

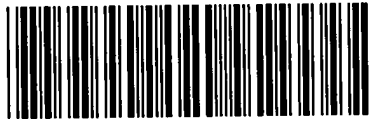


Ivy Learning Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2021

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Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration Number
10874173 (England and Wales)



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Reference and administrative information

Members	Deborah Thompson Anthony Wilde Jon Lovatt Joanne McGregor Samantha Seth
Trustees	Deborah Thompson, Chair of Trustees Kate Gibson Peter Grant Haysey Afaya Syed Andrzej Czyrka Kerrie Cureton-Williams Declan McDonnell Alison Bowman Susie Owen Christopher Rule (appointed 1 July 2021)
Company Secretary	Rosalind McLaren
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer Chief Operating Officer Head of School Improvements and Standards	Matthew Kleiner-Mann Rosalind McLaren Sara Morgan
Registered address	Ivy Cottage Rosemary Avenue Enfield EN2 0SP
Company registration number	10874173 (England and Wales)
Independent auditor	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 39 Threadneedle Street London EC2R 8AU
Solicitors	Stone King LLP Boundary House 91 Charterhouse Street London EC1M 6HR

Trustees' report Year to 31 August 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of Ivy Learning Trust (the 'Trust' or the 'charitable company') for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Trust currently operates ten primary academies serving catchment areas in North London and South Hertfordshire. Two of these academies joined during 2020/21 - Crabtree Infants' School and Crabtree Junior School, collectively The Crabtree Academy Trust, a multi-academy trust - which joined on 1 May 2021. The academies have a combined capacity of 3,845 and had a roll of 3,308 (Reception to Year 6) and 3,534 (two year olds to Year 6) in the October 2020 census.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The 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 Trust. The trustees of Ivy Learning Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The Trust includes the following academies:

- ◆ Brimsdown Primary School ('Brimsdown') converted on 01/09/2017
- ◆ Lavender Primary School ('Lavender') converted on 01/09/2017
- ◆ Eastfield Primary School ('Eastfield') converted and joined the Trust on 01/06/2018
- ◆ Churchfield Primary School ('Churchfield') converted and joined the Trust on 01/07/2018
- ◆ Larkspur Primary Academy ('Larkspur') converted and joined the Trust on 01/09/2018
- ◆ Walker Primary School ('Walker') converted and joined the Trust on 01/04/2019
- ◆ The Wroxham School ('The Wroxham') transferred into the Trust on 01/10/2019
- ◆ Woodside Primary School ('Woodside') converted and joined the Trust on 01/04/2020
- ◆ Crabtree Infants' School ('Crabtree Infant') transferred into the Trust on 01/05/2021
- ◆ Crabtree Junior School ('Crabtree Junior') transferred into the Trust on 01/05/2021

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Constitution (continued)

The operation of the academies and employment of staff are the responsibility of the trustees. Throughout this report, the Board of Trustees is referred to as the Main Governing Body ('MGB'). The MGB retains control of the Academy Trust's budgets and finances, and monitors these through its Audit, Finance and Resources Committee ('AFRC'). The MGB also has oversight over teaching and learning across the Trust, and monitors these through its Curriculum and Standards Committee ('CSC'). The MGB must also ensure that the setting of executive pay is transparent, justifiable and proportionate. It monitors the performance and pay of executive and senior staff through its Pay Committee ('PC'). Each academy has appointed a Local Governing Body ('LGB') which has delegated authority to administer its academy within agreed budgets.

Details of the trustees who served throughout the year, and to the date these financial statements were approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1. Within this report, the term 'trustee' refers to a member of the MGB and the term 'governor' to a member of an LGB. The terms 'trustee' and 'director' are interchangeable.

Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Trust 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 Trust pays for insurance to protect trustees, governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. This insurance was held through the Risk Protection Arrangement, a government scheme that provides an alternative to commercial insurance for academy trusts and which provides unlimited cover on any claim.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Trustees are appointed for a fixed term, normally four years. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is an ex officio member of the MGB. Other trustees are appointed by the members. The Articles of Association make provision for nine trustees plus the CEO. The appointment of any new trustees will follow an annual skills audit through which any additional requirements are established, an agreed approach to finding potential trustees who have the relevant skills and professional backgrounds, followed by a thorough due diligence process to ensure that the best candidate is appointed.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

During the course of 2020/21, the number of trustees increased to ten, with the appointment of a co-opted trustee in line with the Trust's Articles. The new trustee brings many years experience of school governance within Hertfordshire schools, as well as a background in investment risk management and the renewables finance sector. Three of the existing trustees were reappointed to new terms of office, having come to the end of their original terms.

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

Each new governor or trustee is provided with a comprehensive Induction Pack which includes important documents such as Ivy's Terms of Reference, details of training to be provided and a schedule of Ivy and School level policies. Ivy also provides new governors with a tour of the relevant academy, meetings with students and staff and provision of academy specific school improvement documents and strategy papers.

The Trust is also committed to providing good opportunities for trustees and governors to undertake and receive suitable training so as to enable them to perform their role effectively. To this end, the Trust has established a rolling training programme of two years' duration led by a National Leader of Governance Advocate, which all trustees and governors are invited to attend. An annual conference for all members, trustees, governors and senior leaders which had to be delayed due to COVID-19, took place in mid-September 2021.

Organisational structure

The governance of the Trust is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the Funding Agreement with the Department for Education.

The Members of the MGB are responsible for ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; for holding the CEO to account for the educational performance of the academies and the performance management of staff; and for overseeing the financial performance of the Trust.

The MGB meets at least four times per year, with additional extraordinary meetings arranged if urgent matters arise which need quick decision-making. The trustees believe that their meetings, supported by the at least termly meetings of the AFRC and CSC, allow them to maintain effective oversight of all aspects of the Trust and its academies, whilst ensuring that enough time and focus can be given to each school at the MGB's subcommittees to allow for in-depth discussion of their individual needs.

The AFRC (a subcommittee of the MGB) is made up of trustees and meets at least 4 times per year to advise the MGB on matters relating to the Trust's finance and audit arrangements, systems of internal control and to advise and aid the MGB in its responsibility to ensure sound management of the Trust's finances and resources, particularly ensuring high standards of probity in relation to the regularity, propriety and value for money.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Organisational structure (continued)

The CSC (a subcommittee of the MGB) is made up of trustees and meets at least 3 times per year to advise the MGB on matters relating to the Trust's school improvement arrangements, standards and safeguarding. This includes considering pupil progress and how the schools are targeting areas of underperformance, particularly with regard to disadvantaged pupils and pupils with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs).

The PC (a subcommittee of the MGB) is made up of trustees and normally meets once a year to monitor the performance and pay of executive and senior staff, and to support the MGB in performing its role of ensuring that the setting of executive pay is transparent, justifiable and proportionate. During 2020/21, there were additional meetings to consider and implement the findings of a formal executive pay review carried out by Browne Jacobson.

Each School's LGB is responsible for securing, maintaining and improving educational standards; for monitoring educational outcomes and all aspects of safeguarding, inclusion, equality and pupil welfare; and for liaising with the MGB, CEO and Executive Team on all aspects of procedure and policy setting as they may respectively require.

The Trust's CEO is the Accounting Officer. The Trustees have delegated responsibility to him for the internal organisation, management and control of the Trust, for the implementation of all policies and for the direction of teaching and the implementation of the curriculum within the Academies.

The Executive Team (ET) comprises the CEO, the Chief Operating Officer (COO) and the Head of School Improvement and Standards who meet at least weekly to discuss issues arising across the Trust and future plans. Its role is to align local SLT and LGB activity with the strategic aims of the Trust as a whole.

The Senior Leadership Teams (SLTs) control the academies implementing policies and reporting to their LGB. Each SLT is responsible for the day to day operation of their academy, in particular organising staff, resources and students. They are responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and for the appointment of staff following vetting and safeguarding recruitment processes.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

No members or trustees receive any pay or remuneration for carrying out their roles. The pay and remuneration of the CEO, to whom the trustees have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day-to-day running of the Trust, is set by the PC appointed by the MGB. This subcommittee will include the Chair of the MGB plus at least two other trustees. As mentioned above, during the course of 2020/21, an external independent review was commissioned to benchmark the pay of the Executive Team. The findings of this review and its recommendations were considered by the PC and ratified by the MGB.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel (continued)

As in previous years, evidence of progress made against the CEO's objectives set at the previous appraisal meeting will be assessed and pay and remuneration for the next year will be based upon the judgement made, in line with the recent pay review. The annual appraisals for other key management personnel within the Trust will be carried out by the CEO plus at least one trustee in the case of the Trust's Executive Team, or plus a member of the relevant LGB for Executive Heads/ Heads/ Heads of School. Recommendations on pay or remuneration, in line with the independent review, will be made by the PC to the MGB for their approval.

Pay ranges for school leaders are set by the AFRC based on a variety of contributory factors, such as the School group size, the Individual School Range, the pay scales for each role, the level of experience of each staff member and pay scales used for equivalent roles elsewhere in the public sector. In addition, pay levels may be affected by nationally agreed pay awards and the ability to recruit and retain in post, all of which are in accordance with the Trust's Pay policy.

If there has been a significant change in the responsibilities of the key management personnel, their pay ranges may be reset to better reflect their enhanced role.

Trade Union facility time

The Trust outsourced its Trade Union facility time to the London Borough of Enfield and Hertfordshire County Council for a total charge of £7,221. The service provides an effective route for statutory and collective consultation and bargaining, a framework and structure for non-maintained schools to manage industrial relations and access to branch officials from recognised unions. Three schools also have locally appointed Trade Union representatives, at a cost of £665.

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
3	3

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Trade Union facility time (continued)

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	3
1% - 50%	—
51% - 99%	—
100%	—

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	£665
Provide the total pay bill	£17,079,000
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as:	0.39%

Paid trade union activities

<p>Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as:</p> <p>(total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period / total paid facility time hours) x 100</p>	0%
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Structure, governance and management (continued)

Related Parties and other connected charities and organisations

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the MGB being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time to time transactions may take place with organisations in which members of the MGB may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where a trustee may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academies Financial Handbook and would be formally disclosed and minuted at meetings of the MGB and its subcommittees. Details of related party transactions in the year are set out in note 27.

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The trustees believe that the current strength and future prospects of the Trust are very much dependent upon the engagement of Ivy's staff. In fact, one of the Trust's underlying principles is "We want to make it easy to make a difference": by supporting staff in all possible ways to maximise their positive impact upon all our children. To this end, regular and purposeful engagement with employees is seen as a vital part of school improvement and operational effectiveness.

As part of normal school operations, staff at each school are involved in discussions around teaching and learning, the curriculum and procedure changes, both formally through staff meetings and informally through ad hoc discussions. Regular year group, phase group, pupil progress and individual performance management meetings also allow members of staff the opportunity to put forward their points of view on matters of concern to them. Across the Trust, Heads meetings and good practice groups encourage inter-school sharing around common issues.

School staff have been encouraged to appoint local union officials to represent their views and two of these, one for teaching and one for support staff, act to provide a coordinated approach across the Trust. The CEO and COO meet at least termly with representatives of all the unions across Ivy to discuss any current issues and ensure clear lines of communication with all employees.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic upon employee engagement has been to make these relationships even more vital, both in ensuring that staff are involved in the development of the risk assessments produced for each change in circumstances and for ensuring that any practical changes needed are communicated expeditiously.

The Trust has always actively encouraged applications for jobs from disabled persons and provided support to ensure that there are no barriers in place affecting the ability of any member of staff from fulfilling their role. This equally applies to employees who become disabled. The promotion of inclusive policies, both as they apply to children within the Trust and to the training, career development and promotion of disabled employees, is fundamental to Ivy's principles.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

As a Trust, Ivy pays full regard to the need to foster excellent business relationships with suppliers, customers and others to ensure the smooth running of its operations. Many of the suppliers used are small enterprises, so it will always aim to pay them punctually to support their cash flow, particularly in these uncertain times. Similarly, it will allow any customers a reasonable amount of time to pay its invoices.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and aim of the Trust is the operation of a number of Academies to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities within its local community between the ages of 2 and 11.

Objectives, strategies and activities

During the year, the Trust has worked towards these aims by:

- ◆ developing a growth strategy and managing expansion from eight to ten schools;
- ◆ further developing, communicating and implementing a school improvement model based on four key principles:
 - ◇ Quality Assurance
 - ◇ Strong governance
 - ◇ Building capacity; and
 - ◇ Sharing of good practice.
- ◆ ensuring that its clear systems of governance and financial control, as confirmed by both internal and external audit reviews, were established in the joining schools.

Our success in fulfilling our aims can be measured by:

- ◆ Ivy Learning Trust comprised eight schools on 1 September 2020; two more schools chose to join during the course of 2020/21;
- ◆ the continued roll out and integration within standard teaching and learning practices of Google Classroom across all schools in the Trust, in order to minimise disruption to learning;
- ◆ clear, consistent and effective school improvement arrangements have continued to operate well, including external moderation and validation, across all schools;

Objectives and activities (continued)

Objectives, strategies and activities (continued)

- ◆ strong governance arrangements have continued to operate successfully;
- ◆ the Central Team has ensured that its systems are used by all schools within the Trust, to ensure an integrated and consistent approach to operations; and
- ◆ internal audits of month end processes, capital expenditure, risk management and governance, including compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook 'musts' by Azets took place during 2020/ 21, resulting in positive reports.

Public benefit

The trustees believe that by working towards the objects and aims of the Trust as detailed above, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. In addition this year, schools within the Trust have worked closely with The Felix Project, a London-based charity, to help with the fight against food insecurity and food waste and with Place2Be, a children's mental health charity, that works within several Ivy schools.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The moral purpose of the Trust is to help to create a fair, just society through offering the very best education and life chances to all our children by delivering an outstanding, inclusive curriculum through excellent teaching and high expectations.

This motivation has underpinned all that has been achieved during the Trust's short existence. Systems and structures have been reviewed and refined to ensure that this success is built upon strong foundations and will continue over the long-term.

Specific achievements were as follows:

- ◆ a continued co-ordinated and supportive response to the COVID-19 pandemic through weekly Heads meetings, sharing approaches and resources to maximise our effectiveness;
- ◆ events have been held across Ivy to bring the schools together and celebrate the talents of our pupils;
- ◆ Maths Hubs have continued to work to increase children's mastery of the subject;
- ◆ three clean internal audits of aspects of the Trust's operations carried out by Azets;
- ◆ the continued operation of a strong Trust Board taking the role of ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction, holding the CEO to account for the educational performance of the Schools and their pupils, and the performance management of staff; and overseeing the financial performance of the Trust and making sure its money is well spent;

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

- ♦ clear communication channels have ensured that links between the MGB, senior school leaders and LGBs work efficiently;
- ♦ the Trust continued to invest the monies awarded through the Condition Improvement Fund in improving its capital infrastructure; and
- ♦ several other schools have expressed an interest in joining the Trust.

Key Performance Indicators

The trustees receive regular information at each committee meeting to enable them to monitor the performance of the Trust compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.

As funding is based on pupil numbers this is a key performance indicator. Total pupil numbers (Reception to Year 6) of the eight schools that made up the Trust at the time of the October 2020 census were 2,878 against a forecast of 2,934.

Another key financial performance indicator is staffing costs as a percentage of operational income. For 2020/21 this was 81.7%. The Trustees are confident that staffing levels are closely monitored to agreed Full Time Equivalents and staffing structures.

The MGB uses the ESFA's School Resource Management Self-Assessment ('SRMSA') tool to benchmark each school's costs against similar schools for such items as staff, administration, premises and technology costs. Monthly management accounts, which include explanations of major changes both month to month and in the full year forecast as well as KPIs that allow for quick and easy comparison of financial metrics, are sent to the trustees.

Each term, a formal meeting is held with regard to each school at which the Executive Team, together with the Head and Chair of the LGB, meet to consider the ability of the school to deliver its educational priorities with the funding they have available. This holistic approach allows for an integrated approach to curriculum and financial planning. The SRMSA tool forms the basis for benchmarking each school against other similar schools.

Going concern

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

Strategic report (continued)

Promoting the success of the company

In line with the Companies Act 2006, the trustees must act in a way most likely to promote the success of the Trust, having regard to:

- ◆ the likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- ◆ the interests of Ivy's employees;
- ◆ the impact of the Trust's operations on the community and the environment;
- ◆ the need to foster relationships with suppliers, customers and others; and
- ◆ the desirability of the Trust maintaining a reputation for high standards of conduct.

The trustees believe that by careful consideration of issues that arise and decisions that are taken, they are fulfilling these requirements.

Financial review

The principal source of funding for the Trust is the General Annual Grant (GAG) and other grants that it receives from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

Results for the year are set out on page 33 in the statement of financial activities. Total income for the year was £32,092,000 (2020: £24,855,000). This included £6,419,000 of donated assets (see note 1) and £5,297,000 of net assets transferred on 1 May 2021 from The Crabtree Academy Trust. GAG income for the year was £14,282,000.

A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Trust's primary objective of the provision of education. The net income for the year was £6,922,000.

The income and expenditure include an amount awarded from the School Condition Allocation for the investment in the capital infrastructure of its schools. The total awarded, £642,000, has been included as income for the period, whilst £269,000, representing the amount spent on projects to date, has been included as expenditure. The outstanding amount needs to be invested within two years of it being awarded.

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the Trust is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £13,267,000. This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises, and such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years.

Reserves policy

The trustees are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs and always aim to set a balanced budget with annual income balancing annual expenditure. The trustees monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures through the management accounts. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

Financial review (continued)

Reserves policy (continued)

The Trust plans to have a carry forward of between 3% and 6% of total income to assist in making strategic decisions to keep in line with national funding changes and curriculum needs. This equates to approximately £430,000 - £860,000.

The Trust's balance on restricted general funds (excluding the pensions reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds at 31 August 2021 was £1,720,000. This equates to the level of free reserves.

The Trust's reserves at the end of the current financial year stood at 6.6% of total income, above the level of between 3 and 6% set in the Trust's reserves policy. The risk of falling pupil roll numbers at several of the schools within Ivy is felt to be such that retaining this level of additional reserves is prudent.

The cash balance of the Trust has been healthy all year, ending the year with a balance of £2,762,000. A significant proportion of this cash is held against specific projects and is not available to meet normal recurring expenditure. The trustees monitor cash flow as part of the management accounts and attempt to hold a minimum of 5% of GAG income at all times to cover short term cash flow variances.

Investment policy

The investment policy of the Trust is focussed on ensuring that the cash held is adequate to meet the normal recurring expenditure. Any excess cash will be invested in line with Ivy's Investment policy which allows for investments only to be considered with banking institutions which have credit ratings of at least A-. Any deposits should be spread and subject to a specific maximum exposure level.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust maintains a Central Risk Register, identifying the major risks to which each Academy and the Trust itself is exposed, and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. This register is approved and monitored by the MGB at every meeting.

The principal risks facing the Trust are outlined below; those facing the Academies at an operational level are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls.

The trustees report that the Trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

Principal risks and uncertainties (continued)

The trustees assess the top 5 risks and uncertainties facing the Trust as follows:

1. Disadvantaged gap increasing: that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic results in the widening of the gap between disadvantaged children in the Trust and their non-disadvantaged peers. During the 2021 lockdown, each school acted swiftly to re-establish its Google Classrooms functionality in order to teach children remotely. They also distributed school technology or physical copies of the work set to families lacking access. Specific school staff were tasked with remaining in regular contact with all children, particularly those who had difficulties in accessing the learning. The Executive Team constantly monitored the situation across the Trust.
2. Spread of Coronavirus: that the return to school in September leads to the spread of COVID-19 in local communities and to staffing issues if people feel unable to return. During the pandemic, the Executive Team was mindful of all government guidance, incorporating their advice into risk assessments which were shared with heads and tailored to their school's individual circumstances. Individual risk assessments for any staff who felt they were at higher risk were carried.
3. Falling pupil numbers: that anxieties over the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of Brexit cause a reduction in the number of pupils on roll at Ivy schools which, in the long-term, could result in funding issues at these schools. Pupil numbers (actual and forecast) are reported and discussed at all Trust Board meetings. The CEO is a member of the Enfield Pupil Place Planning and Admissions Panel which meets regularly to consider pupil number issues and any actions that can be taken to mitigate these.
4. Internal control issues: that the level of spending on staff set in each school's annual budget is exceeded due to the cost of providing appropriate support for a growing number of High Needs children not being adequately met by local authority and government funding. The SENCO at each school will look to submit and have approved an Educational Health and Care Plan for each such child and to maximise the funding available to support them. At each termly meeting between the Executive Team, the head and chair of the governors at each school, any unbudgeted increase to staff costs must be discussed and agreed in advance in order to ensure that school spending controls in place across the Trust are not undermined.
5. Funding issues: that school spending as allocated by the government does not keep track with rising costs, including nationally agreed pay rises for all staff and increases to employer pension contributions. Each school sets a budget that takes into account the funding available and the known costs but there is generally very limited flexibility to be able to cope with unexpected costs (including the additional costs of dealing with COVID-19). The termly meetings between the Executive Team and the senior leadership of each school as mentioned above provide a forum that allows for a holistic approach to balancing the school's requirement to provide a good education to all its children with the financial realities faced at each school.

Fundraising

The Schools within the Trust only held small fundraising events during the first half of the year; the impossibility of holding social events due to the COVID-19 pandemic adversely impacted upon the total amount raised in 2020/21. The Trust does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

UK greenhouse gas emissions and energy use	1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021	1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	3,717,282	3,114,258
Energy consumption break down (kWh)		
♦ gas,	2,865,826	2,243,651
♦ electricity,	848,736	864,620
♦ transport fuel – owned transport	321	2,030
♦ transport fuel – employee vehicles	2,398	3,957
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Gas consumption	524.90	412.54
Owned transport - minibuses	0.08	0.50
Total Scope 1	524.99	413.04
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Purchased electricity	180.21	201.58
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	0.58	1.09
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	705.78	615.71
Intensity ratio		
Number of pupils	3,534	3,057
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.20	0.20
<p>Quantifications and reporting methodology: We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard and have used the 2020 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.</p> <p>Intensity measurement The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.</p> <p>Measures taken to improve energy efficiency We have increased video conferencing technology for staff meetings to reduce the need for travel between sites.</p>		

Plans for future periods

- ◆ The trustees consider they have put in place an effective and stable structure for controlled sustainable growth in a changing and challenging world. As the Trust grows, all its Schools will continue to benefit from the collegiate work carried out and its economies of scale. This shared expertise and financial efficiency will enable the Trust to put more resources and expert leadership into achieving our vision. In these uncertain times, it is more important than ever that we act as a family of schools, supporting each other in making the correct decision at the right time. This is in order to minimise the risk of education being harmed and to help with the reduction of COVID-19 in society as a whole.
- ◆ Underpinning the proposed growth strategy is a clear model of succession planning through talent spotting, mentoring, coaching and providing career development opportunities for members of staff, both teaching and operational, within the Schools. This will allow Ivy to build the capacity essential to support its planned growth.
- ◆ Any joining schools would sign up to our tried and tested Trust-wide school improvement strategy, based on internal and external moderation and review, ensuring that teaching and learning continue at a high level built upon strong foundations.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

No funds were held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

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.

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by the MGB on 9 December 2021 and signed on the Board's behalf by:



Deborah Thompson
Chair of Trustees

Scope of Responsibility

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, 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 Ivy 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 MGB has formally met 8 times during the period, including 3 Extraordinary Meetings.

Attendance during the period at meetings of the MGB was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Deborah Thompson, Chair of Trustees	8	8
Alison Bowman	8	8
Kerrie Cureton-Williams	4	8
Andrzej Czyrka	7	8
Kate Gibson	8	8
Peter Grant-Haysey	8	8
Declan McDonnell	8	8
Susie Owens	6	8
Chris Rule	1	1
Afaya Syed*	5	8

*On maternity leave at the beginning of the 2020/21 academic year and was therefore unable to attend the meetings early in the year

Governance (continued)

As at 1 September 2020, the Trust had nine trustees, whose skills and proven experience covered education, financial management, HR, the law, marketing, resource management, local governance and data utilisation. These Trustees remained in post throughout the year and provided effective oversight of the Trust's operations, including the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. An additional Trustee with significant school governance experience in Hertfordshire was co-opted in July 2021. Ivy's five members also remained in post throughout the year, and were kept up to date with events.

The CEO is not a trustee, in line with DfE recommendations, but attends every MGB and Trust Committee meeting.

Governance reviews

The Trustees have continued to focus on ensuring that Ivy's governance provides the framework to deliver the best possible education to its pupils. They have been supported in this process by the Governance Manager who is part of the Central Team and oversees both Trust and local governance, as well as the Governance Consultant, an NLG Advocate, with whom the Trust has a formal retainer. This retainer covers regular meetings with the Executive Team for governance advice and feedback, attendance at MGB, LGB and Heads and Chairs meetings and the provision of termly training on a two year cycle for all governors and trustees.

During 2020/21, the Trustees commissioned Ambition Institute to carry out a diagnostic survey, exploring the current situation of the Trust and any adaptations or improvements needed to maximise its impact and effectiveness. The review involved interviews with a range of stakeholders across the Trust, looking particularly at Ivy's culture and identity and how this is disseminated, how its education strategy aligns with its guiding principles and how the operational model supports the delivery of Ivy's objectives.

Committees

The Audit, Finance and Resources Committee ('AFRC'), met on five occasions during the year. At its meetings, the AFRC discussed financial and operational matters in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook, the Trust's Financial Regulations and in compliance with the Master Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State of Education. The members of this committee all have a background in finance, HR or asset management. Deborah Thompson, as Chair of the MGB, also attends this meeting. The main purpose is to ensure sound management of the Trust's finances and resources, through proper planning, monitoring, probity and ensuring value for money, including demonstrating to the public that the pay of senior staff is set by a committee which has no personal interest in the outcome of its decision and which gives due regard to the interests of the public and of the financial health of the Trust.

Under the Trust's Terms of Reference, the AFRC also acts as the Audit Committee and has established a programme of internal and external audits to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the Trust's governance, risk management, internal controls and value for money systems and frameworks.

Committees (continued)

Attendance at the meetings of the AFRC during 2020/ 21 was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Deborah Thompson (Chair of Trustees)	4	5
Peter Grant-Haysey (Chair of FRC)	5	5
Kerrie Cureton-Williams	5	5
Kate Gibson	5	5
Declan McDonnell	4	5
Afaya Syed*	3	5

*On maternity leave at the beginning of the 2020/21 academic year and was therefore unable to attend the meetings early in the year

The CEO and COO also attend each meeting.

The Curriculum and Standards Committee (CSC) met three times during the year to consider all educational aspects of the schools in further detail. The members of this committee all have a background in education, local governance or data analysis.

The main purpose of the CSC is to assess and understand the educational provision at each school by discussing its key performance indicators. This includes considering delivery of an inclusive curriculum, the achievement or otherwise of agreed school improvement priorities and assessment of pupils' progress and attainment. As part of this scrutiny, external reviews of each of the schools are commissioned and discussed at the meetings, in order to best understand the next steps for each school to take to further improve its educational provision. Safeguarding and the spending of earmarked funding are also considered.

Committees (continued)

Attendance at the meetings of the CSC during 2020/ 21 was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Deborah Thompson (Chair of Trustees)	3	3
Susie Owen (Chair of CSC)	3	3
Alison Bowman	3	3
Andrzej Czyrka	3	3

The CEO and Head of School Improvement and Standards also attend each meeting.

The Trust's Pay Committee (PC) meets to advise the MGB on matters relating to senior staff remuneration. Its remit is to demonstrate that the setting of executive and senior staff pay is transparent, justifiable and proportionate and would withstand public scrutiny. During 2020/ 21, additional meetings were held to consider the findings and implications of the independent review of executive remuneration carried out by Browne Jacobson, and to use this review to develop a robust executive pay policy.

Attendance at the 2020/21 meetings of the PC was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Deborah Thompson (Chair of Trustees)	8	8
Peter Grant-Haysey	8	8
Alison Bowman	7	8
Kerrie Cureton-Williams	3	7
Kate Gibson (Chair of PC)	8	8

Each school has a Local Governing Body (LGB) that meets termly to consider the responsibilities delegated by the MGB. These include securing, maintaining and improving educational standards and monitoring all aspects of safeguarding, Special Educational Needs, equality and pupil welfare.

Review of value for money

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

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

Reduction in unbudgeted staff costs

For 2020/21, additional financial controls were implemented to require any request from a headteacher for an unbudgeted staff appointment to be fully justified and explained at the school's termly review with the Executive Team who would have the ultimate responsibility for deciding whether it was appropriate.

Bidding for additional funds for IT hardware

During the year, Walker Primary School submitted a successful bid to the Belling Trust for support with financing the IT infrastructure needed for its new build, which was completed early in 2021. Further funding for IT was provided to two schools within the Trust by a supplier. In addition to the ChromeBooks provided to the schools by the government, the IT Network and Data Manager sourced additional devices from a national newspaper for each school.

School Condition Allocation

In addition to the completion of the capital infrastructure works funded by the Condition Improvement Fund totalling £1.2m, the Trust became eligible for annual School Condition Allocation during the year. This has allowed the Central Team to prioritise and carry out a scheme of capital works within the Trust agreed by the Trust Board. The strict enforcement of the Trust's Competitive Tendering policy when awarding these works has ensured that value for money is always a priority.

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 Ivy'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 Ivy for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The MGB keeps the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks under constant review and the Trust's Risk Register is considered at each MGB meeting. The MGB is of the view that this provides a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks, that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and financial statements.

The risk and control framework

The 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 monthly management accounts which are reviewed and agreed by the MGB;
- ◆ regular reviews by the AFRC of reports which indicate financial performance against forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- ◆ setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- ◆ clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- ◆ delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- ◆ identification and management of risks.

Internal scrutiny / audit

From September 2020, under the provisions of the Financial Reporting Council's revised Ethical Standard which requires that no firm carries out both the internal and external auditor role, Ivy has appointed Azets, (previously Wilkins Kennedy LLP) as its Internal Auditor.

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

- ◆ month-end processes and reporting
- ◆ capital expenditure
- ◆ risk management
- ◆ governance

Reports issued by the Internal Auditor were submitted to the AFRC for review and discussion, before their final submission to the MGB for approval. The Internal Auditor has delivered their work as planned and no material control issues were identified.

Internal scrutiny / audit (continued)

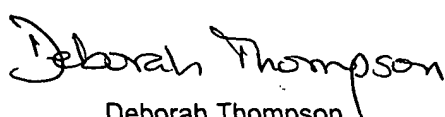
The AFRC used the checklist contained within the DfE's 'School Resource Management and Self-assessment' tool to review, amongst other processes, the efficacy of the Trust's internal control arrangements at its meeting in July 2021. This document was then presented to the MGB to confirm the discharge of its financial responsibilities.


Review of effectiveness

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

- ♦ the work of the Internal Auditor;
- ♦ the work of the external Auditor;
- ♦ the financial management and governance self-assessment process; and
- ♦ the work of the executive managers within the 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 AFRC and a plan to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 9 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Deborah Thompson
Chair of Trustees


Matthew Kleiner-Mann
Accounting Officer

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance 31 August 2021

As Accounting Officer of Ivy Learning Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the academy trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several vertical strokes followed by a horizontal line that curves upwards and to the right.

Matthew Kleiner-Mann
Accounting Officer

Date: 9th December 2021

Statement of trustees' responsibilities 31 August 2021

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 Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare 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:

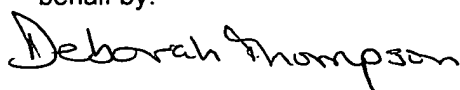
- ♦ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ♦ observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- ♦ make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ♦ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards (FRS 102) 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 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 Trust Board on 9 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Deborah Thompson
Chair of Governors

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Ivy Learning Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Ivy Learning Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows, the principal accounting policies and the notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), 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) (the Charities SORP 2019) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of 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; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Conclusions relating to going concern (continued)

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- ◆ the information given in the trustees' report, which is also the directors' report for the purposes of company law and includes the strategic report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- ◆ the trustees' report, which is also the directors' report for the purposes of company law and includes the strategic report, has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- ◆ adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- ◆ the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or

Matters on which we are required to report by exception (continued)

- ◆ certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- ◆ we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company 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.

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

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- ◆ the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- ◆ we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the charitable company through discussions with management, and from our knowledge of the academy trust sector;
- ◆ the identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit;

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

- ◆ we considered the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the charitable company and determined that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, and the academy trust's funding agreement with the ESFA as well as legislation pertaining to safeguarding in the UK;
- ◆ we understood how the charitable company is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries to management and those responsible for legal, compliance and governance procedures. We corroborated our inquiries through our review of the minutes of trustees' meetings and papers provided to the trustees.
- ◆ we planned and carried out a separate limited assurance engagement in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the ESFA, as set out in our separate independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charitable company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- ◆ making enquiries of management and those charged with governance as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- ◆ considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- ◆ performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- ◆ tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- ◆ tested the authorisation of expenditure as part of our substantive testing thereon;
- ◆ assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in the accounting policies were indicative of potential bias; and
- ◆ used data analytics to identify any significant or unusual transactions and identify the rationale for them.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- ◆ agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- ◆ reviewing the minutes of trustees' meetings;
- ◆ enquiring of management and those charged with governance as to actual and potential litigation and claims;

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

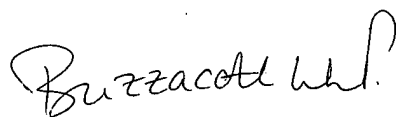
- ◆ reviewing any available correspondence with Ofsted, ESFA and HMRC; and
- ◆ the work undertaken in relation to the limited assurance engagement in respect of regularity, propriety and compliance in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued by the ESFA, as set out in our separate independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. International Standards on Auditing also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

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

Use of our report

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



Shachi Blakemore (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Buzzacott LLP, Statutory Auditor
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Date: 14 December 2021

Independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity to Ivy Learning Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 18 May 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Ivy Learning Trust during the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of The Ivy Learning Trust accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Ivy Learning Trust funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. 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 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

Approach (continued)

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- ◆ An assessment of the risk of material misstatement and irregularity across the Academy Trust's activities. Testing and review of areas identified through risk assessment including enquiry, observation, inspection and review of supporting evidence.
- ◆ Review of system controls, policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the regularity regime.
- ◆ Consideration of evidence obtained through the work performed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

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 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Buzzacott LLP
Chartered Accountants
130 Wood Street
London
EC2V 6DL

Date: 14 December 2021

Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) Year ended 31 August 2021

	Notes	Un-restricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	1	(1)	83	7,116	7,198	867
Transfer on academies joining the Trust	21,22	260	(850)	5,887	5,297	6,144
Charitable activities	2	—	19,110	—	19,110	17,415
Teaching schools	27	—	46	—	46	43
Other trading activities	3	441	—	—	441	385
Investments		—	—	—	—	1
Total income		700	18,389	13,003	32,092	24,855
Expenditure on:						
Academy trust educational operations	4	917	19,657	4,550	25,124	22,953
Teaching schools	27	—	46	—	46	41
Total expenditure		917	19,703	4,550	25,170	22,994
Net (expenditure) income	6	(217)	(1,314)	8,453	6,922	1,861
Other recognised losses						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension scheme	23	—	(1,525)	—	(1,525)	(1,156)
Net movement in funds		(217)	(2,839)	8,453	5,397	705
Reconciliation of funds						
Total fund balances brought forward		1,006	(9,497)	42,969	34,478	33,773
Total fund balances carried forward		789	(12,336)	51,422	39,875	34,478

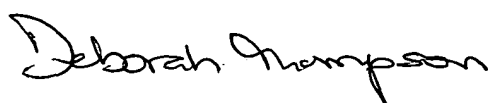
All of the Trust's activities derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the statement of financial activities.

Balance sheet 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021 £'000	2021 £'000	2020 £'000	2020 £'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		51,162		42,673
Current assets					
Debtors	13	788		1,543	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,762		1,384	
		<u>3,550</u>		<u>2,927</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,570)		(1,603)	
Net current assets			<u>1,980</u>		<u>1,324</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>53,142</u>		<u>43,997</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23		(13,267)		(9,519)
Net assets including pension scheme liabilities			<u>39,875</u>		<u>34,478</u>
Funds of the Trust					
Restricted funds:					
. Fixed asset fund	15	51,422		42,969	
. Restricted income fund	15	931		22	
. Pension reserve	15	(13,267)		(9,519)	
Total restricted funds			<u>39,086</u>		<u>33,472</u>
Unrestricted income funds	15		<u>789</u>		<u>1,006</u>
Total funds			<u>39,875</u>		<u>34,478</u>

The financial statements on page 33 to 65 were approved by the trustees, authorised for issue 9 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:



Deborah Thompson
Chair of Trustees
The Ivy Learning Trust

Approved on: 9th December 2021

Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration Number: 10874173 (England and Wales)

Statement of cash flows Year to 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	17	1,414	1,115
Cash flows used in investing activities:	18	(36)	(842)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period		1,378	273
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		1,384	1,111
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	19,20	2,762	1,384

Statement of accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest thousand.

Company status

The academy is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are those listed in page 1. In the event of the academy being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the academy.

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 academy to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. In making their assessment, the Trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19.

Income

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

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

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

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible fixed assets

All assets costing more than £2,000 are capitalised and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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 assets, on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

- ◆ Long-term leasehold property – 2 – 50 years
- ◆ Furniture & Equipment – 5 years
- ◆ Computer Equipment – 4 years
- ◆ Motor Vehicles – 4-7 years

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

Transfer on conversion

Where assets and liabilities are received by the academy trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.

Transfer of existing academies into the academy trust

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust, the transferred net assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust within donations and capital grant income to the net assets acquired.

Operating leases

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

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Liabilities and provisions

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

Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

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

Taxation

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

Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing Designated Special Provision Locally income from the Local Authority and subsequent disbursements to local schools are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds.

Fund accounting

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. 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.

1 Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Donated fixed assets	—	—	6,419	6,419	—
Other donations	(1)	83	—	82	79
Capital grants	—	—	697	697	788
Subtotal	(1)	83	7,116	7,198	867

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Other donations	—	79	—	79
Capital grants	—	—	788	788
	—	79	788	867

Donated fixed assets includes:

- ◆ Donation of leasehold property at Walker Primary School which was donated by the DfE at a value of £6,289,000.
- ◆ Donation of laptops to schools within the Trust which were donated by the DfE and the Daily Mail Devices scheme, with a combined value of £104,000.

2 Funding for Academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds* £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	14,282	14,282	13,442
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
· UIFSM	—	397	397	382
· Pupil premium	—	1,179	1,179	1,129
· Others	—	137	137	25
	—	15,995	15,995	14,978
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations	—	188	188	168
Other government grants				
Other DfE Group grants	—	924	924	524
Local Authority grants	—	1,741	1,741	1,717
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up premium	—	245	245	—
COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE /ESFA)				
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	—	17	17	28
Total 2020	—	19,110	19,110	17,415

The trust received £245,000 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £245,000.

The trust furloughed some of its staff under the government's CJRS. The funding received of £17,000 relates to staff costs in respect of 26 staff which are included within note 7 as appropriate.

*Following the reclassification in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21 of some grants received from the Department for Education and ESFA, the academy trust's funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) and Pupil Premium is no longer reported under the Other DfE Group grants heading, but as separate lines under the Other DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

2 Funding for Academy's educational operations (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds £'000</i>	<i>Restricted funds £'000</i>	<i>2020 Total funds £'000</i>
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	13,442	13,442
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
· UIFSM	—	382	382
· Pupil premium	—	1,129	1,129
· Others	—	25	25
	—	14,978	14,978
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations	168	—	168
Other government grants			
Other DfE Group grants	—	524	524
Local Authority grants	—	1,717	1,717
	—	2,241	2,241
COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE /ESFA)			
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	—	28	28
Total 2020	168	17,247	17,415

3 Other trading activities

	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	
	<i>2021 Total funds £'000</i>	<i>2020 Total funds £'000</i>
Hire of facilities	51	31
Income from other charitable activities	322	354
Income from ancillary trading activities	68	—
	441	385

Notes to the financial statements Year to 31 August 2021

4 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Provision of Education					
Direct costs	13,697	—	519	14,216	14,410
Allocated support costs (note 5)	3,609	960	6,339	10,908	8,543
Teaching school	46	—	—	46	41
Total 2021	17,352	960	6,858	25,170	22,994

	Staff costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Provision of Education				
Direct costs	13,733	—	677	14,410
Allocated support costs (note 5)	2,025	4,948	1,570	8,543
Teaching school	37	—	4	41
Total 2020	15,795	4,948	2,251	22,994

5 Support costs

	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	3,609	2,025
Depreciation (note 12)	1,063	3,996
Governance costs	28	34
Technology costs	127	27
Premises costs	960	961
Legal costs – conversion	12	23
Legal costs – other	13	4
Loss on disposal of fixed assets (note 12)	3,487	—
Other support costs	1,609	1,473
Total support costs	10,908	8,543

6 Net (expenditure) income for the year

	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Net (expenditure) income for the period includes:		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (note 12)	1,063	3,996
Loss on disposal of fixed assets (note 12)	3,487	—
Fees paid to Auditors for:		
• Audit	18	12
• Other services	7	6

7 Staff

(a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Wages and salaries	12,194	11,232
Social security costs	1,171	1,027
Pension costs	3,714	3,211
	17,079	15,470
Agency staff costs	210	197
Staff restructuring costs	63	128
	17,352	15,795
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy payments	60	52
Severance payments	3	76
	63	128

(b) Non-statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs is one non-statutory/non-contractual severance payment of £3,140 (2020: 8 payments totalling £76,089).

(c) Staff numbers

The average numbers of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Academy during the year was as follows:

Charitable activities	2021 No.	2020 No.
Teachers	161	143
Administration and support	314	294
Management	32	32
	507	469

7 Staff costs (continued)

(d) Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) fell within the following bands was:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	8	7
£70,001 - £80,000	2	2
£80,001 - £90,000	—	—
£90,001 - £100,000	3	3
£100,001 - £110,000	—	—
£140,001 - £150,000	—	1
£150,001 - £160,000	1	—

(e) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the 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 Trust was £479,254 (2020 £445,424).

Included in the above are employer pension contributions of £73,099 (2020 - £58,456) and employer National Insurance contributions of £45,969 (2020 - £43,675). The number of remunerated key management personnel in the year was 3 (2020 - 3).

8 Central services

The Trust has provided the following central services to its Academies during the period:

- ◆ Accounting services
- ◆ Budgeting support
- ◆ School improvement
- ◆ HR & Legal
- ◆ Governance
- ◆ IT support
- ◆ Premises
- ◆ Health & Safety
- ◆ Procurement and tenders
- ◆ Bid writing
- ◆ Project management

8 Central services (continued)

The Trust charges for these services on the following basis in the year ended 31 August 2021 and the same basis in the year ended 31 August 2020:

5% of recurring grant income (excluding Pupil Premium).

The actual amounts charged during the period were as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Brimsdown Primary School	186	177
Lavender Primary School	125	131
Eastfield Primary School	132	118
Churchfield Primary School	170	164
Crabtree Infants' School	15	—
Crabtree Junior School	19	—
Larkspur Primary Academy	43	41
Walker Primary School	102	93
Woodside Primary School	55	20
The Wroxham School	63	60
Total	910	804

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the period, no trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2020 - £nil).

During the period ended 31 August 2021, no expenses were reimbursed or paid directly to trustees (2020 - £nil).

10 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 Governors and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

11 Comparative statement of financial activities

Analysis of income and expenditure in the year ended 31 August 2020 between restricted and unrestricted funds:

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Income from:				
Donations and capital grants	—	79	788	867
Transfer on academies joining the Trust	207	(1,122)	7,059	6,144
Charitable activities				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	168	17,247	—	17,415
Other trading activities	385	—	—	385
Teaching schools	—	43	—	43
Investments	1	—	—	1
Total income	761	16,247	7,847	24,855
Expenditure on:				
Teaching schools	—	41	—	41
Charitable activities	597	18,294	4,064	22,955
Total expenditure	597	18,335	4,064	22,996
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)	164	(2,088)	3,783	1,859
Other recognised (losses)				
Actuarial (losses) on defined benefit pension scheme	—	(1,156)	—	(1,156)
Net movement in funds	164	(3,244)	3,783	703
Reconciliation of funds				
Total fund balances brought forward at 1 September 2019	842	(6,253)	39,185	33,775
Total fund balances carried forward at 31 August 2020	1,006	(9,496)	42,968	34,478

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £'000	Long-term leasehold property £'000	Furniture and equipment £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Total £'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	2,502	45,759	860	160	20	49,301
Donated assets on acquisition	5,826	—	32	29	—	5,887
Additions	4	6,561	319	265	3	7,152
Disposals	—	(8,677)	—	—	—	(8,677)
At 31 August 2021	8,332	43,643	1,211	454	23	53,663
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	29	6,407	76	108	8	6,628
Charge for the year	48	732	212	68	3	1,063
Disposals	—	(5,190)	—	—	—	(5,190)
At 31 August 2021	77	1,949	288	176	11	2,501
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	8,255	41,694	923	278	12	51,162
At 31 August 2020	2,473	39,352	784	52	12	42,673

The academy trust's transactions relating to land and buildings included:

- ♦ The acquisition of freehold property which was acquired by the Academy Trust from the Crabtree Academy Trust when Crabtree Infants' School and Crabtree Junior school transferred into Ivy Learning Trust on 1 May 2021 at a value of £5,826,000.
- ♦ The acquisition of leasehold property at Walker Primary school which was donated by the DfE to the academy trust at a value of £6,289,000.
- ♦ The disposal of leasehold property at Walker Primary school with a net book value of £3,547,000 in exchange for the new property donated by the DfE.

13 Debtors

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	144	45
Other debtors	4	25
Prepayments and accrued income	551	1,432
VAT recoverable	89	41
	788	1,543

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade creditors	2	—
Other taxation and social security	299	277
Other creditors	780	599
Accruals and deferred income	489	727
	1,570	1,603

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September	253	331
Resources deferred during the year	278	253
Amounts released from previous years	(253)	(331)
Deferred income at 31 August	278	253

Deferred income relates to universal infant free school meals for all 10 schools.

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	22	14,282	(13,373)	—	931
Pupil Premium	—	1,179	(1,179)	—	—
UIFSM	—	397	(397)	—	—
Catch-up premium	—	245	(245)	—	—
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	—	941	(941)	—	—
Other grants	—	266	(266)	—	—
Pension fund	(9,519)	(850)	(1,373)	(1,525)	(13,267)
	(9,497)	16,460	(17,774)	(1,525)	(12,336)
Other restricted funds					
Local authority grants	—	1,741	(1,741)	—	—
Other restricted grants	—	188	(188)	—	—
	—	1,929	(1,929)	—	—
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Restricted fixed assets	42,674	5,887	(3,487)	—	45,074
Condition Improvement Fund	295	7,116	(1,063)	—	6,348
	42,969	13,003	(4,550)	—	51,422
Total restricted funds	33,472	31,392	(24,253)	(1,525)	39,086
Total unrestricted funds	1,006	700	(917)	—	789
Total funds	34,478	32,092	(25,170)	(1,525)	39,875

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

15 Funds (continued)

General Annual Grant (GAG)

This represents funding from the ESFA to cover the costs of recurrent expenditure.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Trust is not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it can carry forward at the year end.

Other DFE/ESFA

Other DFE/ESFA grants represent funding from Government agencies to be used for specific purposes.

Start up

This represents a grant to aid with start up costs for a new member of the Trust.

Local Authority Grants

This represents various grants from local and national Government bodies for the provision of specific services to pupils of the academies.

Other restricted

This represents contributions made by parents to the running of educational visits for the pupils of the Academies and the associated costs of running the trips.

Exceptional government funding

This represents income received to cover costs associated with ensuring the Trust's schools are able to operate safely under restrictions in place due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pension reserve

This fund represents the Trust's share of the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) at the year end.

Other capital grants

This represents income for capital purposes from other sources such as the Local Authority.

Devolved formula capital (DFC)

The Trust is to use the DFC allocation to maintain and improve its buildings and facilities.

15 Funds (continued)

Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)

The Trust is to use the CIF on specific projects applied for. The funding received was specifically boiler works for Lavender and Eastfield Primary Schools. The amount carried forward is predominantly for the Eastfield boiler as the work is yet to be completed.

Comparative information

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	13,442	(13,420)	—	22
Local Authority	—	1,717	(1,717)	—	—
Start-Up	—	25	(25)	—	—
Exceptional Government funding	—	28	(28)	—	—
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	—	2,078	(2,078)	—	—
Other restricted funds	—	79	(79)	—	—
Pension fund	(6,253)	(1,122)	(988)	(1,156)	(9,519)
	<u>(6,253)</u>	<u>16,247</u>	<u>(18,335)</u>	<u>(1,156)</u>	<u>(9,496)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Restricted fixed assets	38,766	7,059	(3,993)	842	42,674
Devolved Formula Capital	—	69	(69)	—	—
Condition Improvement Fund	418	553	—	(676)	295
Other capital grants	—	166	—	(166)	—
	<u>39,184</u>	<u>7,847</u>	<u>(4,062)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>42,969</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>32,931</u>	<u>24,094</u>	<u>(22,397)</u>	<u>(1,156)</u>	<u>33,472</u>
Total unrestricted funds	842	761	(597)	—	1,006
Total funds	<u>33,773</u>	<u>24,855</u>	<u>(22,994)</u>	<u>(1,156)</u>	<u>34,478</u>

15 Funds (continued)

Analysis of fund balance by academy

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:		
Ivy Learning Trust (Central)	(286)	(195)
Brimsdown Primary School	610	390
Churchfield Primary School	607	402
Crabtree Infants' School	144	—
Crabtree Junior School	122	—
Eastfield Primary School	200	28
Larkspur Primary Academy	(86)	(17)
Lavender Primary School	117	220
The Wroxham School	37	46
Walker Primary School	91	44
Woodside Primary School	164	110
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	1,720	1,028
Restricted fixed asset fund	51,422	42,969
Pension reserve	(13,267)	(9,519)
Total	39,875	34,478

The following Academies are carrying a net deficit on their portion of the funds as follows:

	2021 £'000
Ivy Learning Trust	(286)
Larkspur Academy	(86)

The Trust is taking the following action to return the Academies to surplus:

Through increased central services charges, increased economies of scale through Trust growth and careful cost management, the deficits reported will be addressed in the coming years.

15 Funds (continued)

Analysis of academies by cost

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs excluding depreciation and loss on disposal £'000	2021 Total £'000	2020 Total £'000
Ivy Learning Trust (Central)	353	1,741	7	343	2,444	1,891
Brimsdown Primary School	2,692	464	76	442	3,674	3,610
Churchfield Primary School	2,319	363	75	568	3,325	3,298
Crabtree Infants' School	207	46	10	55	318	—
Crabtree Junior School	267	40	11	75	393	—
Eastfield Primary School	1,901	273	78	336	2,588	2,610
Larkspur Primary Academy	683	125	23	121	952	1,095
Lavender Primary School	1,971	275	38	354	2,638	2,630
The Wroxham School	853	213	37	143	1,246	1,376
Walker Primary School	1,520	182	65	243	2,010	2,065
Woodside Primary School	744	120	43	126	1,033	427
	13,510	3,842	463	2,806	20,621	19,002

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	2020 Total £
Ivy Learning Trust (Central)	902	681	2	306	1,891
Brimsdown Primary School	2,956	159	39	456	3,610
Lavender Primary School	2,001	210	44	375	2,630
Eastfield Primary School	2,012	198	34	366	2,610
Churchfield Primary School	2,384	253	54	607	3,298
Larkspur Primary Academy	851	86	25	133	1,095
Walker Primary School	1,582	158	35	290	2,065
Woodside Primary School	277	54	10	86	427
The Wroxham School	790	240	25	321	1,376
	13,755	2,039	268	2,940	19,002

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	51,162	51,162	42,673
Current assets	789	2,501	260	3,550	2,927
Current liabilities	—	(1,570)	—	(1,570)	(1,602)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	—	(13,267)	—	(13,267)	(9,519)
	789	(12,336)	51,422	39,875	34,478

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	42,673	42,673
Current assets	1,006	1,400	521	2,927
Creditors due within one year	1	(1,379)	(224)	(1,602)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	—	(9,519)	—	(9,519)
	1,006	(9,498)	42,970	34,478

17 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Net income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	6,922	1,859
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,063	3,996
Interest receivable	—	(1)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	850	1,122
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(7,116)	—
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	3,487	—
Defined benefit pension scheme adjustments	1,032	684
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	341	304
Increase in debtors	755	(240)
Increase in creditors	(33)	449
Fixed assets received from Local Authority on conversion	—	(4,527)
Assets received on transfer of another Academy into the Trust	(5,887)	(2,533)
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,414	1,115

18 Cash flows from investing activities

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Interest	—	1
Purchase of fixed assets	(733)	(843)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	697	—
Net cash used in investing activities	(36)	(842)

19 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Cash in hand	2,762	1,384

20 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2020 £'000	Cash flows £'000	At 31 August 2021 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand	1,384	1,378	2,762

21 Conversion to an academy status in the year ended 31 August 2020 - Comparative information in respect of the preceding period

On 1 April 2020 Woodside Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Ivy Learning Trust from Hertfordshire County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet under the appropriate heading with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as Income from Donations and Capital Grants - transfer from Local Authority on conversion.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of Financial Activities.

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
Land and buildings	—	—	4,495	4,495
Other tangible fixed assets	—	—	32	32
Current assets				
Cash – representing budget surplus on LA funds	116	—	—	116
Non-current liabilities				
Pension liability	—	(213)	—	(213)
Net assets/(liabilities)	116	(213)	4,527	4,430

22 Transfer in on academies joining the Trust

During the year ended 31 August 2021, two academies joined the Trust from an existing Academy Trust. At the date of transfer, the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to the group for £nil consideration. Both academies joining the Trust in the year ended 31 August 2021 included a transfer of assets when joining.

The transfers have been accounted for using the acquisition method. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the statement of financial activities as voluntary income.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

No fair value adjustments were made to the value reported by the transferring trust.

Combined (Crabtree Infants' School and Crabtree Junior School)

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
. Freehold land and buildings	—	—	5,826	5,826
. Other tangible fixed assets	—	—	61	61
LGPS pension (deficit)	—	(850)	—	(850)
Cash	304	—	—	304
Other identified assets and liabilities	(44)	—	—	(44)
Net assets (liabilities)	260	(850)	5,887	5,297

Crabtree Infants' School

On 1 May 2021, Crabtree Infants' Schools joined the Trust.

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
. Freehold land and buildings	—	—	1,854	1,854
. Other tangible fixed assets	—	—	33	33
LGPS pension (deficit)	—	(374)	—	(374)
Cash	162	—	—	162
Other identified assets and liabilities	(2)	—	—	(2)
Net assets (liabilities)	160	(374)	1,887	1,673

22 Transfer in on academies joining the Trust (continued)

Crabtree Junior School

On 1 May 2021, Crabtree Junior School joined the Trust.

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2021 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
. Freehold land and buildings	—	—	3,972	3,972
. Other tangible fixed assets	—	—	28	28
LGPS pension (deficit)	—	(476)	—	(476)
Cash	142	—	—	142
Other identified assets and liabilities	(42)	—	—	(42)
Net assets (liabilities)	100	(476)	4,000	3,624

Comparative information in respect of the preceding period - The Wroxham School

On 1 October 2019, The Wroxham School joined the Trust

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed assets funds £'000	2020 Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
. Freehold land and buildings	—	—	2,505	2,505
. Other tangible fixed assets	—	—	31	31
LGPS pension (deficit)	—	(909)	—	(909)
Cash	396	—	—	396
Other identified assets and liabilities	(293)	—	—	(293)
Net assets (liabilities)	103	(909)	2,536	1,730

23 Pension commitments

The 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 London Borough of Enfield and Hertfordshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £308,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020 - £262,000) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

- ◆ employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy);
- ◆ total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million; and
- ◆ 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. The 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%.

23 Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme (continued)

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,608,000 (2020: £1,332,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pension Scheme 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 period ended 31 August 2020 was £1,121,000 (2020 - £1,173,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £864,000 (2020 - £934,000) and employees' contributions totalled £257,000 (2020 - £239,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23 per cent for employers and 5.5-12.5 per cent for employees.

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

Principal Actuarial Assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
London Borough of Enfield		
Rate of increase in salaries	4.1	3.7
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.6	2.2
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.6	3.2
Commutation of pensions to lumpsums	50	50

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

	2021	2020
Retiring today		
Males	22.5	22.4
Females	24.4	24.3
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	23.1	23.0
Females	25.1	25.0

23 Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)

Principal Actuarial Assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Hertfordshire County Council		
Rate of increase in salaries	3.3	2.6
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.2
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.9	2.2
Commutation of pensions to lumpsums	50	50

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

	2021	2020
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	22.1	21.9
Females	24.5	24.1
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23.2	22.8
Females	26.2	25.5

Sensitivity analysis	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(737)	(518)
Discount rate -0.1%	737	518
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	1,020	270
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(1,020)	(270)
CPI rate +0.1%	909	369
CPI rate -0.1%	(909)	(369)

Share of scheme assets

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
The Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:		
Equities	7,031	4,563
Corporate bonds	3,044	2,368
Property	2,198	628
Cash and other liquid assets	968	394
Other Managed Funds	436	1,636
Total market value of assets	13,677	9,589

23 Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)

Amounts recognised in statement of financial activities	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Current service cost	(2,074)	(1,755)
Past service cost	—	(35)
Interest income	178	172
Interest cost	(341)	(304)
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	(2,237)	(1,922)

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
At 1 September	19,108	13,497
Transferred in on existing academies joining the Trust	2,106	2,511
Current Service cost	2,074	1,755
Interest cost	341	304
Employee contributions	257	239
Actuarial losses	3,180	871
Benefits paid	(122)	(104)
Past service costs	—	35
At 31 August	26,944	19,108

Changes in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme assets:	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
At 1 September	9,589	7,244
Transferred in on existing academies joining the Trust	1,256	1,389
Interest income	178	172
Actuarial gains (losses)	1,655	(285)
Employer contributions	864	934
Employee contributions	257	239
Benefits paid	(122)	(104)
At 31 August	13,677	9,589

24 Capital commitments

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
No later than 1 year	21	—

25 Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2021 the Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non- cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
No later than 1 year	7	20
Later than 1 year and no later than 5 years	5	12
	12	32

26 Members' liability

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

27 Related party transactions

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Enfield Learning Trust - Income	6,022	3,231
Enfield Learning Trust - Expenditure	50	—
Nightingale Cancer Support Centre - Expenditure	—	21
Attigo Academy Trust - Expenditure	—	150
	6,072	3,402

Enfield Learning Trust has been identified as a related party due to one Member (Anthony Wilde) acting as a Member for Enfield Learning Trust. The services have been provided at no more than cost.

Nightingale Cancer Support Centre has been identified as a related party due to a Member (Samantha Seth) acting as a Trustee for Nightingale Cancer Support Centre. The services have been provided at no more than cost.

Attigo Academy Trust has been identified as a related party due to a Trustee (Andzrej Czyrka) acting as a Member for Attigo Academy Trust. The services have been provided at no more than cost.

28 Teaching School trading accounts

	2021 £'000	2021 £'000	2020 £'000	2020 £'000
Income				
Direct income				
Teaching school income	43		43	
Other income				
Fundraising and other activities	3		—	
Total income		46		43
Expenditure				
Direct expenditure				
Teaching staff costs	23		15	
Teaching school expenditure	—		4	
Total direct expenditure		23		19
Administrative staff costs	23		22	
Total expenditure		46		41
Surplus from all sources		—		2
Teaching school balances at 1 September		2		—
Teaching school balances at 31 August		2		2

29 Agency Arrangements

The Trust distributes DSPL income to local schools as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting year ended 31 August 2021 the Trust received £367,689 and disbursed £408,468 from the fund. An amount of £298,573 is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA. Comparatives for the accounting year ended 31 August 2020 are £380,965 received, £167,261 disbursed and £336,764 included in creditors.