

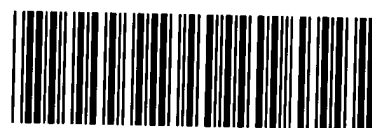
Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 August 2020**

Company Registration Number
10465397 (England and Wales)

WEDNESDAY



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27/01/2021

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COMPANIES HOUSE

**Feltons
Chartered Accountants**

**Birmingham
B1 3JR**

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 August 2020

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Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	Surinder Kaur Dhillon (from 25 September 2019) Yva Alexanorova Petrova (from 25 September 2019) Natasha Williams (from 25 September 2019) Annette O Neil
Trustees	John Orchard (Chair of Trustees) Carol Barbara Parkinson Rubina Darr Ava Sturridge Packer Barbara Jacques Ellen Osborne Luke Street (resigned 2 September 2020) Yva Alexanorova Petrova (resigned 14 October 2019)
Company secretary	Samrina Banaris (left May 2020). Currently vacant
Senior management team	
Executive Head Teacher	Rubina Darr
Head of School	Julie Fisher
Assistant Head Teacher	Sophie Harris
Assistant Head Teacher	Eleanor Karwowski
Assistant Head Teacher	Fareedah Razzaq
Company name	Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
Principal and registered office	Cromwell Junior & Infant School Cromwell Street Birmingham B7 5BA
Company registration number	10465397
Independent auditor	Feltons 8 Sovereign Court 8 Graham Street Birmingham B1 3JR
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Commercial Finance Limited 4th Floor 125 Colmore Row Birmingham B3 3SF
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP Mowbray House Castle Meadow Road Nottingham NG2 1BJ

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report (incorporating a strategic report) under company law.

The multi academy trust operates two primary schools serving catchment areas in Nechells and Bordesley Green which are:

Cromwell Junior & Infant School
Bordesley Village Primary School

They have a combined pupil capacity of 695 and had a roll of 570 in the school census on 3 October 2020. Bordesley Village had 341 pupils and Cromwell 229 pupils.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The multi academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the multi academy trust. The Trustees of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust.

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

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

In accordance with normal commercial practice the multi academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on multi academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Parent trustees are elected by the parents of registered pupils at the multi academy. A parent trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the multi academy at the time when she/he is elected.

Community trustees may be appointed by the board of trustees provided that the person who is appointed as a community trustee is:

- a person who lives or works in the community served by the multi academy; or
- a person who, in the opinion of the board of trustees, is committed to the government and success of the multi academy.

Staff trustees are elected by employees of the multi academy trust.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees (continued)

The selection procedures are as below.

- *Letter of interest of why the individual would like to become a Trustee of this particular trust and an outline of the skill set that the individual can offer;*
- *Letter of application to be considered by Members and Trustees;*
- *Vote by Members only*

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The Executive Head Teacher is the leader for professional development in school. She ensures that trustees are provided with opportunities to receive training in accordance with their role, and the schools training plan.

Organisational structure

The board of trustees has established committees and appoints trustees to serve on each of the committees annually. The committees for the period of the report were:

- Finance and Pay
- Buildings, Health and Safety
- Curriculum and Standards
- Head Teacher Performance Management
- Appeals
- Staff and Pupil Discipline

The written terms of reference of the committees include the monitoring of the preparation and management of the multi academy's budget and implementation of the multi academy's financial management policies, including risk assessment.

The board of trustees also appoints a responsible officer, and this role has been fully implemented in accordance with the multi academy trust's financial procedures.

Decisions relating to Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust are reserved for the board of trustees. Those responsibilities delegated to management include leadership and management responsibilities.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The settings of pay and remuneration will be completed by the Finance, Resources, and HR Committee.

Trade union facility time

There is no Trade union facility time across the MAT. However the MAT does pay into Birmingham City Council paying £1,377 annually.

Related parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Name	Related Party	Additional Information
Rubina Darr	Free at Last	Trustee
Carol Parkinson	Oratory RC Primary School	Governor
John Orchard	None	None
Ava Sturridge Packer	None	None

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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Related parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations (continued)

Barbara Jacques	Bright and Shine Cleaning Ltd	Bright and Shine Cleaning Ltd used for ad hoc cleaning services; Tameka Williams (Teaching Assistant at Bordesley Village – Daughter of Barbara Jacques)
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Objectives and activities

Objectives, strategies, and activities:

The strategic goal of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust is to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to all pupils in accordance with the funding agreement between the multi academy trust and the Department for Education.

The main objectives for the year are:

Ensuring that all staff and pupils are safe, and health and safety national directives are fully implemented

Raising standards of attainment and progress at EYFS, KS1 and KS2 to above national standards at Bordesley Village and the top 15% nationally for Cromwell School

Improving the percentage of outstanding and good teaching across the Trust, and to eliminate all inadequate teaching

Development of a complementary curriculum that links learning across subjects and is sequenced so that prior learning is built upon in a systematic way

Development of robust and effective home learning systems to enable pupils to sustain their learning when not in school

The strategies adopted for achieving these objectives are:

Ensuring the school is promptly implementing all DfE guidance on Covid 19 and providing staff wellbeing support

A rigorous programme of pupil's work scrutiny and learning walks providing regular feedback to staff on teaching and learning. Coaching and mentoring staff to improve provision

Review of curriculum and realignment with EEF research and latest Ofsted inspection framework

Providing clear guidelines on effective classroom pedagogy linked to research.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Board of Trustees has given careful consideration to the general guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission on their website at www.gov.uk/topic/running-charity/managing-charity in exercising their powers or duties.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust is an equal opportunity employer and strives to give full and fair consideration to all applicants for employment, training and promotions, irrespective of disability, gender, race, colour or sexual orientation.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Strategic Report

Attainment and Performance

END OF KS RESULTS 2019

	Reading		Writing		Mathematics		Combined RWM
SAT Results 2019	Expected	Greater depth	Expected	Greater depth	Expected	High standard	
Cromwell KS2	93	48	93	34	97	66	93
Bordesley Village KS2	73	20	90	18	86	31	69
Nursery Hill KS2	72	33	72	17	72	6	72
KS2 National	73	27	78	20	79	27	65
KS1 Results							
Cromwell KS1	80	20	77	17	83	20	77
Bordesley Village KS1	76	21	76	15	77	19	72
Nursery Hill KS1	83	30	83	9	83	26	83
KS1 National	75	25	69	15	76	22	65

	Good Level of Development %		
Cromwell	73		
Bordesley Village	71		
Nursery Hill	18/19 66	17/18 79	16/17 76.1
Phonics	Year 1		Year 2
Cromwell	93		25
Bordesley Village	87		84
Nursery Hill	88		60

Progress Measures 2019

School	Reading	Writing	Maths
Cromwell	4.5	3.8	5.4
Bordesley Village	3.4	4.3	4.0
Nursery Hill	-1.5 (2018 -5.6)	-2.3 (2018 -3.8)	-3.9 (2018 -3.1)

Cromwell Progress Data 2016-2018

	2016	2017	2018
Reading	1.1	0.0	4.6
Writing	2.3	2.4	2.3
Maths	1.7	2.0	5.0

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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Bordesley Village Progress Data 2016-18

	2016	2017	2018
Reading	-3.3	-0.5	1.7
Writing	-8.4	-0.6	3.1
Maths	-2.9	1.2	1.1

PREDICTED END OF KS RESULTS 2020 (based on March 2020 data)

	Reading		Writing		Mathematics		Combined RWM
SAT predicted 2020	Expected	Greater depth	Expected	Greater depth	Expected	High standard	
Cromwell KS2	90%	50%	90%	30%	97%	60%	87%
Bordesley Village KS2	76%	27%	85%	22%	85%	33%	76%
Cromwell KS1	90%	23%	83%	20%	90%	30%	83%
Bordesley Village KS1	76%	33%	71%	22%	88%	37%	71%

PREDICTED EYFS RESULTS 2020

	Good Level of Development %	
Cromwell (National- 72%)	74%	
Bordesley Village	77%	
Nursery Hill	73%	
Phonics	Year 1 (82)	Year 2 (91)
Cromwell	100%	100%
Bordesley Village	87%	75%

NURSERY HILL PRIMARY PREDICTED END OF KS RESULTS 2020 (based on March 2020 data)

	Reading		Writing		Mathematics		Combined RWM
SAT predicted 2020	Expected	Greater depth	Expected	Greater depth	Expected	High standard	
KS2	79%	21%	79%	21%	89%	32%	79%
KS1	84%	42%	79%	26%	90%	53%	79%

**Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Key Performance Indicators

Progress at the end of KS2 in 2019 is significantly above national at both Cromwell and Bordesley Village

Attainment at Cromwell is above national at both KS1 and KS2. At Bordesley Village attainment is significantly improved since 2016 and is now at least in line with national. EYFS at both schools is broadly in line with national. In 2019 phonics results in both schools were above national

The continued development of effective leadership both within SLT and increasingly in middle leaders

Strong assessment systems have been developed across the MAT with accurate baselines established for all pupils. Progress and attainment against ARE is reviewed half termly, with targets set and intervention strategies implemented for underperformance, underpinned by regular pupil progress meetings with teachers

School leaders have raised the expectations of all staff in terms of teaching and learning and introduced a set of non-negotiable features of effective teaching to ensure greater consistency, consequently most teaching across the MAT is at least good and a significant amount is outstanding

Pupil numbers have increased at Bordesley Village School and remain consistent at Cromwell

Improved consistency in the implementation of policies and procedures across the MAT

Ensuring that all pupils needs are effectively met through appropriately planned learning and high quality teaching, with specific attention on SEND, EAL and any pupils at risk of underachieving (vulnerable, disadvantaged and Free School Meals).

The main Key Financial Performance Indicators (KPI's) are:

Cromwell Primary

Total Staff Costs to EFA Revenue Income (%)	80.67%
Total Teaching Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	31.32%
Total Education Support Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	19.61%
Total Admin and Clerical Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	4.88%
Total Other Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	8.64%
Total Supply Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	5.46%
Total Staff Costs as Proportion of Total Expense (%)	73.46%
Pupil Teacher Ratio as per Lagged Pupil Numbers	23.60
Pupil Staff Ratio as per Lagged Pupil Numbers	7.94
Teacher Contact Ratio	80.00%

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Main Key Financial Performance Indicators (continued)

Bordesley Village Primary

Total Staff Costs to EFA Revenue Income (%)	61.85%
Total Teaching Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	39.03%
Total Education Support Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	16.31%
Total Admin and Clerical Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	1.93%
Total Other Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	8.46%
Total Supply Staff Costs to Total Expenditure (%)	0.65%
Total Staff Costs as Proportion of Total Expense (%)	66.37%
Pupil Teacher Ratio as per Lagged Pupil Numbers	22.06
Pupil Staff Ratio as per Lagged Pupil Numbers	11.08
Teacher Contact Ratio	80.23%

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the multi academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Although the Cromwell Learning and Community Trust has a cumulative revenue deficit, the loan advanced to the Trust during the 2018/19 financial year has meant that the Trust is able to meet its liabilities as they become due.

During the 2019/20 financial year, the Trust has reduced its deficit significantly from 2018/19 and is on course to clear the deficit by the end of the 2020/21 financial year. In addition to this, the Trust is repaying the loan advanced by the ESFA and this is expected to be repaid by June 2022 at the latest. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Financial Review

The financial results of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust are detailed in the following pages. It is considered that the finances are sound and established. The principal financial management policies adopted are laid down by the Finance Handbook for Academies published by the ESFA and requirements as laid down by the Multi Academy's Financial Handbook.

The principal funding source is grant income from the ESFA. All expenditure of this grant income is planned to fulfil the objectives and strategies of the multi academy.

During the year ended 31 August 2020 total resources expended were £3,973,466 and the surplus of income over expenditure was £42,163 which included depreciation of £220,467.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Reserves Policy

The trustees monitor the reserves of the charitable company. This process encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams and the need to match commitments with income and nature of reserves. It is the board of trustees' general policy to continue to build reserves which can be used for future educational purposes.

The multi academy had total funds at 31 August 2020 of £5,549,668 which included a deficit of £205,760 in restricted funds not available for general purposes of the multi academy trust, £nil of free reserves defined as unrestricted funds available for general purposes and £8,110,428 which can only be realised by the disposal of tangible fixed assets. This represents a significant reduction in the net deficit carried forward from 2018/19 of £546,350. This is in line with a deficit recovery plan submitted to the ESFA and the aim is to clear this deficit in the 2020/21 financial year, which will see the Trust return to a net surplus balance.

The balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds was a deficit of £205,760.

In addition, the deficit on the restricted pension fund of £2,355,000 arises from an actuarial deficit on the local government pension scheme which will be dealt with as advised by the actuary.

The aim of the trustees is to have reserves which equate to two months of expenditure.

Investment Policy

Any surplus funds are invested with Lloyds Banking Group in a deposit account.

These investments are carried out in accordance with the powers vested in the board of trustees.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The trustees have considered the major risks and uncertainties facing the charitable company which include changes in legislation and regulations and cash flow management and have put in place procedures to deal with these matters.

Attention has also been focussed on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies in place, and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas.

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the period was monitored by the Trustees.

Plans for Future Periods

Our strategy is for careful growth, thereby ensuring the Trust has the capacity to meet the needs of the schools within the Trust. The Trust will limit growth to 2 schools a year: however, the Trust will consider additional schools if their pupil achievement data is at least in line with national standards and there are no major concerns raised by due diligence.

The Trust model of school improvement is based on schools working in collaboration to ensure sustainable improvement. The growth model is based on the Trust's capacity to internally deliver high quality school improvement support. The Trust will capitalise on the opportunity to provide school to school support through NLE funding.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Plans for Future Periods (continued)

The Trust has an experienced team internally and with its partners has sufficient capacity to deliver its school improvement strategy, without jeopardising the current high-quality provision and outcomes in the MAT. The growth plan is calculated and measured to utilise effectively this capacity to deliver the school improvement strategy whilst ensuring there is correlated development in the Trust's infrastructure to deliver core services.

Collaboration between schools is central to our school improvement strategy and therefore to make this feasible the Trust would be seeking schools to join us who are within 50 minutes of travelling distance time. Currently North Warwickshire is an area identified for providing school improvement support and potential expansion, in addition to Birmingham.

Auditor

Insofar 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.

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 17 December 2020 and signed on the board's behalf by:

 John Orchard - Chair of Trustees

Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2020

Scope of Responsibility

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

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
John Orchard (Chair of Trustees)	3	4
Carol Barbara Parkinson	4	4
Rubina Darr (Accounting Officer)	4	4
Ava Sturridge Packer	3	4
Barbara Jacques	4	4

A review of governance is currently being undertaken in line with recent ESFA guidance/changes.

Subsequent to this the following actions were taken:

Appointment of 2 new Trustees, one a Safeguarding Compliance Specialist (Ellen Osborne) and the other a Local Policeman (Luke Street)

The trust intends to conduct its next self-evaluation/external review in Spring 2021.

The **finance and audit committee** is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. During the 2019/20 financial year, the Trust held monthly Financial Management meetings to review the finances and monthly management accounts and also increased the number of Board and Finance and Audit meetings to be held to 2 per term. The Board has committed and scheduled 6 Trust Board meetings and Finance and Audit meetings for the 2020/21 financial year in order to maintain the increased financial oversight of the Trust to ensure it returns to a cumulative surplus position by the 31st August 2021.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
John Orchard (Chair of Trustees)	2	2
Carol Barbara Parkinson	2	2
Rubina Darr (Accounting Officer)	2	2
Barbara Jacques	0	2

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

Review of value for money

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

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

- Restructuring of catering contract. (Food is cooked at one School and transported to the other.)
- Food options reduced to two.
- Restructuring of School day to allow for PPA on a Friday afternoon.

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 the multi academy trust's 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 Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust for the year to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the multi 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 on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the multi academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint drb Schools and Academies Services Ltd as the Responsible Officer for the Trust.

**Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

The Risk and Control Framework (continued)

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

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of control accounts / bank reconciliations

On a termly basis, the Responsible Officer reports are distributed to the board of trustees, through the finance and general purposes committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

The responsible officer reports for 2019/20 have no major concerns. They have found the practises within Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust to be effective.

Review of Effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal reviewer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the multi academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 17 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



John Orchard
Chair of Trustees



Rubina Darr
Accounting Officer

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance for the year ended 31 August 2020

As accounting officer of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the multi academy trust board of trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of all funding received by the multi academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the multi academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

I confirm that I and the multi academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the multi academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the multi academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

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.

 Rubina Darr – Accounting Officer

17 December 2020

**Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2020

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020;
- 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 financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 17 December 2020 and signed on its behalf by:



..... John Orchard – Chair of Trustees

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of
Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements :

- give a true and fair view of the state of the multi academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period 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, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(continued)

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Other information includes the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report), the governance statement, and the Accounting Officer's statement. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Multi Academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' 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
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(continued)

Responsibilities for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement (set out on page 15), the trustees (who are also the directors of the Multi Academy trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Multi Academy trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Multi Academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Multi Academy trust to cease to continue as a going concern.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

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



David W Farnsworth FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Feltons, Statutory Auditor

8 Sovereign Court

8 Graham Street

Birmingham B1 3JR

17 December 2020

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust Multi Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1 June 2017 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 22 December 2016 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by 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 Multi Academy Trust's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes :

- Consideration of the applicable legislation and the multi academy trust's funding agreement
- Review and evaluation of the multi academy trust's system of internal controls
- Examination and assessment of the Accounting Officer's statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
- Examination, on a test basis, of third party evidence supporting income and expenditure
- Review of exceptional and unusual items

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

Conclusion

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



David W Farnsworth FCA (Reporting Accountant)
For and on behalf of Feltons, Statutory Auditor
8 Sovereign Court
8 Graham Street
Birmingham B1 3JR

17 December 2020

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 August 2020
(including income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension fund £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total 2019/20 £	Total 2018/19 £
Income from :							
Donations and capital grants	2	209	-	-	15,040	15,249	38,612
Charitable activities :	3						
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations		128,136	-	3,865,083	-	3,993,219	3,780,852
Other trading activities	4	6,500	-	-	-	6,500	7,400
Investments	5	661	-	-	-	661	351
Total		135,506	-	3,865,083	15,040	4,015,629	3,827,215
Expenditure on :							
Charitable activities:							
Academy trust educational operations	6	135,506	93,000	3,524,493	220,467	3,973,466	4,393,155
Total		135,506	93,000	3,524,493	220,467	3,973,466	4,393,155
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		-	(93,000)	340,590	(205,427)	42,163	(565,940)
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income/(expenditure) after transfers		-	(93,000)	340,590	(205,427)	42,163	(565,940)
Other recognised gains/(losses)							
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	15, 24	-	203,000	-	-	203,000	(348,000)
Net movement in funds		-	110,000	340,590	(205,427)	245,163	(913,940)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	16	-	(2,465,000)	(546,350)	8,315,855	5,304,505	6,218,445
Total funds carried forward		-	(2,355,000)	(205,760)	8,110,428	5,549,668	5,304,505

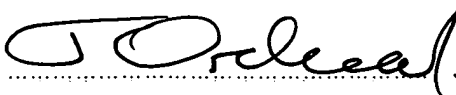
All of the Academy's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Company number : 10465397
Balance sheet as at 31 August 2020

		2020		2019	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		8,075,592		8,274,075
Current assets					
Debtors	13	313,867		310,260	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>176,064</u>		<u>409,652</u>	
		489,931		719,912	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14(a)	<u>523,360</u>		<u>961,995</u>	
Net current assets			(33,429)		(242,083)
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>8,042,163</u>		<u>8,031,992</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14(b)		(137,495)		(262,487)
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>7,904,668</u>		<u>7,769,505</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24		(2,355,000)		(2,465,000)
Total net assets			<u><u>5,549,668</u></u>		<u><u>5,304,505</u></u>
Funds of the academy trust :					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	15	8,110,428		8,315,855	
Restricted income fund	15	(205,760)		(546,350)	
Pension reserve	15	<u>(2,355,000)</u>		<u>(2,465,000)</u>	
Total restricted funds			5,549,668		5,304,505
Unrestricted income funds	15		-		-
Total funds			<u><u>5,549,668</u></u>		<u><u>5,304,505</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 22 to 46 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 17 December 2020 and are signed on their behalf by:

 John Orchard - Chair of Trustees

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	19	(177,301)	(261,449)
Cash flows from investing activities	20	(6,283)	(378,508)
Cash flows from financing activities	21	(50,004)	337,499
		<u>(233,588)</u>	<u>(302,458)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2019		409,652	712,110
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2020	22	<u>176,064</u>	<u>409,652</u>

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020

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.

Basis of preparation

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

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

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 company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a year of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the multi academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the multi academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the multi 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 year is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

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

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.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Income (continued)

- **Other income**
Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the multi academy trust has provided the goods or services.
- **Donated goods, facilities and services**
Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. Upon sale the fair value of the goods is charged against, and the proceeds are recognised as, 'Income from other trading activities'.

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

Expenditure

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

- **Expenditure on raising funds**
This includes all expenditure incurred by the multi 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 multi academy trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the multi academy trust apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets (continued)

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

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

Leasehold land and buildings	- straight line over 50 years
Furniture and equipment	- 25% straight line
Computer hardware	- 25% 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.

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.

Financial instruments

The academy trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined by 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.

Leased assets

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

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Taxation

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

Pension benefits

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

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

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

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the multi 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 or Department for Education.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

2. Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
Capital grants	-	-	15,040	15,040	38,612
Other donations	209	-	-	209	-
	<u>209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,040</u>	<u>15,249</u>	<u>38,612</u>
2019 total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,612</u>	<u>38,612</u>	

3. Funding for the multi academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
DfE/ESFA grants					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,949,467	-	2,949,467	2,905,712
Other DfE Group grants	-	724,815	-	724,815	456,575
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,674,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,674,282</u>	<u>3,362,287</u>
Other government grants					
Local authority grants	-	188,913	-	188,913	205,056
Other government funding	-	-	-	-	22,261
Exceptional government funding					
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	1,888	-	1,888	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>190,801</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>190,801</u>	<u>227,317</u>
Other income from the academy. trust's educational operations	128,136	-	-	128,136	191,248
	<u>128,136</u>	<u>190,801</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>318,937</u>	<u>418,565</u>
	<u>128,136</u>	<u>3,865,083</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,993,219</u>	<u>3,780,852</u>
2019 total	<u>191,248</u>	<u>3,589,604</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,780,852</u>	

The academy trust has been eligible to claim additional funding in the period from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above under "exceptional government funding".

- The funding received for coronavirus exceptional support covers £1,888 of cleaning costs. These costs are included in notes 6 and 7 below as appropriate.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
Hire of facilities	6,500	-	6,500	7,400
	<u>6,500</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,500</u>	<u>7,400</u>
2019 total	<u>7,400</u>		<u>7,400</u>	

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
Short term deposits	661	-	661	351
2019 total	<u>351</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>351</u>	

6. Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non pay expenditure		2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
		Premises £	Other £		
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	2,037,333	57,864	325,907	2,421,104	2,908,558
Allocated support costs	483,742	439,495	629,125	1,552,362	1,484,597
	<u>2,521,075</u>	<u>497,359</u>	<u>955,032</u>	<u>3,973,466</u>	<u>4,393,155</u>
2019 total	<u>2,893,341</u>	<u>498,512</u>	<u>1,001,302</u>	<u>4,393,155</u>	

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

6. Expenditure (continued)

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes :

		2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Operating leases	- plant and machinery	7,636	13,944
Depreciation		220,467	228,228
Fees payable to auditor	- audit	11,250	10,250
	- other services	3,250	-
		<u>3,250</u>	<u>-</u>

7. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension fund £	Other restricted funds £	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
Educational operations					
Direct costs	70,977	-	2,350,127	2,421,104	2,908,558
Support costs	64,529	93,000	1,394,833	1,552,362	1,484,597
	<u>135,506</u>	<u>93,000</u>	<u>3,744,960</u>	<u>3,973,466</u>	<u>4,393,155</u>
2019 total	<u>272,506</u>	<u>172,000</u>	<u>3,948,649</u>	<u>4,393,155</u>	
Analysis of support costs					
Support staff costs	-	93,000	390,742	483,742	445,081
Depreciation	-	-	162,603	162,603	61,951
Technology costs	-	-	-	-	7,702
Premises costs	-	-	285,608	285,608	296,502
Other support costs	64,529	-	540,620	605,149	663,111
Governance costs	-	-	15,260	15,260	10,250
Total support costs	<u>64,529</u>	<u>93,000</u>	<u>1,394,833</u>	<u>1,552,362</u>	<u>1,484,597</u>
2019 total	<u>157,352</u>	<u>172,000</u>	<u>1,155,245</u>	<u>1,484,597</u>	

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

8. Staff

a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Wages and salaries	1,712,508	1,756,322
Social security costs	132,682	141,511
Pension costs	494,331	450,696
	<u>2,339,521</u>	<u>2,348,529</u>
Agency staff costs	178,054	544,812
Staff restructuring costs	3,500	-
	<u>2,521,075</u>	<u>2,893,341</u>

	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Staff restructuring costs comprise :		
Severance payments	<u>3,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,500</u>	<u>-</u>

b) Staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs is a non-statutory/non-contractual severance payment of £3,500 (2019: £nil).

c) Staff numbers

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

	2019/20 Number	2018/19 Number
Teachers	21	25
Administration and support	74	86
Management	6	7
	<u>101</u>	<u>118</u>

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

8. Staff (continued)

d) Higher paid staff

	2019/20 Number	2018/19 Number
The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was :		
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

e) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the multi academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the multi academy trust was £433,299 (2019 : £502,358)

9. Central services

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

Category	Basis
Central support services	3% - 4.25% General Annual Grant

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows :

	2019/20 £	2018/19 £
Cromwell Junior & Infant School	35,039	34,677
Bordesley Village Primary School	<u>75,158</u>	<u>74,286</u>
	<u>110,197</u>	<u>108,963</u>

10. Related Party Transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the multi academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment.

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

Mrs Rubina Darr (principal and trustee)	
Remuneration	£95,000 - £100,000 (2019 : £90,000 - £95,000)
Employer's pension contributions paid	£20,000 - £25,000 (2019 : £15,000 - £20,000)

There were no travel and subsistence expenses reimbursed or paid directly to any trustee during the current or previous year.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 25.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

11. Trustees' and officers' insurance

The academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer hardware £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2019	8,570,610	137,601	104,905	8,813,116
Additions	-	12,910	9,074	21,984
At 31 August 2020	<u>8,570,610</u>	<u>150,511</u>	<u>113,979</u>	<u>8,835,100</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2019	393,773	83,518	61,750	539,041
Charge for the year	<u>171,412</u>	<u>25,299</u>	<u>23,756</u>	<u>220,467</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>565,185</u>	<u>108,817</u>	<u>85,506</u>	<u>759,508</u>
Net book values				
At 31 August 2020	<u>8,005,425</u>	<u>41,694</u>	<u>28,473</u>	<u>8,075,592</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>8,176,837</u>	<u>54,083</u>	<u>43,155</u>	<u>8,274,075</u>

Leasehold property was valued at 1 December 2016 and 1 July 2017 by The Valuation Office Agency – DVS and the furniture and equipment and computer hardware were valued as at the 1 January 2017 and 1 July 2017 by the trustees. The basis on which the valuations were made was depreciated replacement cost.

Cost or valuation at 31
August 2020 is
represented by :

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer hardware £	Total £
Valuation in 2017	7,922,767	64,748	31,660	8,019,175
Cost	<u>647,843</u>	<u>85,763</u>	<u>82,319</u>	<u>815,925</u>
	<u>8,570,610</u>	<u>150,511</u>	<u>113,979</u>	<u>8,835,100</u>

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

13. Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Debtors from operations	-	37,502
VAT recoverable	56,514	10,845
Prepayments and accrued income	257,353	261,913
	<u>313,867</u>	<u>310,260</u>

14. Creditors

	2020 £	2019 £
(a) Amounts falling due within one year :		
Creditors from operations	42,128	36,334
Accruals and deferred income	154,882	337,258
Other creditors	176,350	513,391
Loans	150,000	75,012
	<u>523,360</u>	<u>961,995</u>

Deferred income

Deferred income at 1 September 2019	39,768	37,091
Resources deferred in the year	50,389	39,768
Amounts released from previous years	(39,768)	(37,091)
Deferred income at 31 August 2020	<u>50,389</u>	<u>39,768</u>

At the balance sheet date the multi academy trust was holding funds received in advance for universal infant free school meals and Erasmus Project funding.

(b) Amounts falling due after more than one year :

Other creditors	<u>137,495</u>	<u>262,487</u>
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Other creditors after more than one year represents a loan from the Education and Skills Funding Agency repayable in monthly instalments with no interest payable. The amount due within one year is shown in note 14(a).

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

15. Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(546,350)	2,949,467	(2,608,877)	-	(205,760)
Pupil premium	-	402,250	(402,250)	-	-
Other grants	-	513,366	(513,366)	-	-
	<u>(546,350)</u>	<u>3,865,083</u>	<u>(3,524,493)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(205,760)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	7,554,841	-	(166,356)	-	7,388,485
DfE Group capital grants	634,068	15,040	(23,110)	-	625,998
Capital expenditure from GAG	126,946	-	(31,001)	-	95,945
	<u>8,315,855</u>	<u>15,040</u>	<u>(220,467)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,110,428</u>
Pension reserve	<u>(2,465,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(93,000)</u>	<u>203,000</u>	<u>(2,355,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>5,304,505</u>	<u>3,880,123</u>	<u>(3,837,960)</u>	<u>203,000</u>	<u>5,549,668</u>
Unrestricted funds					
Other income	-	135,506	(135,506)	-	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>135,506</u>	<u>(135,506)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>5,304,505</u>	<u>4,015,629</u>	<u>(3,973,466)</u>	<u>203,000</u>	<u>5,549,668</u>

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

Restricted general funds

These comprise all restricted funds other than restricted fixed asset funds and include grants from The Education and Skills Funding Agency and Birmingham City Council.

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

The academy trust is carrying a net deficit of £205,760 on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus unrestricted funds. This represents a significant reduction in the net deficit carried forward from 2018/19 of £546,350. This is in line with a deficit recovery plan submitted to the ESFA and the aim is to clear this deficit in the 2020/21 financial year, which will see the Trust return to a net surplus balance.

Unrestricted funds

These comprise resources that may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the multi academy trust at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted fixed asset funds

These comprise resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by The Education and Skills Funding Agency and Birmingham City Council where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

15. Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(415,533)	2,905,712	(3,036,529)	-	(546,350)
Pupil premium	-	407,165	(407,165)	-	-
Other grants	-	276,727	(276,727)	-	-
	<u>(415,533)</u>	<u>3,589,604</u>	<u>(3,720,421)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(546,350)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	7,733,584	-	(178,743)	-	7,554,841
DfE Group capital grants	613,660	38,612	(18,204)	-	634,068
Capital expenditure from GAG	158,227	-	(31,281)	-	126,946
	<u>8,505,471</u>	<u>38,612</u>	<u>(228,228)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,315,855</u>
Pension reserve	<u>(1,945,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(172,000)</u>	<u>(348,000)</u>	<u>(2,465,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>6,144,938</u>	<u>3,628,216</u>	<u>(4,120,649)</u>	<u>(348,000)</u>	<u>5,304,505</u>
Unrestricted funds					
Other income	73,507	198,999	(272,506)	-	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>73,507</u>	<u>198,999</u>	<u>(272,506)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>6,218,445</u>	<u>3,827,215</u>	<u>(4,393,155)</u>	<u>(348,000)</u>	<u>5,304,505</u>

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 were allocated as follows :

	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
Cromwell Junior & Infant School	29,935	(102,987)
Bordesley Village Primary School	(202,850)	(468,551)
Central Trust	(32,845)	25,188
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve carried forward	<u>(205,760)</u>	<u>(546,350)</u>

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

15. Funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy (continued)

	2019/20 Total £	2018/19 Total £
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve brought forward	(205,760)	(546,350)
Restricted fixed asset fund	8,110,428	8,315,855
Pension reserve	(2,355,000)	(2,465,000)
Total funds	5,549,668	5,304,505

Bordesley Village Primary School and the Central Trust are carrying a net deficits of £202,850 and £32,845 respectively on funds before fixed assets and pension reserve. The deficits being shown on Bordesley Village Primary School and the Central Trust are a result of the investment put into Bordesley Village Primary School to raise standards and improve the learning environment. It is expected that by the end of the 2020/21 financial year, the Central Trust will return to surplus and the deficit at Bordesley Village Primary School be significantly reduced.

To return these funds to surplus the trust has agreed a deficit recovery plan with the ESFA. The Trust is also on course to clear the deficit by the end of the 2020/21 financial year which will see the Trust revert to a net surplus balance.

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching & educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	2019/20 Total £
Cromwell Junior & Infant School	831,193	254,046	39,168	497,255	1,621,662
Bordesley Village Primary School	1,140,056	229,696	38,855	542,750	1,951,357
Trust	66,084	-	9,193	104,703	179,980
Academy trust	2,037,333	483,742	87,216	1,144,708	3,752,999
2019 total	2,448,260	445,081	104,637	1,166,949	4,164,927

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31
August 2020 are
represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	8,075,592	8,075,592
Current assets	-	-	455,095	34,836	489,931
Current liabilities	-	-	(523,360)	-	(523,360)
	-	-	(68,265)	8,110,428	8,042,163
Creditors due after one year	-	-	(137,495)	-	(137,495)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,355,000)	-	-	(2,355,000)
Total net assets	-	(2,355,000)	(205,760)	8,110,428	5,549,668

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	8,274,075	8,274,075
Current assets	-	-	678,132	41,780	719,912
Current liabilities	-	-	(961,995)	-	(961,995)
	-	-	(283,863)	8,315,855	8,031,992
Creditors due after one year	-	-	(262,487)	-	(262,487)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,465,000)	-	-	(2,465,000)
Total net assets	-	(2,465,000)	(546,350)	8,315,855	5,304,505

17. Capital commitments

There were no capital commitments at 31 August 2020 nor at 31 August 2019.

18. Commitments under operating leases

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

	Other	
	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Amounts due within one year	1,784	2,378
Amounts due between one and five years	-	1,784
	1,784	4,162

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

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

	2019/20	2018/19
	Total	Total
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for reporting year (as per the SoFA)	42,163	(565,940)
Adjusted for :		
Depreciation (note 12)	220,467	228,228
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(15,040)	(38,612)
Interest receivable (note 5)	(661)	(351)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 24)	48,000	121,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost/(income) (note 24)	45,000	51,000
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(3,607)	7,964
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(513,623)	(64,738)
Net cash used in operating activities	(177,301)	(261,449)

20. Cash flows from investing activities

	2019/20	2018/19
	Total	Total
	£	£
Interest received	661	351
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(21,984)	(417,471)
Capital grants from DfE Group	15,040	38,612
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	(6,283)	(378,508)

21. Cash flows from financing activities

	2019/20	2018/19
	Total	Total
	£	£
Repayments of borrowing	(50,004)	(12,501)
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-	350,000
Net cash (used in) financing activities	(50,004)	337,499

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At	At
	31 August	31 August
	2020	2019
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	176,064	409,652
	176,064	409,652

23. Member's liability

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

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

24. Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £34,629 (2019 : £46,401) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2020 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

24. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme (continued)

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £199,828 (2019 : £130,817).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £233,000 (2019 : £162,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £202,000 (2019 : £129,000) and employees' contributions totalled £31,000 (2019 : £33,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.5% for employers and between 5.5% and 6.5% for employees.

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

The trustees have agreed that the trust will make additional contributions in addition to normal funding levels over the next 26 to 30 years.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
Rate of increase in salaries	3.25%	3.70%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.25%	2.20%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65%	1.90%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.25%	2.15%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00%	50.00%

Sensitivity analysis

	As disclosed	Discount rate	CPI rate	In life expectancy
	£'000s	+ 0.1% pa £'000s	+ 0.1% pa £'000s	+ 1 year £'000s
Present value of total obligation	3,130	3,046	3,212	3,250
Projected service cost	289	280	298	300
	£'000s	- 0.1% pa £'000s	- 0.1% pa £'000s	- 1 year £'000s
Present value of total obligation	3,130	3,217	3,050	3,015
Projected service cost	289	298	280	279

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

24. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)

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

	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
Retiring today		
Males	21.9	20.9
Females	24.1	23.2
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	23.8	22.6
Females	26.0	25.1

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme was :

	31 August 2020	31 August 2019
	£	£
Equities	435,000	333,000
Government bonds	84,000	53,000
Other bonds	30,000	21,000
Property	59,000	45,000
Cash/liquidity	51,000	20,000
Other	116,000	82,000
Total market value of assets	775,000	554,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £61,000 (2019 : £28,000).

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities		
Current service cost	250,000	267,000
Net interest cost	45,000	51,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	295,000	318,000

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

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
At 1 September 2019	3,019,000	2,298,000
Experience loss/(gain) on defined benefit obligation	(509,000)	-
Current service cost	250,000	225,000
Interest cost	57,000	62,000
Employee contributions	31,000	34,000
Changes in financial assumptions	253,000	500,000
Benefits paid	(50,000)	(7,000)
Changes in demographic assumptions	79,000	(135,000)
Past service cost	-	42,000
At 31 August 2020	3,130,000	3,019,000

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Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

24. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)

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

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
At 1 September 2019	554,000	353,000
Interest income	12,000	11,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(23,000)	-
Employer contributions	202,000	146,000
Employee contributions	31,000	34,000
Benefits paid	(50,000)	(7,000)
Return on assets less interest	49,000	17,000
At 31 August 2020	775,000	554,000
Net pension scheme liability	(2,355,000)	(2,465,000)

25. Related party transactions

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

The following related party transaction(s) took place during the year:

Expenditure related party transaction

Free @ Last

A company in which Mrs R Darr, a trustee, has a direct interest.

Services provided by the related company during the period

2020	2019
£	£
800	6,900

Compliance For Schools Limited

A company in which Ellen Osborne, a trustee, has a direct interest.

Services provided by the related company during the period

2020	2019
£	£
1,453	-

Cromwell Learning Community Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2020 (continued)

25. Related party transactions (continued)

Bright & Shine Cleaning Limited

A company in which Mrs B. Jacques, a trustee, has a direct interest.

Services provided by the related company during the period

2020	2019
£	£
-	3,395

drb Schools and Academies Services Limited

A company in which Mr D Bagley, the interim chief finance officer of the trust (until 26/03/19), has a direct interest

Services provided by the related company during the period (at cost)

2020	2019
£	£
-	61,278

The trust conducted all of current year and previous year transactions at arms length.