

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**



**Haines Watts**  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors  
Bridge House  
157A Ashley Road  
Hale  
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WA14 2UT

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

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# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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<b>Members</b>	Patrick Johnson Justin Kelly John McNerney Richard Pearce Vicky Rosin
<b>Trustees</b>	Suzannah Reeves (Chair of trustees) Emma Caulfield Carol Culley Simon Ferris Elizabeth Franey (appointed 3 September 2018) Bushra Jamil Simon Keogh Tom McDonald Damian Owen Mark Welsby
<b>Senior leadership team</b>	
Executive principal (GMLT)	Damian Owen (Accounting officer)
Principal (Parrs Wood High School)	Mark McElwee
Senior deputy principal	Claire Wright
Deputy principal	Mike Dore
Deputy principal	Ben Hill
Assistant principal	Emma Bryson
Assistant principal	Michelle Dean
Assistant principal	Andrew Langford
Assistant principal	Bernadette McGrath
Assistant principal	Emma Rainford
Assistant principal	Malcolm Waites
Assistant principal	Greg Fox (resigned 31 December 2018)
Assistant principal	Jim McLynn (appointed 1 January 2019)
Associate assistant principal	Katie Catterall
Business manager	Vacant Post
<b>Trust director of finance</b>	Louise Staunton
<b>Company name</b>	Greater Manchester Learning Trust (GMLT)
<b>Principal &amp; registered office</b>	Parrs Wood High School Wilmslow Road East Didsbury, M20 5PG
<b>Company registration number</b>	10257544
<b>Independent auditor</b>	Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road Hale, Altrincham, WA14 2UT
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank, Market Street, Manchester, M1 1PW
<b>Solicitors</b>	Browne Jacobson LLP, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham, NG2 1BJ

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and independent auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

Greater Manchester Learning Trust (GMLT) currently operates one academy (Parrs Wood High School). The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 11-19 serving a catchment area in South Manchester including Didsbury, Withington, Burnage and Northenden. It has a pupil capacity of 2,010 and had a roll of 1,976 in the school census on 3 October 2019.

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

##### Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The trustees of GMLT are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year are included in the reference and administrative details on page 1.

##### Members' liability

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

##### Trustees' indemnities

The academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000.

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

This is clearly set out in the articles of association of GMLT on the school's website. The number of trustees shall not be less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum. For the year ended 31 August 2019, an ordinary resolution determined that trustees appointed would be not be less than nine and no more than thirteen trustees.

The members may appoint by ordinary resolution up to 7 trustees (this should include a minimum of 2 parent trustees in the event that no local governing bodies are established) NB. A local governing body has been established. The trustees may appoint co-opted trustees. A co-opted trustee means a person who is appointed to be a trustee by being co-opted by trustees who have not themselves been so appointed. The trustees may not co-opt an employee of the academy trust as a co-opted trustee if thereby the number of trustees who are employees of the academy trust would exceed one third of the total number of trustees including the chief executive officer to the extent he or she is a trustee.

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

The board of trustees requires a breadth of and depth of experience to carry out its duties effectively and efficiently when recruiting trustees, emphasis is placed on the skills and experience that a potential recruit may bring to the board. A skills analysis was carried out when the trust was originally set up to identify potential skills gaps.

Assessment is made by the chair of the board of trustees as to whether any specific training is required by any individual trustee. The programme of seminar sessions established for the year ended 31 August 2020 is designed as part of the continuous development and training, in keeping up-to-date with academy related issues and topics of particular interest or relevance.

The trust has implemented a formal induction pack for all trustees so that they have sufficient information relating to the trust and are fully clear on their role and responsibilities.

# **GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

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

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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#### Organisational structure

The governance of the trust is defined in the memorandum and articles of association together with the funding agreement with the Department for Education.

Parrs Wood High School, as an academy, is now part of GMLT, which was established by the then governing body of Parrs Wood High School as a multi academy trust (MAT). This means that the trust is able to form formal partnerships with other educational providers should the members consider that it would be to the educational benefit of all learners within their care. The MAT currently consists of just one school (Parrs Wood High School).

The current GMLT governance structure includes members, trust board, local governing body, Standards Committee, Trust Finance Committee and Trust Risk and Audit Committee.

The members meet 2x/year, the trust board 6x/year, the Trust Finance and Audit Committee 4x/year, the local governing body 5x/year.

A documented annual Business Cycle document is in place for GMLT for the 2019/20 academic year, which includes details of the matters for consideration at each of the oversight group meetings, this has been in place throughout 2018/2019.

The primary responsibilities of the GMLT trust board are vision setting, development planning and progress monitoring, trust target setting and KPI's, trust growth developments against strategy, academic performance data for academies, support and intervention for academies, headteacher group meetings report, governor group meetings report, staff performance, headteacher performance, finance updates – trust and individual academies centralised services update and impact analysis and financial probity and value for money.

The committees of the trust board scrutinise the performance of the trust in greater detail in the key areas of finance, risk and audit and standards. The Finance and Audit Committees report directly to the trust board, whilst the local governing body considers and scrutinises standards of Parrs Wood High School prior to review at the trust board.

An executive principal was appointed to GMLT at the start of the 2017/18 academic year, who will work with the trustees going forward to develop any potential merger or acquisition opportunities with a view to growing the MAT in the future. The trust has now been approved as a recognised sponsor and awaits further contact from the DfE in that regard.

The principal of Parrs Wood High School will continue to focus on all matters Parrs Wood, continuing to raise standards and reporting school issues and progress to the local governing body.

There is a Scheme of Delegation at the school which outlines roles and responsibilities with regard to audit, budgets and budgetary control, contracts, income security of assets, personnel, salaries and wages, accounts, information and communication systems, insurances and orders, receipt of goods and payments.

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

##### Executive principal/principal's pay

When determining the executive principal/principal's salary the board of trustees will take account of the responsibilities of the post, the background of the students and whether the post is difficult to fill.

The board of trustees shall determine the pay for the executive principal/principal when they propose to make a new appointment or at any time if they consider it necessary to retain an executive principal/principal, or if there has been a significant change in the responsibilities of executive principal/principal.

##### Leadership pay

The board of trustees, when setting the pay range for the senior leadership team ('Leaders') will determine the pay range to be advertised and agree on a pay point. It should take into account the responsibilities of the post, the background of the students and whether the post is difficult to fill.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Details of how decisions will be made and what will be taken into account in setting or amending pay ranges are as follows:

The pay range may be determined as of 1 September, or at any time of the year to reflect any changes in the circumstances or job description that lead to a change in the basis for calculating their pay, or at any time if it is considered necessary to retain a leader. Such circumstances may include:

- When a leader becomes responsible for more than one school or academy as a permanent arrangement, consideration needs to be given to the remuneration of leaders who, as a result of the executive principal/principal's role, are taking on additional responsibilities. An increase in remuneration should only be agreed where the post accrues additional extra responsibilities as a result of the executive principal/principal's expanded role; it is not automatic.
- Where the executive principal/principal takes on responsibility for extended services the relevant body has discretion to take account of the additional responsibility and accountability associated with the provision of extended services on their site when determining a leader's remuneration. An increase in remuneration should only be agreed where the post accrues extra responsibilities as a result of the executive principal/principal's enlarged role, it is not automatic.
- Leaders must demonstrate sustained high quality of performance in respect of academy leadership and management and pupil progress and will be subject to a review of performance against their performance objectives before any performance points will be awarded.

Annual pay progression within the range for these posts is not automatic and will be related to the individual's performance. Subject to performance the board of trustees will then consider whether to award one or two pay progression points. The circumstances in which two points may be awarded are outlined within the pay policy.

#### Trade union facility time

##### Relevant union officials

<u>Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period</u>	<u>Full-time equivalent employee number</u>
5.00 FTE	4.6 FTE

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

<u>Percentage of time</u>	<u>Number of employees</u>
0%	
1% - 50%	5
51%-99%	
100%	

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

<u>Provide the total cost of facility time</u>	£ 18.5k
<u>Provide the total pay bill</u>	0
<u>Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time</u>	0

##### Paid trade union activities

<u>Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours.</u>	100%
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At present there is no mechanism to record the amount of time spent on trade union facility time, therefore an estimate for this year has been provided. This is something that will be monitored during 2018-2019, to enable reporting of the above statistics more accurately moving forward.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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#### Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The academy trust is not part of a wider network such as a soft federation. GMLT is not connected to, or related to, any other organisations as defined by the relevant Charities SORP. The members, trustees, senior staff and their families are regarded as related parties in accordance with the definition in the Charities SORP.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### Objects and aims

GMLT's objects as set out in the governing document are:

- To advance for the public benefit education by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To promote the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time for the local community.

#### **GMLT Mission and Values Statement**

Our mission is to transform the lives of all those who study and work in our schools, through relationships which inspire confidence and aspiration; through experiences and opportunities which lead to future happiness and success.

The Greater Manchester Learning Trust is built around the core values of:

**Community:** "We value one another"

**Creativity:** "We embrace change"

**Achievement:** "We expect excellence"

Those who work in our schools will embrace these values to improve academic and social outcomes for all students. GMLT schools have a duty to educate, develop and safeguard the students in their care as they would their own children, securing the highest quality educational experience for all. We will support and develop our staff to deliver this.

GMLT schools will provide a learning experience to inspire a passion for knowledge and leadership. They will enable students of all backgrounds to acquire a belief that they have the potential to make a positive difference to their lives and to the lives of others. To this end our students will develop resilience, independence and the ability to work collaboratively with tolerance and respect, celebrating the diversity within our society.

Staff and governors within GMLT schools will ensure that educational outcomes and social development are strong and that there is an absolute commitment that no student will experience barriers to learning, nor a limit to their potential.

GMLT will develop educational, community and business partnerships to enrich the curriculum, provide opportunity and personal development and enhance students' learning experiences.

The environment of our schools will ensure that all students are safe, happy and successful. Our children will feel challenged, valued and supported so that they achieve their academic and social aspirations and secure their future in education, training and in their working lives.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities for the year ended 31 August 2019

##### GMLT objectives:

- Embed trust values in the life of the lead school, establishing these values as the trust's unique selling point for schools in the trust moving forward. Achieve growth of the trust through school to school support partnerships, collaboration and support.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

#### Objectives, strategies and activities for the year ended 31 August 2020

##### GMLT objectives:

- Develop provision of professional development pathways for all trust employees
- Embed QA practices to be transferable across schools
- Develop primary phase capacity to be transferable across schools

##### School (Parrs Wood High School) objectives:

The following development points were taken directly from the most recent (May 2019) Ofsted Inspection Report. The school was graded once again as 'Good'.

##### What does the school need to do to improve further?

- teachers identify and address the gaps in pupils' knowledge and skills in history and geography
- they reduce further students' absence in the sixth form, particularly in Year 12
- teachers have consistently high expectations of what students in the sixth form can achieve

##### Review of 2018/19

	Our Priorities 2018/19		Review
<b>1 Outcomes for Students</b>	A1	Close the gap in attainment and progress (PP and NPP pupils) measures whilst maintaining outcomes above the National Expectations	Gap slightly widened due to a number of children who have not been at Parrs Wood. Next year need to look at provision and support for PP students from year 7
	A2	Ensure our Progress 8 is positive (0.20 or higher) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ focusing on Humanities subjects in particular</li> <li>▪ middle attaining students on entry</li> </ul>	Average P8 score, slightly negative due to a variety of factors including GCSE stats not included on measures. Science, MFL and Maths still a strength. English dipped Humanities subjects did improve but the rate needs to increase Open 'bucket' continues to be positive
	A3	Ensure our Level 3 Value Added (VA) is positive	Partially Met. VA predicted to improve and best KS5 results in 5 years, however, VA is slightly negative
<b>2 Quality of Teaching, Learning &amp; Assessment</b>	T1	Embed students' resilience, recall of knowledge and application to the new linear qualifications by improving their ability to work independently and improving the quality of work at home	Knowledge organisers in all subjects Training delivered to all staff Strategies implemented on writing resilience- this worked for Higher students. More work needed for Middle ability student's homework rebranded as REAL- a more focused purpose
	T2	Embed oracy as a vehicle to enhance the quality of students' extended writing	Oracy highlighted in SoW Sharing good practice at DoF meeting Vocabulary a major focus next year to include Tier2&3 words
	T3	Develop Targeted differentiation to improve the progress of mid-attaining (GCSE) students in our Sixth Form	Increase in the % of A*-C grades in Sixth by over 10%
<b>3 Personal Development, Behaviour &amp; Welfare</b>	B1	To ensure our attendance is at 95% or above	Slightly below 95% Attendance at 94%
	B5	To reduce the number of students who are repeating time in our internal exclusion areas	Partially Met in some year groups. Year 7 and year 11 were the largest concern
	B4	To embed our mental health strategy	Not fully embedded- this needs to remain a key priority Key Staff and students trained as Mental Health first aiders and ambassadors Mellow Yellow week launched Action: We are successfully now part (2019/20) of the GM wave 3 MH initiative



# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

<b>4 Effectiveness of Leadership &amp; Management</b>	L1	Develop our leadership succession planning to ensure we have the leadership capacity to deliver collaboration and support activity in line with the outward-focused development of the school	Met: Senior Leaders SLEs successfully delivered in other schools in both English and use of Knowledge organisers focusing on PP. Deputy Seconded to Harrop Fold and now promoted to Headship Focus for Middle Leaders next year
	L2	To embed values of Community, Creativity and Achievement across the school, in all our work	Partially Met: Work done with Rewards, sanctions and student leadership
	L3	To stabilise the financial position of the school and achieve the prescribed savings to eradicate the potential of future financial deficits of the school	Met but always ongoing
	Overall Effectiveness	Achieve an 'outstanding' judgement at the next inspection	Not met, did maintain 'Good' status

### Public benefit

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

### **Strategic report: Achievements and performance**

#### Parrs Wood performance 2019: Key Stage 4

Parrs Wood's overall academic performance at Key Stage 4 remained similar to 2018. However, because the year group started slightly higher on entry our Progress 8 dropped from above average to average increased major attainment and progress measures.

- 69% of students with 'standard' passes of 4+ in English and Maths (+1)
- 46% at the new 'gold standard' / 'strong passes' of 5+ passes in English and Maths (-1)
- Almost 25% of our entries were awarded with an A\* / A grade (+1)

Particular congratulations to:

- 46 (15%) students who achieved 5 or more A\*/A/9/8/7 grades
- 37 (12%) students who achieved 6 or more A\* /A/9/8/7 grades
- 7 students who achieved straight A\*/A/9/8/7 grades
- 13 students achieved 9-8 (A\*) in English and Maths

#### English and Maths:

The data shows that we performed well in English and Maths comparatively. Maths made strong gains in top grades and significantly reduced D grades. The 4+ pass rate for Maths nationally fell slightly, whereas we went up. Falls in 4+ and 5+ in English were disappointing, but we are still well above national and increased the number of higher grades in Lang and Lit.

<u>4+ Grades</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>Manchester</u>	<u>National</u>
<u>English</u>	<u>79% (-8)</u>	<u>72.2% (+0.9)</u>	<u>62 (-) Eng. Lang</u>

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

	<b>4+%</b> (2018)	<b>5+%</b>	<b>A / A+%</b>	<b>8/9s</b>	<b>Trend</b>	<b>Progress 8</b>
<b>Eng. Lang</b>	<u>73% (-5)</u>	<u>51% (-5)</u>	<u>17% (+3)</u>	<u>19 (+2)</u>	<u>Fell, but more higher grades</u>	<u>-0.27 Average</u>
<b>Eng. Lit</b>	<u>67% (-10)</u>	<u>48% (-10)</u>	<u>19% (+2)</u>	<u>22 (-1)</u>		
<b>Best English</b>	<u>79% (-8)</u>	<u>57% (-9)</u>				
<b>Maths</b>	<u>73% (+3)</u>	<u>57% (+4)</u>	<u>23% (+2)</u>	<u>43 (-+15)</u>	<u>Up, and many more top grades</u>	<u>-0.03 Average</u>

Maths results have continued to improve in terms of attainment especially at the 5+. This is encouraging.

### EBacc subjects:

To gain the 'Ebacc' students require at least a 4 grade in English, Double Science, Maths, History/Geography and a Language. 26% of our students gained the Ebacc standard similar to 2018. Science and MFL remain strong in terms of VA.

	<b>4+</b>	<b>5+</b>	<b>VA</b>
Sciences	69.8%	52.4%	+0.01
MFL	76.8%	66.2%	+0.50
Humanities	56.5%	46%	-0.34

### Attainment GAPS

	<b>9-4 All (308 pupils)</b>	<b>Female (139 pupils)</b>	<b>Male (169 pupils)</b>	<b>SEN (30 pupils)</b>	<b>PP (103 pupils)</b>	<b>EAL (115 pupils)</b>
English	79%	84%	74%	30%	64%	79%
Maths	72%	75%	71%	17%	53%	74%
E&M	68%	71%	65%	17%	47%	65%
Prog 8	-0.08	+0.13	-0.26	-1.5	-0.5	+0.23
Att 8	4.84	5.1	4.6	2.1	3.8	4.89
Avg Grade	<b>C</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>C</b>

The gaps data provides two significant positives: English and Maths at 4+ are strong for PP and EAL pupils and given the new challenging exams, this was especially pleasing. Secondly, positive progress for EAL cohorts.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The gaps data shows three significant issues: boys are still below girls in attainment and especially progress. Secondly, SEN students need different levels of support to access the new exams, even though the small cohort discounts the statistical significance. Finally, Pupil Premium (PP) students (whilst not a homogenous group) need a greater match up of English and Maths, as well as ensuring that they are supported to effectively revise the large amounts of information needed. PP Progress 8 is disappointing - considering the amount of extra support we have provided this cohort. More was done from the previous year yet the results have dropped.

#### Overall next steps at Key Stage 4

- Progress has to be the key action area. A greater focus is needed in pushing all pupils to meet and exceed their targets.
- Art, Business, Photography, H&S Care, and Psychology require a review of schemes of work, assessment procedures and moderation of student work.
- Humanities needs to improve in both attainment and progress; there is work to do to ensure that the middle ability students achieve their potential in a more knowledge led curriculum.
- Accuracy of screenings in many areas.
- PP and SEN students access to the curriculum and building of resilience.
- White PP boys are a key group for improvement.

#### Areas to develop:

- Develop and embed our 'Breaking the Academic Code' and 'Thinking Hard' strategies.
- Knowledge organisers: systems to help students to retain, recall, and apply knowledge alongside skills. Recall and Application being more pronounced in lessons and assessments.
- Testing homework: low stakes testing that forms the basis of judgements and intervention for students who are having trouble retaining and recalling knowledge. This must begin with quality first teaching as opposed to back end intervention. Homework this year has been redesigned to promote the importance of four core purposes: Research, Extension, Application and Learning.
- Getting things right at KS3: a review has taken place into what skills and knowledge we need students to have in KS4 and ensure that such skills are being taught, cultivated, sharpened and tested early. Now we look at the intent, implementation, and impact for focus groups of students.
- Raising Achievement Group with a shadow student group.
- Action activities prior to assessments.
- Overhaul of revision strategies and timetabling.
- Each Faculty building in more rigorous internal and external standardisation procedures.

#### Key Stage 5: A-Level

A Level or equivalent*	% for year (difference to previous year)		
	2019	2018	2017
A*-A	29 (+7)	22 (-6)	28 (=)
A*-B	49 (+10)	39 (-11)	48 (-3)
A*-C	76 (+12)	64 (-3)	67 (-10)
A*-E	99.8 (+3.8)	96 (=)	96 (-1)

#### Attainment:

This year sees the first year of all A level qualifications being linear. We have also moved to RQF for all of our BTEC qualifications, which now include an externally examined unit. This summer was the first set of BTEC qualifications under the new specifications and therefore no comparison data is available from previous years. The general trend reported by JCQ is that A level As and A\*s have reduced slightly Nationally. All the more pleasing for us to see that for another year our number of A\* grades have increased and surpasses the National average by over 1%. We increased on all measures but in particular the progress of our mid-attaining students which was a particular focus this year. We improved our pass rate overall to exceed the National average. Only 8 students accrued a U grade and had complex back-stories and needs. English and Maths re-sits continue to be positive.

Performance indicator	Predictions 2019	2018	2017
Academic Value Added	Slightly negative	-0.30	-0.05
Applied General Value Added	unknown	N/A	+0.22
GCSE English resit point score difference	0.78	0.67	0.77
GCSE Maths resit point score difference	0.58	0.81	0.42

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

#### Value added:

- Our value added improved from 2018. It is slightly negative – overall it is in line with expected progress. Due to our small size our value added can fluctuate if even a relatively small number of students underperform. The vast majority of students fulfilled their potential at year 13. We had a reduced number of students accepting their unconditional offers this year, which we feel had a positive impact on their outcomes. We feel we created an ethos where students felt they were worth more than that offer, and so they aimed for a more competitive course.

#### Retention

- 86% (83% 2017 smaller cohort)
- The majority of students who left moved to apprenticeships or started at a different college with a BTEC/vocational pathway that we do not support.

#### Destinations

- 82% secured a place at University for 2019 (77 % of year 13 went to University)

#### Curriculum

Our curriculum is diverse. We have maintained the 4 AS approach and have retained the AS examinations in the vast majority of subjects. This ensures the students work hard in year 12 and avoids complacency. However, we need to ensure our assessment methods in year 13 revisits and tests this essential year 12 content. In addition, students who were directed to reduce to 3 subjects in year 12 achieved higher grades in their year 12 AS exams. Ensuring our attendance is higher is a major focus - as a result we have changed the Pastoral support and Leadership structure in the Sixth Form.

#### Key priorities in the Sixth Form:

- Maintaining the model of 220 students in year 12 and 200 in year 13 - this is becoming more challenging due to number of Sixth Form providers in the locality.
- They reduce further students' absence in the sixth form, particularly in Year 12.
- Teachers have consistently high expectations of what students in the sixth form can achieve.

#### Priorities/key performance indicators

	<b>Strategic priorities 2019-20</b>	
<b>Outcomes for Students</b>	A1	Close the gap in attainment and progress between PP and NPP pupils whilst maintaining outcomes above the national expectations by ensuring that all students study an inclusive, enjoyable and challenging curriculum which meets their needs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>At least 70% of students achieve a minimum of a Grade 4 'a standard pass' in English and Math's</li><li>At least 50% of students achieve a minimum of a Grade 5 'a good pass' in English and Math's</li></ul>
	A2	Ensure our Progress 8 is positive (0.20 or higher), with particular focus on the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Humanities and WBRI PP boys</li><li>SEN students</li></ul>
	A3	Ensure our Level 3 Value Added (VA) is positive by raising expectations of students' independent study and attendance

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

<b>Personal Development, Behaviour &amp; Welfare</b>	B1	Develop robust systems and procedures that challenge and support all students towards impeccable behaviour at all times
	B2	Ensure our attendance is at 95% or above (Ofsted Target linked to Sixth Form)
	B4	Develop our mental health strategy to include proactive and preventative approaches for students, engage parents and support the resilience and wellbeing of staff
	B5	Ensure that bullying, peer-on-peer abuse or discrimination are not tolerated
<b>Effectiveness of Leadership &amp; Management</b>	L1	Develop our leadership succession planning (including middle leadership development) to ensure we have the leadership capacity to collaborate and support externally in line with the outward-focused development of the school
	L2	Demonstrate values of Community, Creativity and Achievement across the school and our external marketing. Ensure this ethos flows through every aspect of school
<b>Quality of Teaching, Learning &amp; Assessment</b>	T1	Develop students' resilience, recall of knowledge and application to the new linear qualifications by improving their ability to work independently and improving the quality of work at home (with a particular focus on KS3 Humanities teaching and learning) – Ofsted target
	T2	Embed oracy and the use of academic vocabulary as a vehicle to enhance the quality of students' extended writing
	T3	Ensure that teachers have consistently high expectations of what students in the sixth form can achieve. (Ofsted Target)
<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	O1	Prepare the school for the new Ofsted inspection framework to achieve an 'Outstanding' at the next inspection
	O2	Support the growth of the trust in a sustainable fashion whilst ensuring financial stability for Parrs Wood High school

### Actions since September 2019

- Staff Development has taken place in the form of training on memory and recall, building vocabulary. They are being followed up in a revised quality assurance activity.
- Addressing the gaps for individual cohorts such as SEND and Pupil Premium is being actioned through a full review of the curriculum in all subjects. External quality assurance has taken place and senior members of staff have extended training around the new Ofsted framework with regards requirements around the curriculum. These structures will be developed over the course of the 2019-20 academic year.
- Behaviour models are currently under review and will ensure a consistent approach to delivering improvements.
- Attendance strategies have also been subject to local authority quality assurance activity, recommendations from which will be actioned over the course of this academic year.

### Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

### **Financial review**

GMLT anticipated a revenue surplus of £348k at the start of the year ended 31 August 2019, this was due to increased income through schools to school support. There were regular financial reviews of income and expenditure versus planned budgets at Finance Committee meetings. GMLT's financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2019 showed a £844k surplus on the unrestricted funds.

GMLT continues to take the necessary steps to ensure it operates a balanced budget and responds where necessary to the changing educational landscape. Budget forecasting also projects a balanced overall budget for the year ended 31 August 2020, however recognises challenges in future years.

A Scheme of Delegation and Financial Handbook outline key roles and responsibilities around financial matters at the trust. The Finance Committee regularly scrutinises budget reports and provides challenge to ensure that an overall balanced budget can be achieved and identifies any future savings necessary.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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The majority of GMLT's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2019 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

GMLT also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA, and from other government bodies. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015) such grants are shown in the statement of financial activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund.

The academy trust has recognised its share of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), assets and liabilities in accordance with FRS102. A deficit of £3,428k has been recognised as at 31 August 2019. Future contribution rates are adjusted so as to reduce this deficit.

#### Reserves policy

The trustees believe that the minimum level of free reserves sufficient to carry forward is £600,000 - or one month's payroll equivalent to £750k to £800k. The actual level of free reserves as at 31 August 2019 was £1,354k. The academy has previously used some of its reserves for capital expenditure to facilitate building refurbishment, helping to secure the growth of its Sixth Form numbers and preserve its financial viability. It has also invested in buildings and facilities improvements to ensure appropriate health and safety. Whilst the school is maintaining a 3-year balanced budget with reserves, the maintaining of reserves will help to further protect its activities by providing a financial comfort zone against an unpredictable environment and to make sufficient provision for capital procurement. They will also support the framework for future strategic planning and decision-making.

The academy trust is operating in an overall in-year surplus position for 19/20 without having to access reserves. Funding for the 2019/20 academic year has been approved and there has been no Financial Notice to Improve received from the ESFA as at the date of the approval of the financial statements. The trustees consider the use of the going concern basis on which to prepare the accounts as appropriate.

#### Investment policy

The academy will look to invest any significant surplus funds it has in short term deposits which, whilst not generating substantial returns, do ensure that the academy can gain easy access to its funds and minimise its exposure to any losses.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

GMLT has a designated Finance and Audit Committee who regularly reviews risks to the organisation. A risk register is embedded at the trust and school and independent internal auditors have been appointed who carry out an annual programme of internal audit work to provide assurance to the Finance and Audit Committee and ultimately the trust board that appropriate controls are in place to minimise risks.

The key risk to the organisation is seen to be financial risk due to real term reductions in funding and a new funding formula coupled with pay and other expenditure pressures. In addition, the school estate is significant and includes a Grade 2\* listed building. There is also increased competition in the local area which could impact on pupil numbers and future funding going forward.

The strategies in place to address this risk include a clear financial plan to reduce expenditure and increase income to maximise available funds whilst ensuring that teaching and learning at the school are not compromised. Other funding streams are and will continue to be utilised (Condition Improvement Fund, Salix) to support investment in the school estate. An effective marketing strategy will be further developed to ensure that pupils/parents continue to see GMLT/Parrs Wood High School as their 1<sup>st</sup> preference school.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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### **Fundraising**

In respect of any academy fundraising activities, the trustees will apply the following:

- Application of our trust's values of Community, Creativity, Achievement.
- Our fundraising aims and achievements will be clearly communicated to the public and to donors and supporters.
- The resources we use and the costs we incur in our fundraising will be reflected accordingly in an open and transparent manner.
- The key financial and reputation risk we may face will be discussed through the Finance and Audit Committee.
- Appropriate due diligence will be undertaken prior to engagement in any fundraising activities.
- Where fundraising takes place, staff will have key roles of responsibility and will be directed accordingly.
- Effective financial controls are in place and are followed.

### **Plans for future periods**

GMLT has a strategy for partnership and initial growth. This includes:

- A strong secondary partner.
- One or more strong primary partners.
- A strong partner trust with which the trust could potentially merge to create a larger trust.
- In support of its growth, the Greater Manchester Learning Trust will seek status as a Teaching School Alliance.

### **Auditor**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 12/12/2019 and signed on its behalf by:



**Suzannah Reeves**  
**Chair of trustees**

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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### Scope of responsibility

As trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Greater Manchester Learning 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.

For the year ended 31 August 2019, the board of trustees delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, as accounting officer for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Greater Manchester Learning Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They were also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the trustees' report and in the statement of trustees' responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trust board	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Suzannah Reeves	6	6
Emma Caulfield	6	6
Carol Culley	3	6
Simon Ferris	5	6
Elizabeth Franey	5	6
Bushra Jamil	5	6
Simon Keogh	4	6
Tom McDonald	5	6
Damian Owen	5	6
Salim Uddin-Khandakar	1	6
Mark Welsby	6	6
<b>Finance and Audit Committee</b>		
Bushra Jamil	0	5
Carol Culley	5	5
Simon Ferris	4	5
Simon Keogh	4	5
Tom McDonald	4	5
Damian Owen	5	5
Louise Staunton (Associate Member)	5	5

### Review of value for money

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

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



# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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### Improving educational outcomes for students:

The academy trust uses the Academy School Improvement Plan (SIP) to direct activity with a particular focus on outcomes in relation to student development, attainment and achievement. Each year, as part of the planning process, the staffing structure is reviewed to support this agenda, ensuring that staff are appropriately deployed and that the academy performs effectively. Leadership and management structures are annually designed to support key identified areas for improvement. Resources are targeted to ensure that students requiring additional support or challenge receive this. Every effort is made to ensure that initiatives and good practice throughout the academy drive standards. Where possible, this is a collaborative process so that costs are kept to a minimum.

### Financial governance and oversight:

As a result of a risk review process the academy operates an internal audit service, as prescribed in the Academies Financial Handbook. The internal audit service, provided by RSM UK, undertakes a risk-based approach and considers the risk management, control and governance arrangements in place. This service provides the academy with a detailed process of review and evaluation in ensuring that arrangements for overseeing governance are in place and appropriate. The academy has assurance that the controls upon which the organisation relies are suitably designed, consistently applied and effective. The internal audit report is also received, reviewed and considered by the Finance and Audit Committee.

### Demonstrating value for money and effective use of resources:

The academy's financial scheme of delegation is reviewed annually to ensure that limits set are appropriate with quotes/tenders sought to ensure value for money in all procurement.

As standard practice, for better purchasing, contracts entered into are continually reviewed to ensure that goods and services procured represent value for money. Every effort is made in negotiating contract terms and prices to ensure this. The academy also works closely with a network of other Manchester schools and academies to achieve better purchasing power and the academy benchmarks financial performance against other academy trusts, where meaningful data is available.

### Income generation:

The academy provides an offer to the community through the hire of its facilities. These community facilities are available evenings and weekends to maximise potential income. These community facilities will also continue to raise income in 2019/2020 and we will look to continue to build upon this income generation potential.

### Reviewing controls and managing risk to maximise use of resources and assets:

A system of monitoring monthly management accounts is in place, with detailed reports being received by the Finance and Audit Committee and the full board of trustees termly. The monthly accounts are scrutinised by the business manager to ensure that the necessary action is taken to address any variances arising which may affect the overall budget out-turn position.

### **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 Greater Manchester Learning Trust for the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

### **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 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

### **The risk and control framework**

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided, with members' approval:

- to appoint RSM as internal auditor.

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

- Budget setting and management accounts – preparation and integrity
- Procurement and purchasing
- Marketing and communications
- Follow up

Action plans have been developed to address the recommendations raised in these reports.

A new schedule of work has been developed for year ended 31 August 2020.

### **Review of effectiveness**

As accounting officer, the principal 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 leadership and management team within the academy trust who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the work of the Finance and Risk and Audit committees;
- the work of the internal auditor; and
- the work of the external auditor.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18/12/2019 and signed on its behalf by:



**Damian Owen**  
Accounting officer



**Suzannah Reeves**  
Chair of trustees

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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As accounting officer of Greater Manchester Learning Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education & 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 trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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.



**Damian Owen**  
**Accounting officer**

Date 18.12.19

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Greater Manchester Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 18/12/2019 and signed on its behalf by:



Suzannah Reeves  
Chair of trustees

# **GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019***

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the accounts of Greater Manchester Learning Trust for the year ended 31 August 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

### **Basis for opinion**

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

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

### **Other information**

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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

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

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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### Use of our report

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

*Haines Watts*

**Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

**for and on behalf of Haines Watts**

**Chartered Accountants**

**Statutory Auditor**

Bridge House

Ashley Road

Hale

Altrincham

WA14 2UT

Date: *18/12/19*

# **GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

## **INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019***

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 25 October 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Greater Manchester Learning Trust during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Greater Manchester Learning Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Greater Manchester Learning 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 Greater Manchester Learning Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of Greater Manchester Learning Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Greater Manchester Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 August 2016 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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



# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**


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The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- We have confirmed that the activities conform to the academy trust's framework of authorities. As identified by review of minutes, management accounts, discussion with the accounting officer and other key management personnel.
- We have carried out an analytical review as part of the consideration of whether general activities of the academy trust are within the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- We have considered the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and have evaluated the general control environment of the academy trust and extended the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- We have assessed and tested a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity. In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have considered whether the activity is permissible within the academy trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the academy trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the board of trustees, and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the board of trustees and the accounting officer acknowledging their responsibilities including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence is not available.
- In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have reviewed against specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement. We have reviewed the list of suppliers and have considered whether supplies are from related parties and have reviewed minutes for evidence of declaration of interest, and whether or not there was involvement in the decision to order from this supplier.
- We have performed sample testing of other income and tested whether activities are permitted within the academy trust's charitable objects.

### Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



**Haines Watts**  
**Reporting Accountant**

Dated: 18/12/19

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	163	163	283
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	11,258	-	11,258	11,167
Other trading activities	5	1,102	110	-	1,212	648
Investments	6	1	-	-	1	-
<b>Total</b>		<u>1,103</u>	<u>11,368</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>12,634</u>	<u>12,098</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	7	8	-	-	8	6
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	402	11,391	789	12,582	12,663
<b>Total</b>	7	<u>410</u>	<u>11,391</u>	<u>789</u>	<u>12,590</u>	<u>12,669</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		693	(23)	(626)	44	(571)
Transfers between funds	17	-	62	(62)	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	(1,353)	-	(1,353)	895
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		693	(1,314)	(688)	(1,309)	324
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		151	(1,604)	40,626	39,173	38,849
Total funds carried forward		<u>844</u>	<u>(2,918)</u>	<u>39,938</u>	<u>37,864</u>	<u>39,173</u>

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019

	Notes	2019 £000	2018 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	39,938	40,626
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	362	300
Cash at bank and in hand		1,308	459
		<u>1,670</u>	<u>759</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(245)	(425)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>1,425</u>	<u>334</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>41,363</u>	<u>40,960</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(71)	(71)
<b>Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability</b>		<u>41,292</u>	<u>40,889</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	19	(3,428)	(1,716)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u>37,864</u>	<u>39,173</u>
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>			
<b>Restricted funds</b>	17		
- Fixed asset funds		39,938	40,626
- Restricted income funds		510	112
- Pension reserve		(3,428)	(1,716)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		<u>37,020</u>	<u>39,022</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	17	<u>844</u>	<u>151</u>
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>37,864</u>	<u>39,173</u>

The accounts were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 18/12/2019 and are signed on their behalf by:



**Suzannah Reeves**  
Chair of trustees

Company Number 10257544

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2018	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total 2018 £000
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	283	283
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	11,167	-	11,167
Other trading activities	5	648	-	-	648
<b>Total</b>		<u>648</u>	<u>11,167</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>12,098</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	6	-	-	6
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	402	11,489	772	12,663
<b>Total</b>	7	<u>408</u>	<u>11,489</u>	<u>772</u>	<u>12,669</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		240	(322)	(489)	(571)
Transfers between funds	17	-	18	(18)	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	895	-	895
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		240	591	(507)	324
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		(89)	(2,195)	41,133	38,849
Total funds carried forward		<u>151</u>	<u>(1,604)</u>	<u>40,626</u>	<u>39,173</u>

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

	Notes	2019 £000	£000	2018 £000	£000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Net cash provided by operating activities	20		786		259
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		1		-	
Capital grants from DfE Group		142		283	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		21		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(101)		(360)	
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>			63		(77)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>					
Repayment of long term bank loan				(39)	
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>					(39)
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			849		143
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			459		316
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			1,308		459

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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#### 1 Accounting policies

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

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Greater Manchester Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

##### 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 accounts and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

##### 1.3 Income

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

###### Grants

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

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

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

###### 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.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

---

#### 1 Accounting policies

##### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

##### Donated fixed assets

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

#### 1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

##### Expenditure on raising funds

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

##### Charitable activities

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

#### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

---

#### 1 Accounting policies

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

Long leasehold property	50 years straight line
Leasehold improvements	10 - 50 years straight line
Computer equipment	3 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5 years straight line

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

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

#### 1.6 Liabilities

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

#### 1.7 Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

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

##### Financial assets

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

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

##### Financial liabilities

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

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

#### 1.9 Taxation

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



# **GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

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

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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#### **1 Accounting policies**

##### **1.10 Pensions benefits**

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

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

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

##### **1.11 Fund accounting**

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

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

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

##### **1.12 Agency arrangements**

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

#### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

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 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
Capital grants	-	142	142	283
Other donations	-	21	21	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>283</u>

### 4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
<b>DfE / ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	10,373	10,373	9,985
Other DfE group grants	-	635	635	626
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,008</u>	<u>11,008</u>	<u>10,611</u>
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	250	250	556
	<u>-</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>	<u>556</u>
<b>Total funding</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,258</u>	<u>11,258</u>	<u>11,167</u>

The academy trust received £250,000 from the local authority in the year, being £195,000 High Needs funding, £19,000 Trade Union, £12,000 Music Services Grant and £24,000 pupil premium income.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies relating to grants in the year.

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**5 Other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
Hire of facilities	271	-	271	258
Catering income	298	-	298	310
School trips income	-	110	110	-
Other income	533	-	533	80
	<u>1,102</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>1,212</u>	<u>648</u>

The academy is now recognising the school fund through its central income and expenditure and so income for 2018/19 is significantly higher than the income in 2017/18.

**6 Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
Short term deposits	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

**7 Expenditure**

	Staff costs £000	Non Pay Expenditure Premises £000	Other £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	8	8	6
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	6,820	709	703	8,232	8,062
- Allocated support costs	2,735	924	691	4,350	4,601
	<u>9,555</u>	<u>1,633</u>	<u>1,402</u>	<u>12,590</u>	<u>12,669</u>

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

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	7	11
- Other services	2	4
Operating lease rentals	55	66
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	789	772
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	<u>51</u>	<u>60</u>

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

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

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**8 Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
Direct costs - educational operations	108	8,124	8,232	8,062
Support costs - educational operations	294	4,056	4,350	4,601
	<u>402</u>	<u>12,180</u>	<u>12,582</u>	<u>12,663</u>
<b>Analysis of costs</b>			<b>2019 £000</b>	<b>2018 £000</b>
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Teaching and educational support staff costs			6,840	6,748
Staff development			27	21
Depreciation and amortisation			709	695
Technology costs			102	95
Educational supplies and services			226	248
Examination fees			220	255
Other direct costs			108	-
			<u>8,232</u>	<u>8,062</u>
<b>Support costs</b>				
Support staff costs			2,735	2,807
Depreciation and amortisation			80	77
Maintenance of premises and equipment			224	307
Cleaning			266	260
Energy costs			171	153
Rent and rates			91	82
Insurance			46	46
Security and transport			66	115
Catering			207	254
Interest on defined benefit pension scheme			51	60
Other support costs			377	413
Governance costs			36	27
			<u>4,350</u>	<u>4,601</u>

The expenditure on educational operations was £12,582,000 (2018: £12,663,000) of which £402,000 was unrestricted, £11,391,000 was restricted general and £789,000 was restricted fixed assets.

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**9 Staff**

**Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were:

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Wages and salaries	7,076	7,041
Social security costs	706	699
Pension costs	1,435	1,486
Amounts paid to employees	9,217	9,226
Agency staff costs	260	270
Staff restructuring costs	78	39
Amounts paid to staff	9,555	9,535
Staff development and other staff costs	47	41
Total staff expenditure	9,602	9,576

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	62	39
Severance payments	16	-
	78	39

**Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments**

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory severance payments totalling £16,000. Individually, the payments were: £10,600 and £5,400.

**Staff numbers**

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

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Teachers	116	124
Administration and support	93	97
Management	13	14
	222	235

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

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

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**9 Staff**

**Higher paid staff**

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

	2019 Number	2018 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	-	2
£70,001 - £80,000	3	1
£90,001 - £100,000	2	2
£130,001 - £140,000	1	1
	<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>

**Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,150,000 (2018: £1,262,000).

**10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

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

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

D Owen (Executive principal)

Remuneration: £130,001 - £135,000 (2018: £130,000 - £135,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £20,001 - £25,000 (2018: £15,001 - £20,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2019, no travel and subsistence payments were reimbursed or paid directly to trustees (2018: £nil).

**11 Trustees and officers insurance**

From 1 September 2018 the academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides unlimited cover. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**12 Tangible fixed assets**

	Long leasehold property	Leasehold improvements	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Assets under construction	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 September 2018	41,290	469	118	187	77	42,141
Transfers	-	77	-	-	(77)	-
Additions	-	22	64	15	-	101
	<u>41,290</u>	<u>568</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>202</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,242</u>
At 31 August 2019	41,290	568	182	202	-	42,242
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2018	1,388	9	51	67	-	1,515
Charge for the year	694	12	44	39	-	789
	<u>2,082</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,304</u>
At 31 August 2019	2,082	21	95	106	-	2,304
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2019	<u>39,208</u>	<u>547</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>39,938</u>
At 31 August 2018	<u>39,902</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>40,626</u>

**13 Debtors**

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Trade debtors	86	37
VAT recoverable	51	56
Prepayments and accrued income	225	207
	<u>362</u>	<u>300</u>

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

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Government loans	14	14
Trade creditors	117	200
Other creditors	19	20
Accruals and deferred income	95	191
	<u>245</u>	<u>425</u>

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

<b>15</b>	<b>Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
		<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
	Government loans	71	71
		<u>71</u>	<u>71</u>
	<b>Analysis of loans</b>		
	Wholly repayable within five years	85	85
	Less: included in current liabilities	(14)	(14)
		<u>71</u>	<u>71</u>
	Amounts included above	71	71
		<u>71</u>	<u>71</u>
	<b>Loan maturity</b>		
	Debt due in one year or less	14	14
	Due in more than one year but not more than two years	14	14
	Due in more than two years but not more than five years	57	57
		<u>85</u>	<u>85</u>
		85	85
		<u>85</u>	<u>85</u>
	The loan is in relation to Salix loans taken out by the academy.		
<b>16</b>	<b>Deferred income</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
		<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	42	31
		<u>42</u>	<u>31</u>
	Deferred income at 1 September 2018	31	-
	Released from previous years	(31)	-
	Resources deferred in the year	42	31
		<u>42</u>	<u>31</u>
	<b>Deferred income at 31 August 2019</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>
		<u>42</u>	<u>31</u>



**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**17 Funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2019 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	10,373	(9,921)	62	510
Other DfE / ESFA grants	112	635	(747)	-	-
Other government grants	-	250	(250)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	110	(110)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,716)	-	(359)	(1,353)	(3,428)
	<u>(1,604)</u>	<u>11,368</u>	<u>(11,387)</u>	<u>(1,291)</u>	<u>(2,918)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	40,116	-	(694)	-	39,422
DfE group capital grants	483	142	(89)	(62)	474
Capital expenditure from GAG	27	-	(5)	-	22
Private sector capital sponsorship	-	21	(1)	-	20
	<u>40,626</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>(789)</u>	<u>(62)</u>	<u>39,938</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>39,022</u>	<u>11,531</u>	<u>(12,176)</u>	<u>(1,353)</u>	<u>37,020</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	<u>151</u>	<u>1,103</u>	<u>(410)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>844</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>39,173</u>	<u>12,634</u>	<u>(12,586)</u>	<u>(1,353)</u>	<u>37,864</u>

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

Restricted general funds are those resources that have been designated restricted by the grant provider in meeting the objectives of the academy.

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objectives of the academy.

Unrestricted funds are those funds to which the board of trustees may use in the pursuance of the academy's objectives and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees.

The £62,000 transfer to restricted fixed asset funds from restricted general funds is to correctly show unspent capital funding carried forward.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2019.

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**17 Funds**

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2018 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	9,985	(9,985)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	22	626	(648)	-	-
Other government grants	-	556	(462)	18	112
Pension reserve	(2,217)	-	(394)	895	(1,716)
	<u>(2,195)</u>	<u>11,167</u>	<u>(11,489)</u>	<u>913</u>	<u>(1,604)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	40,872	-	(756)	-	40,116
DfE group capital grants	210	283	(10)	-	483
Capital expenditure from GAG	51	-	(6)	(18)	27
	<u>41,133</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>(772)</u>	<u>(18)</u>	<u>40,626</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>38,938</u>	<u>11,450</u>	<u>(12,261)</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>39,022</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	(89)	648	(408)	-	151
	<u>(89)</u>	<u>648</u>	<u>(408)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>151</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>38,849</u>	<u>12,098</u>	<u>(12,669)</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>39,173</u>

**18 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total Funds £000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	39,938	39,938
Current assets	1,160	510	-	1,670
Creditors falling due within one year	(245)	-	-	(245)
Creditors falling due after one year	(71)	-	-	(71)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(3,428)	-	(3,428)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,428)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,428)</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>844</u>	<u>(2,918)</u>	<u>39,938</u>	<u>37,864</u>

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**18 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total Funds £000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	40,626	40,626
Current assets	759	-	-	759
Creditors falling due within one year	(537)	112	-	(425)
Creditors falling due after one year	(71)	-	-	(71)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(1,716)	-	(1,716)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>(1,604)</b>	<b>40,626</b>	<b>39,173</b>

**19 Pension and similar obligations**

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016.

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

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

**Introduction**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis - these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014.

# GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

#### 19 Pension and similar obligations

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £813,000 (2018: £826,000).

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

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

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.1% for employers and between 5.5 and 12.5 per cent for employees. The estimated value of employer's contributions for the period to 31 August 2020 will be approximately £310,000.

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.

<b>Total contributions made</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Employer's contributions	347	325
Employees' contributions	99	105
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	446	430
	<hr/>	<hr/>
 <b>Principal actuarial assumptions</b>	 <b>2019</b>	 <b>2018</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Rate of increase in salaries	3.1	3.1
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.3	2.3
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.9	2.8
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**19 Pension and similar obligations**

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

	<b>2019 Years</b>	<b>2018 Years</b>
Retiring today		
- Males	20.6	21.5
- Females	23.1	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.0	23.7
- Females	24.8	26.2

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are as set out below:

**Sensitivity analysis**

<b>Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2019</b>	<b>Approximate % increase to employer liability</b>	<b>Approximate monetary amount (£000)</b>
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	13%	1,274
0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	10%	997
0.5% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	3%	247

<b>The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme</b>	<b>2019 Fair value £000</b>	<b>2018 Fair value £000</b>
Bonds	932	879
Equities	4,225	3,735
Cash	558	494
Property	497	384
Total market value of assets	6,212	5,492

The actual return on scheme assets was £274,000 (2018: £273,000).

<b>Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>	<b>2018 £000</b>
Current service cost	550	659
Past service cost	105	-
Interest income	(160)	(125)
Interest cost	211	185
Total operating charge	706	719

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**19 Pension and similar obligations**

<b>Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations</b>	<b>2019 £000</b>	<b>2018 £000</b>
At 1 September 2018	7,208	7,006
Current service cost	550	659
Interest cost	211	185
Employee contributions	99	105
Actuarial loss/(gain)	1,467	(747)
Past service cost	105	-
	<u>9,640</u>	<u>7,208</u>
At 31 August 2019	9,640	7,208

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

	<b>2019 £000</b>	<b>2018 £000</b>
At 1 September 2018	5,492	4,789
Interest income	160	125
Actuarial gain	114	148
Employer contributions	347	325
Employee contributions	99	105
	<u>6,212</u>	<u>5,492</u>
At 31 August 2019	6,212	5,492

**20 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flows from operating activities**

	<b>2019 £000</b>	<b>2018 £000</b>
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	44	(571)
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income	(163)	(283)
Investment income receivable	(1)	-
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	308	334
Defined benefit pension net finance	51	60
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	789	772
(Increase) in debtors	(62)	(10)
(Decrease) in creditors	(180)	(43)
	<u>786</u>	<u>259</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>259</b>

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**

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

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**21 Commitments under operating leases**

At 31 August 2019 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Amounts due within one year	45	55
Amounts due in two and five years	-	50
	<u>45</u>	<u>105</u>

**22 Capital commitments**

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	-	20
	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>

**23 Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. The following related party transactions took place in the period of account.

During the year, the academy has purchased services from Manchester Schools Alliance totalling £4,000 (2018: £5,520). Member John McNerney is chair of governors at Manchester Schools Alliance. No amounts were owed by the academy trust at the year end. In entering into the transaction, the academy has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018. These transactions are considered to be at cost and are considered to be value for money for the academy trust.

During the year, the academy has received income from Oldham Sixth Form College totalling £1,734. Chair of trustee's Suzannah Reeves and trustee Simon Ferris are both employed by the college. No amounts were due to the academy trust at the year end. In entering into the transaction, the academy has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018. These transactions are considered to be at a favourable rate for the academy trust.

During the year, the academy has received income from The University of Manchester totalling £4,000. Member Patrick Johnson is employed by the university. No amounts were due to the academy trust at the year end. In entering into the transaction, the academy has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018. These transactions are considered to be at a favourable rate for the academy trust.

**GREATER MANCHESTER LEARNING TRUST**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019***

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**24 Members' liability**

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

**25 Agency arrangements**

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2019 the trust received £58,848 (2018: £58,848) and disbursed £58,848 (2018: £58,848) from the fund in the period.