 form part of these financial statements

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. Presented in £ sterling, rounded to the nearest pound.

1.2 Going concern

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

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

- **Grants**

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

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

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

- **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 accounts until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from Other Trading Activities'.

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

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

- **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.

1.5 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.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £500 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, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Land and Buildings	-	2% on cost
Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment	-	20% on cost and 10% on cost
Assets under construction	-	Not depreciated
Computer equipment	-	20% on cost and 10% on cost
Motor vehicles	-	25% on cost

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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

1.7 Leased Assets

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

1.8 Liabilities

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

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

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

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Pensions

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

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

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

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy 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 or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, 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 2022. 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.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	232,103	1,437,152	1,669,255	1,568,220
<i>Total 2021</i>	99,680	1,468,540	1,568,220	

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Educational operations	203,725	38,806,853	39,010,578	36,426,327
Teaching School	-	-	-	200,377
	<u>203,725</u>	<u>38,806,853</u>	<u>39,010,578</u>	<u>36,626,704</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>359,327</u>	<u>36,267,377</u>	<u>36,626,704</u>	

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

5. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Educational operations				
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	32,222,919	32,222,919	29,281,687
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
ESFA - pupil premium	-	2,602,800	2,602,800	2,352,671
ESFA - free school meals	-	118,372	118,372	234,027
Others	-	1,481,136	1,481,136	1,594,596
	-	36,425,227	36,425,227	33,462,981
Other Government grants				
Other local authority grants	-	1,736,414	1,736,414	1,532,724
Other government grants	-	77,302	77,302	102,359
	-	1,813,716	1,813,716	1,635,083
Other income from the Academy's educational operations	203,725	567,910	771,635	699,323
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	-
COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)				
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	-	-	472,909
Other Coronavirus funding	-	-	-	156,031
	-	-	-	628,940
	203,725	38,806,853	39,010,578	36,426,327
	203,725	38,806,853	39,010,578	36,426,327
Total 2021	359,327	36,067,000	36,426,327	

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

6. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Hire of facilities	86,344	86,344	6,745
Staff consultancy and other recharges	82,157	82,157	286,192
Other income	9,828	9,828	-
	<u>178,329</u>	<u>178,329</u>	<u>292,937</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>292,937</u>	<u>292,937</u>	

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Educational operations:					
Direct costs	25,384,711	1,289,341	2,395,617	29,069,669	26,593,673
Allocated support costs	5,372,120	4,824,661	2,073,690	12,270,471	11,041,103
Teaching School:					
Direct costs	-	-	-	-	100,560
Allocated support costs	-	-	-	-	51,482
	<u>30,756,831</u>	<u>6,114,002</u>	<u>4,469,307</u>	<u>41,340,140</u>	<u>37,786,818</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>26,702,836</u>	<u>6,254,959</u>	<u>4,829,023</u>	<u>37,786,818</u>	

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Educational operations	29,069,669	12,270,471	41,340,140	37,634,776
Teaching School	-	-	-	152,042
	<u>29,069,669</u>	<u>12,270,471</u>	<u>41,340,140</u>	<u>37,786,818</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>26,694,233</u>	<u>11,092,585</u>	<u>37,786,818</u>	

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations 2022 £	Teaching School 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	5,372,120	-	5,372,120	4,489,308
Depreciation	538,910	-	538,910	940,315
Technology costs	137,499	-	137,499	88,255
Other costs	669,111	-	669,111	746,547
Rates	273,083	-	273,083	306,399
Energy	657,821	-	657,821	517,672
Spare	90,588	-	90,588	140,703
Maintenance of premises	963,732	-	963,732	787,356
Operating leases	52,777	-	52,777	25,436
Security	41,588	-	41,588	6,825
Transport	9,737	-	9,737	12,436
Catering	867,778	-	867,778	523,104
Rent (including PFI charges)	2,391,115	-	2,391,115	2,332,051
Legal and professional	162,875	-	162,875	144,746
Governance costs	41,737	-	41,737	31,432
	<u>12,270,471</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,270,471</u>	<u>11,092,585</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>11,041,103</u>	<u>51,482</u>	<u>11,092,585</u>	

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals	2,404,103	2,357,487
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,262,001	2,102,109
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	21,373	36,408
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	20,940	20,000
- other services	5,895	11,210
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	404,000	333,000
	<u>20,940</u>	<u>33,210</u>

10. Auditors' remuneration

The auditors' remuneration amounts to an auditor fee of £20,940 (2021 - £20,000), and other services of £5,895 (2021 - £11,210).

11. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	20,093,683	18,875,554
Social security costs	2,054,384	1,931,485
Pension costs	6,494,749	5,203,888
	<u>28,642,816</u>	<u>26,010,927</u>
Agency staff costs	1,752,130	1,000,958
Staff restructuring & other costs	361,885	708,133
	<u>30,756,831</u>	<u>27,720,018</u>

WADE DEACON TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

11. Staff (continued)

a. Staff costs (continued)

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Severance payments	48,597	23,951
Development and other staff costs	313,288	684,182
	361,885	708,133

b. Severance payments

Included in the above costs are two non-statutory/non-contractual payments totalling £22,000. Individual payments were £14,000 and £8,000.

c. Staff numbers

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

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
Teachers and teaching support	530	531
Administration and support	168	171
Management	14	14
	712	716

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

11. Staff (continued)

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	14	13
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	9	8
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	2	3
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	3	1
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	1	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	1

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £1,390,656 (2021 - £1,354,937).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12. Central services

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

- Human Resources
- Financial Services
- Legal Services
- Educational Support Services

The Academy charges for these services on the following basis:

- 4% of GAG income.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
The Grange Academy	245,258	226,086
Whiston Willis Primary Academy	54,251	49,265
Wade Deacon High School	360,035	327,620
Yew Tree Primary Academy	53,665	49,318
Hillside High School	171,579	152,846
Widnes Academy	32,567	30,249
Sylvester Primary Academy	41,792	38,184
Halewood Academy	329,769	297,690
Total	1,288,916	1,171,258

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

There are no Trustees who receive remuneration or other benefits from employment within the academy.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL).

14. 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 £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £2,200 (2021 - £3,450). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Long leasehold £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2021	61,138,301	17,674	5,938,612	4,113,288	51,345	71,259,220
Additions	6,528	697,288	805,223	464,517	59,303	2,032,859
Disposals	-	-	-	(1,750)	-	(1,750)
At 31 August 2022	61,144,829	714,962	6,743,835	4,576,055	110,648	73,290,329
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2021	7,593,069	-	3,662,592	2,553,778	29,649	13,839,088
Charge for the year	1,191,156	-	212,189	407,559	19,095	1,829,999
On disposals	-	-	-	(1,750)	-	(1,750)
At 31 August 2022	8,784,225	-	3,874,781	2,959,587	48,744	15,667,337
Net book value						
At 31 August 2022	52,360,604	714,962	2,869,054	1,616,468	61,904	57,622,992
At 31 August 2021	53,545,232	17,674	2,276,020	1,559,510	21,696	57,420,132

Long leasehold includes land of £1,587,000 which is not depreciated.

16. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	341,055	62,098
Other debtors	663,765	433,170
Prepayments and accrued income	766,652	664,869
	<u>1,771,472</u>	<u>1,160,137</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	14,981	14,981
Trade creditors	410,430	682,655
Other creditors	12,338	14,709
Accruals and deferred income	746,787	582,856
	<u>1,184,536</u>	<u>1,295,201</u>
	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	140,223	207,748
Resources deferred during the year	139,405	140,223
Amounts released from previous periods	(140,223)	(207,748)
	<u>139,405</u>	<u>140,223</u>

Deferred income includes future funding in respect of UIFSM and non domestic rates claims.

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	<u>14,981</u>	<u>29,962</u>
Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:		
	2022 £	2021 £
Between one and two years		
Other loans	<u>14,981</u>	<u>29,962</u>

Loans of £74,904 from Salix for the provision of energy efficient lighting were provided in the year ended 31 August 2019 on the following terms - interest free and repayable over 5 years.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

19. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	1,834,019	723,127	-	-	-	2,557,146
	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds						
General annual grant	2,515,957	32,222,919	(33,656,084)	(1,082,792)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	347,250	1,481,136	-	-	-	1,828,386
Teaching school	111,312	-	-	-	-	111,312
Pupil premium	-	2,602,800	(2,602,800)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	118,372	(118,372)	-	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	2,272,656	(1,323,633)	-	-	949,023
Pension reserve	(23,671,000)	-	(1,811,000)	-	18,502,000	(6,980,000)
	(20,696,481)	38,697,883	(39,511,889)	(1,082,792)	18,502,000	(4,091,279)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DfE group capital grants	58,069,171	1,437,152	(1,828,251)	1,082,792	-	58,760,864
Total Restricted funds	37,372,690	40,135,035	(41,340,140)	-	18,502,000	54,669,585
Total funds	39,206,709	40,858,162	(41,340,140)	-	18,502,000	57,226,731

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

19. Statement of funds (continued)

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

General fund

Represents amounts derived from the hire of facilities, other trading activities and investment income.

General Annual Grant

This represents the balance remaining from core funding provided by the EFSA for the schools core educational activities.

Other Restricted General Funds

This represents the balance remaining from other funding provided by the EFSA/DfE and local authorities for the academy trust's educational activities.

Pupil Premium

Pupil premium is funding to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.

UIFSM

Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM) provides funding for all government funded schools to offer free school meals to pupils in reception, year 1, and year 2.

Teaching School

The teaching school fund represents the surplus generated from activities as a teaching school during the period to 31 August 2021. Following the cessation of the activities of the teaching school, the funds are to be applied to the general educational purposes of the Trust.

Pension Reserve

This is the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit attributable to the school and is derived from the report of the actuary produced as at 31 August 2022.

Fixed Asset Restricted Funds

This represents the value of fixed assets shown on the balance sheet plus any other assets and liabilities (including cash) relating to the Trust's capital projects. Transfers between restricted and fixed asset funds represent authorised purchases of fixed assets from revenue funds.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

19. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2020 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2021 £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,082,075	751,944	-	-	1,834,019
Restricted general funds					
General annual grant (GAG)	2,039,007	29,281,687	(27,872,196)	(932,541)	2,515,957
UIFSM	-	234,027	(174,631)	-	59,396
Pupil premium	-	2,352,671	(2,122,512)	-	230,159
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	1,594,596	(1,536,901)	-	57,695
Other government grants	-	2,264,023	(2,264,023)	-	-
Teaching School	62,977	200,377	(152,042)	-	111,312
Other restricted funds	-	339,996	(339,996)	-	-
Pension reserve	(19,052,000)	-	(1,186,000)	(3,433,000)	(23,671,000)
	<u>(16,950,016)</u>	<u>36,267,377</u>	<u>(35,648,301)</u>	<u>(4,365,541)</u>	<u>(20,696,481)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	57,216,870	1,468,540	(2,138,517)	1,522,278	58,069,171
Total Restricted funds	<u>40,266,854</u>	<u>37,735,917</u>	<u>(37,786,818)</u>	<u>(2,843,263)</u>	<u>37,372,690</u>
Total funds	<u><u>41,348,929</u></u>	<u><u>38,487,861</u></u>	<u><u>(37,786,818)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,843,263)</u></u>	<u><u>39,206,709</u></u>

<p style="text-align: center;">WADE DEACON TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)</p>
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wade Deacon High School	1,997,205	2,235,877
Hillside High School	164,440	44,617
Widnes Academy	122,614	115,028
Halewood Academy	1,201,718	695,418
The Grange Academy	1,607,798	1,213,509
Sylvester Primary Academy	39,318	13,012
Whiston Willis Primary Academy	93,531	147,662
Yew Tree Primary Academy	102,808	92,583
Central Services	116,436	250,833
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	5,445,868	4,808,539
Restricted fixed asset fund	58,760,864	58,069,171
Pension reserve	(6,980,000)	(23,671,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	57,226,732	39,206,710
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

19. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Wade Deacon High School	6,497,227	1,143,177	543,569	1,078,939	9,262,912	9,208,135
Hillside High School	3,164,132	692,932	329,543	762,161	4,948,768	4,625,657
Widnes Academy	696,921	96,151	88,581	179,950	1,061,603	1,036,150
Halewood Academy	5,276,230	594,595	569,160	1,812,468	8,252,453	7,442,343
The Grange Academy	4,899,642	409,794	417,492	1,447,115	7,174,043	6,290,893
Sylvester Primary Academy	956,196	134,026	53,841	220,127	1,364,190	1,413,243
Whiston Willis Primary Academy	1,316,390	191,898	105,866	265,217	1,879,371	1,698,854
Yew Tree Primary Academy	1,518,597	238,101	99,963	254,414	2,111,075	1,994,178
Central Services	712,171	407,645	241,598	374,995	1,736,409	1,210,473
Academy	25,037,506	3,908,319	2,449,613	6,395,386	37,790,824	34,919,926

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	57,622,992	57,622,992
Current assets	2,557,146	4,058,276	1,167,834	7,783,256
Creditors due within one year	-	(1,169,555)	(14,981)	(1,184,536)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(14,981)	(14,981)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(6,980,000)	-	(6,980,000)
Total	2,557,146	(4,091,279)	58,760,864	57,226,731

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	57,420,132	57,420,132
Current assets	1,834,019	4,254,739	693,982	6,782,740
Creditors due within one year	(1)	(1,280,219)	(14,981)	(1,295,201)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(29,962)	(29,962)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(23,671,000)	-	(23,671,000)
Total	1,834,018	(20,696,480)	58,069,171	39,206,709

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(481,978)	701,043
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,830,001	2,102,109
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,438,902)	(1,468,540)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	1,407,000	853,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	404,000	333,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(611,336)	13,664
Decrease in creditors	(110,664)	(310,923)
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(1,750)	36,408
Net cash provided by operating activities	996,371	2,259,761

22. Cash flows from financing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Repayments of loans	(14,981)	(14,980)
Net cash used in financing activities	(14,981)	(14,980)

23. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,032,861)	(2,434,707)
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	1,750	-
Capital grants from DfE Group	1,438,902	1,020,540
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	-	448,000
Net cash used in investing activities	(592,209)	(966,167)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

24. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand and at bank	6,011,784	5,622,603
Total cash and cash equivalents	6,011,784	5,622,603

25. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	5,622,603	389,181	6,011,784
Debt due within 1 year	(14,981)	-	(14,981)
Debt due after 1 year	(29,962)	14,981	(14,981)
	5,577,660	404,162	5,981,822

26. Pension commitments

The Academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and Local Government Pension Schemes (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Cheshire & Merseyside Pension Funds. 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.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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26. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £4,103,076 (2021 - £3,825,094).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The Academy has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Academy 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 2022 was £1,934,000 (2021 - £1,818,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,571,000 (2021 - £1,486,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 363,000 (2021 - £332,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.1 - 21.8 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

26. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.2	4.1
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.0	2.8
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.3	1.7
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.9	2.8
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.0	50.0

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.0	21.1
Females	24.0	24.1
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.3	22.6
Females	25.8	26.0

Sensitivity analysis

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(104)	(128)
Discount rate -0.1%	105	129
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	134	196
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(133)	(194)
CPI rate +0.1%	97	115
CPI rate -0.1%	(96)	(114)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

26. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022 £	<i>At 31 August 2021 £</i>
Equities	9,897,190	9,473,000
Property	2,489,030	1,952,000
Cash and other liquid assets	957,860	-
Other	1,790,000	385,000
Bonds	5,177,920	8,031,000
Total market value of assets	20,312,000	19,841,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £(1,308,584) (2021 - £2,459,000).

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

	2022 £	<i>2021 £</i>
Current service cost	2,964,000	2,326,000
Interest income	(342,000)	(286,000)
Interest cost	746,000	619,000
Administrative expenses	14,000	13,000
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	3,382,000	2,672,000

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

26. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	43,525,000	34,851,000
Current service cost	2,964,000	2,326,000
Interest cost	746,000	619,000
Employee contributions	363,000	345,000
Benefits paid	(429,000)	(235,000)
Effects of non-routine settlements	14,000	13,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(20,176,000)	5,606,000
At 31 August	27,007,000	43,525,000

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	19,854,000	15,799,000
Interest income	342,000	286,000
Employee contributions	363,000	345,000
Benefits paid	(429,000)	(235,000)
Employer contributions	1,571,000	1,486,000
Actuarial gains	(1,647,000)	2,173,000
At 31 August	20,054,000	19,854,000

27. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the Academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	2,665,723	2,404,103
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	11,336,496	12,560,433
Later than 5 years	28,747,697	30,574,832
	42,749,916	45,539,368

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

28. 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.

29. Related party transactions

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

Expenditure related party transactions Mr C McLeod is a trustee of the trust and in a previous period a close family member was employed as a teacher at one of the Trust's schools. During the year to 31 August 2022 this employee remains in post. The appointment was made in open competition and Mr McLeod was not involved in the decision-making process regarding their appointment. The close family member is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and receives no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee. This appointment was made prior to the 1 April 2019 deadline noted above and therefore not reported to the ESFA.

Mrs M E Murphy is a trustee of the trust and is Principal of Riverside College. The Trust has approval for apprentices for Trust Schools and the associated costs utilising Riverside College to provide the support in part using the Trust's Apprenticeship levy balance. The in-year charge for this totalled £6.6k (2021 - £2k). Prior agreement to this transaction was obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) prior to undertaking these arrangements.

30. Capital Commitments

At 31 August 2022, the Trust was committed to future capital expenditure of £700,000 (2021 - £1,397,000).