# HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

# TRUSTEES' REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

RickardLuckin

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# REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

#### Members

L Evans IJ Holroyd GM Williams

L Hutchings (Resigned 8 December 2022)

**Trustees** 

S Basnett (Resigned 18 May 2023)
PL Burls (Resigned 3 February 2023)
D Glanville (Resigned 31 August 2023)
D Long (Chair) (Resigned 1 September 2022)

LW Wyatt (Chair - from 1 September 2022) (Resigned 31 August

2023)

LA Bicknell (Resigned 23 January 2023)

Dr PB Hayman

D Turner (Appointed 6 October 2022) R Fry (Appointed 6 October 2022) L Fynn (Appointed 24 January 2023) YJ Mistry (Appointed 8 December 2022)

CM Jones (Chair - from 1 July 2023) (Appointed 13 July 2023)

### Senior management team

HeadteacherHeadteacher

- Assistant Headteacher - Assistant Headteacher

Company registration number

L Fynn (From 1 January 2023) D Glanville (Until 1 January 2023)

K Ryan K Strickland

07698504 (England and Wales)

Registered office

Hadleigh Infants And Nursery School (Academy) Bilton Road

Hadleigh Essex SS7 2HQ

Independent auditor

Rickard Luckin Limited Phoenix House, Suite 8 Christopher Martin Road

Basildon Essex SS14 3EZ

# TRUSTEES' REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and independent auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report including a strategic report under company law.

Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School is based in the borough of Castle Point. It is a larger than average-size infants school with just over 300 pupils. We provide an excellent creative learning experience for all pupils. The school's Nursery offers parents the opportunity to complete part-time sessions or apply for fully funded 30 hours provision. Parents can also purchase additional sessions on top of their state-funded hours if they do not qualify for 30 hours provision. The school provides full-time education for pupils in the reception classes and Key Stage 1. As part of the school's wrap around care, parents are offered to pay for child care both before and after school. These sessions are run by members of staff from the school and are open to all children who attend the infant school.

### Structure, governance and management

# Constitution

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

The trustees of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy).

# Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10,00, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

# Trustees' indemnities

The Academy through its Articles has indemnified its Trustees to the fullest extent permissible by law. During the period the Academy also purchased and maintained liability insurance for its Trustees.

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

The governors have set up procedures that review the mix of skills that should be available to the board. New governors will then be sought with these skills, either as additional governors or replacements when existing governors stand down. It is anticipated that the great majority of new governors will be drawn from the local community being either parents or guardians of pupils at the school or others that have shown an interest in the future well-being of the school and its pupils. Recruitment is therefore likely to be through a combination of approaches to individuals with known skills and by wider communication to those within the area.

New governors will be appointed to the board by the existing governors until the date of the next Annual General Meeting, at which time they are eligible for re-election for a period of 3 or 4 years. At the end of term, retiring governors are eligible for re-election for a further term.

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

Individual governors attend training courses and conferences organised by appropriate bodies in order to ensure their knowledge and understanding is fully up to date. These courses are in addition to the training and development sessions the Academy arranges and completes.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### Organisational structure

The governors have responsibility for setting and monitoring the overall strategic direction of the charitable company, approving decisions reserved to governors and appointing key members of staff.

The governors meet as a board six times a year. At these meetings the overall performance and direction of the Academy is reviewed - this includes key performance indicators, associated risks and mitigation for them. The majority of decisions reserved to the governors are taken by the board as a whole. Small working groups may be arranged during Full Governing Body meetings if the board would like to investigate individual matters further. These working groups then feedback their findings which could lead to recommendations being made to the full board. During the Full Governing Body meetings, the governors challenge and support school leaders linked to the areas stated below:

- Finance
- Curriculum
- Behaviour
- Personnel
- Safeguarding
- Wellbeing
- · Premises / Health and safety
- Data protection

In addition to the Full Governing Body, the school also has three committees that meet when needed during the academic year. These committees are:

- Audit and Risk
- Disciplinary
- Pay (including Head Teacher's Pay)

The Audit and Risk Committee ensures that the school meets its statutory requirements as set out in the Academies Trust Handbook 2023. It also directs the school's reviewer as to which areas they would like him to audit throughout the academic year. The committee also holds the Accounting Officer and Chief Finance Officer to account for the recommendations set out from any external or internal audits that have been completed during the academic year. At each meeting the Accounting Officer and Chief Finance Officer set out what actions have been taken since the previous audits and update the committee of any further work that is required.

The Pay Committee ratify or challenge recommendations - linked to pay progression matters - if required. As part of these meetings, the Head Teacher will set out his/her recommendations with evidence of the outcomes of performance management that has been carried out by the staff. The Pay Committee also make decisions on the percentage increments, to annual salaries, as recommended by the School Teachers' Review Body and/or the DfE.

The three committees stated above report back to the Full Governing Body, after they have met, to outline the decisions they have made or to ask to consider any recommendations that cannot be made at committee level.

The Head Teacher is the Accounting Officer and works closely with governors and the senior staff of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy).

The day-to-day management of the Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) rests with the Head Teacher who has overall responsibility for the school. The Head Teacher is responsible for establishing a Senior Leadership Team to support the strategic and operational running of the school.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

The Pay Policy is reviewed annually and updated taking into account the latest Department of Education guidance as well as Essex County Councils' model policy guidance. The school's Pay Policy is agreed by the school's Full Governing Body.

The Head Teacher's annual salary review is carried out by the Pay Committee consisting of the Chair of Governors and two non-teaching governors. At least one member of this committee has had training linked to Head Teachers Pay. The committee makes pay recommendations based on documentary evidence of the Head Teacher's achievements against their yearly objectives.

All other personnel's salary increases are directly related to their annual performance management objective outcomes. The Head Teacher may make pay recommendations, for the teaching staff, to the Pay Committee based on documentary evidence of their achievements against their yearly objectives. In these instances, the Pay Committee will approve the yearly pay recommendations.

## Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School have close working relationships with both Hadleigh Junior School and the BATIC trust, with whom we share information and knowledge to assist each other in the day to day running of a school. The school also works closely with the Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School Parent Association (charity) the school provides the charity with the premises and some personnel to help run charitable events. The school is the primary beneficiary of the majority of the proceeds that are raised. In July 2023 Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School entered in a partnership agreement with South Essex Academy Trust, the partnership agreements states that South Essex Academy Trust will offer advice and consultative services with regards to finance, HR, estates and leadership and teaching learning. All organisations named in the paragraph are separate companies.

# Objectives and activities

# Objects and aims

The charitable objectives for which the charitable company was established are set down in the governing document as follows.

To advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum ("the Academy"); and

To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Hadleigh, Essex and the surrounding area the provision of facilities, for recreation or other leisure time occupations of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare, and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

### Objectives, strategies and activities

The Hadleigh Infants & Nursery School (Academy) provides a broad and balanced curriculum for the pupils who attend (currently 312).

### The school's key objectives are:

- To ensure all pupils are safe both at school and at home
- · To ensure all pupils no matter their background have the opportunity to fulfil their full potential
- To promote a lifelong love of learning by providing a memorable and exciting well balanced curriculum for all
- To develop life skills that pupils will be able to use in the future
- To ensure we enable the pupils to leave the school with the skills and knowledge they require to be successful during the next stage of their education

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The school's strategic targets for 2022 - 2023 (post January under a change of leadership) were:

### Quality of education -

Children to have a high quality vocabulary with words that they can use and recognise in range of different contexts

#### Behaviour and attitudes -

Children understand and consistently follow the behaviour expectations of Hadleigh Infants & Nursery School

### Personal development -

Children to have consistently positive attitudes to learning and demonstrate resillence

### Leadership and management -

Irrespective of prior attainment and FSM status, leaders, teachers and non-teaching staff are committed to the academic achievement of all pupils.

### Quality of education in early years -

The curriculum and learning environment is effective in promoting independence and challenge

#### Safeguarding

Whole school attendance is increased to meet the target of 96%, Persistent absence is reduced.

The Head Teacher, along with the school's Senior Leaders, developed the school's strategic plan to meet the targets outlined above. The school's strategic plan was reviewed and discussed on a half termly basis. The targets where broken down on a term by basis to assess if we were on track to meet them. During the academic year, the Head Teacher provided the members and trustees with an update related to these targets. During these updates, the Head Teacher provided evidence of the progress made towards each of the targets and the members and trustees raised questions. The school's strategic plan clearly identified a range of staff who were to carry out tasks to ensure the targets and key objectives were met. By the end of the August 2023, the Academy had made progress in all of the targets set out above; however, there are still some areas that need further development to ensure that they are fully embedded.

The Head Teacher, members, trustees and senior leaders have ensured that the teaching staff have been provided with the training and resources they need to ensure that the school continues to meet and exceed its aims and objectives.

The Head Teacher, school staff and governors still believe that the partnership between school and the families of pupils plays a vital role in improving outcomes for our pupils. Communication between the school and its stakeholders has continued to improve over the past year. Parents are better informed about the progress their pupils are making and given timely information about what additional support could be provided to improve outcomes and progress. This has been further developed this academic year with the introduction of a new home school communication app (Class Dojo)

### Public benefit

The Academy provides educational services to all pupils in the local area. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charitles Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# Strategic report Achievements and performance Reception

EFYS Teacher Assessment 2022/2023

	GLD	Expected in all ELG
Reception School Average 2022/23	70%	70%

The school's percentage of children working at a Good Level of Development (GLD) was 70% - this was above the National average of 65%. This reception cohort included 4 children who now have EHCPs. The cohort was taught by 2 first year ECT's and a member of staff who returned from work from long term sickness absence.

# Year 1 End of Year 1 Teacher Assessment 2022/2023

	Reading	Writing	Maths	RWM	
Year 1 School Average 2022/2023	71%	61%	67%	61%	
				,	
Year 1 School Average 2021/2022	83%	70%	81%	67%	
Year 1 School Average 2020/2021	70%	64%	70%	63%	
KS 1 2021/2022*	67%	58%	68%		

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# End of Year 1 Phonics Screening Check 2022/2023

	Cohort Size	Passed	Did not pass
Phonics Screening Check 2022/ 2023	86	68%	32%
Phonics Screening Check 2021/ 2022	87	86%	14%
National Average		75%	

# Year 2

# Year 2 Phonics Screening Check 2022/2023

				Cohort Size	Passed	Did not pass	
Phonics 2023	Screening	Check	2022/	90	92%	8%	
	,						
Phonics 22	Screening	Check	2021/	87	90%	10%	
Phonics 2021	Screening	Check	2020/	82	82%	18	

# End of Year 2 Teacher Assessment 2022/2023

Year 2 School Average 2022/23	81%	77%	77%		
Year 2 School Average 2021/2022	72%	62%	70%	60%	
Year 2 School Average 2020/2021	71%	66%	71%	59%	
Local Authority Average 2021/22	70%	63%	73%		:
National Average 2022/2023*	67%	58%	68%	56%	

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Year 1 cohort this year had a much level of SEND need than the previous cohort, with 16 children on the SEND register compared to 3 in the previous cohort. Most of these children present with SEMH difficulties which impacts their ability to access learning. A new behaviour policy has been adopted and staff are engaging in TPP (Trauma Perceptive Practice) training to enable them to better understand the needs of the cohort. Despite the disappointing phonics screening results the reading, writing and maths levels remained broadly in line with National Averages (with only maths following 3% below)

Year 2 data was positive with scores increasing year on year. Reading and Writing Data exceeded the National average scores by more than 10%, maths by 9%. The phonics screening score was also very positive (the highest the school has seen to date) with 92% of children leaving the school at the national expectation.

The school's leadership team have created plans which will be implemented during 2023/2024 to ensure that the children in Key Stage 1 are provided with best education and support. We are working hard with the Year 2 cohort to ensure that they demonstrate a good level of progress. The leadership team will holding teachers to account each term using pupil progress meetings which will delve in to the specifics of what each child needs to make expected levels of progress.

## Key performance indicators

# KPI 1 - Maintain an Ofsted rating of Good or better.

The school's main academic KPI is the Ofsted Framework for Inspection. During an Ofsted inspection, inspectors must judge the quality of education provided by the school. This is an overarching judgement. Inspectors will also make graded judgements on the following areas using the four-point scale:

- · Quality of education
- · Behaviour and attitudes
- · Personal development
- · Leadership and management.

As stated in previous reports, the school was recently inspected under the framework set out above and was deemed to be Good (February 2020). Although the school continues to be good, it is clear that the school has made huge amounts of progress from its previous inspection.

By the end of the August 2022, the Academy had made progress in all of the targets set out above; however, due to the additional disruption caused by periods of isolation, there are still areas that need further development to ensure that they are fully embedded.

### KPI 2 - Continue to generate at least 4% of GAG in additional income.

# Current GAG Total - £1,109,677

Current income from BC - £21,218 Current income from ASC - £32,867 Current income from additional nursery sessions - £11,485 Current income from catering income - £13,445

Current generated income - £79,015
Current percentage of generated income to GAG - 7.12%

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# KPI 3 - To ensure that Staffing costs are less than 93% of GAG and additional central government funding.

Income	
Allocation	£1,109,677
Pupil premium	£60,910
Nursery pay and pension grant	£10,074
Early years designated	£169,167
Catering less food costs	£58,246
SEN	£37,083
Mainstream school additional grant	£16,824
	£1,461,981

### Projected staffing costs for 2022-2023 as at 30th Sept 2023

£735,545
£3,505
£108,057
£127,099
£50,525
£126,205
£27,513
£23,008
£48,386
£8,727
£57,894
£25,882
£18,193
£12,105
£1,372,644

Total % of GAG spent on staffing

93.89%

As at the end of September 2023 we show staffing costs at 93.89 % of GAG and additional funding. This represents a reduction of 1.3% compared to May 2023 (95.19%) and a 6.08% reduction compared to the end of October 2022 (99.97%) This saving consists of additional funding via the mainstream additional grant, an increase in nursery funding, a reduction in overall staffing and also includes support staff increases resulting from increased weeks per year, expected support staff increase and support staff scale restructure as at the end of April 2023.

# KPI 4 - To complete capital projects to ensure the school reduces energy bills and the school's carbon footprint in a sustainable way without negatively impacting on the stakeholders.

The new Asset Management Plan has now been completed

Energy efficiency audit complete.

Work has been completed where possible.

### Going concern

It is the responsibility of the trustees to consider the most appropriate basis under which the financial statements should be prepared. After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have agreed to join a multi-academy trust during the next academic year. For this reason, the board of trustees have adopted the break up basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the break up basis basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### Financial review

During the year the school has total incoming resources of £1,684,096 (2022: £1,597,765), it incurred expenses totalling £1,695,897 (2022: £1,793,817), generating an operating deficit of £11,801 (2022: £196,052). There was an actuarial gain on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) of £306,000 (2022: £1,426,000). The total Net Assets of the Academy at the year end were £2,335,549 (2022: £2,041,350) which is represented by Restricted Fixed Asset Fund of £2,136,982 (2022: £2,185,304), a Restricted General Fund of £102,072 (2022: £54,847), the LGPS deficit of £nil (2022: £281,000) and an Unrestricted Fund of £96,495 (2022: £82,199). Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the Academy is recognising a cap on the pension fund asset as a balance of £Nil as at the year end.

### Reserves policy

The governors' policy is to generate reserves to provide funds to continue to enhance the educational facilities and services of the school and to fund future projects. The governors intend to review the reserves policy annually to ensure that this aim can be achieved. The review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams. It has been determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be a minimum of 2% of the years restricted income, approximately £29,000. This provides sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

#### Investment policy

The governors' investment powers are set down in the charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association, which permit the investment of monies of the charitable company that are not immediately required for its purposes in such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit subject to restrictions which may from time to time be imposed or required by law.

# Risk Management

### Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The principal risks facing the Academy identified on the risk register are:

- The impact that changes in government policy and rising inflation/costs could have on funding. Staffing rises along with huge increases in some services will provide the school with future challenges. The controls in place to mitigate the risk is that the school's three-year plan considers different possibilities to ensure that the school can still be sustainable even in the worst-case scenario. The school was able to fix the energy rates until October 2023 which will keep energy bills lower than many others. The school also has a good relationship with the local MP and networks with other academies in the area in order to monitor the current situation.
- Possible problems of escalating maintenance/service costs (gas/electric) as the building gets older. The
  controls in place to mitigate the risk are that the school benchmarks costs against other schools and a
  programme of routine maintenance, including servicing where appropriate, is in place. The school's capital
  bids are also focused on reducing energy bills. The budgets always reflect anticipated increased costs.
- The impact of the loss of further senior members of staff. The headteacher is in the process of increasing Senior Leadership team capacity by advertising two TLR positions. Existing staff are also being encouraged to take NPQ (National Professional Qualifications) while they are govt funded.
- The impact of further national rises in staffing costs including pensions, employees National Insurance payments, annual rises and increased teacher starting salaries. The control in place is that a working group will produce the school's Pay Policy and only approve salary rises if affordable and funded by government additional grants.
- The impact of not filling the cohorts as the school's funding is linked directly with the number of children on roll. The control in place to mitigate this is to continue to promote the school better using a range of sources: local media, social media and the school's own website. The school also advertises during the academic year to fill spaces that were not filled at the beginning of the year.
- Increasing levels of children with Special Educational Needs entering school has implications for finances due to the £6000 notional funding allocation before an EHCP can be applied for.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### Risk Management

The Academy maintains a risk register which is regularly monitored during Risk and Audit meetings. The risk register is also seen and reviewed by the Full Governing Body. Both groups make necessary changes/ suggestions each time the register is reviewed. Both groups ensure that any new risks are identified and existing risks can be managed to ensure they do not materialise.

# Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

Risk categories are identified as compliance, strategic, reputational, operational and financial. All areas are regularly monitored and adjusted during either Full Governing Body meetings or Risk and Audit meetings. Changes are minuted and the risk register is updated accordingly.

### Plans for future periods

The Headteacher, CFO and a select group of trustees/members will continue to meet to plan and deliver a strategy to further reduce spending without having a negative impact on the overall outcomes of the pupils. This group will look specifically at how to maximise the most from each of the cost centres increasing the school's value for money spent. This group will also continue to look at the long-term vision for the school and consider any further changes that may be required within the staffing structure to ensure that costs are manageable. Both of these actions will support the school's long-term sustainability and reduce the percentage of staffing costs in the overall expenditure of the school. Any further reductions to salaries will also have a positive impact on reducing overall staffing costs such as pensions and national insurance contributions. This group will also look at how we can continue to maximise the income from the school's wrap around care provision.

The school is going to continue to offer 30-hour provision for the next academic year and continue to offer more 30-hour places to parents. We have seen an increase in Nursery numbers converting to the number of children attending the school as 95% of pupils attending the Nursery now attend the Infant School (September 23) and hope to maintain this. This enabled the school to generate thousands of pounds in additional income.

During the past few years, the school has started to develop areas around the school. Over 95% of the school has now been decorated or redeveloped. This continual level of improvements will continue into the next financial year. The school's capital funding will be used to allow for continued improvement during 2023/2024. These changes should positively impact on the overall progress and outcomes for pupils as well as appealing to possible new parents bringing their pupils to the school. Maintaining pupil numbers is essential in the long-term stability of the school.

During 2023/24, the school will continue to explore creative and sustainable methods to continuously improve the technology and resources within the school. We have already started this process with the support of our newly appointed IT support supplier.

The school will also continue to look at additional means to identify children eligible for Pupil Premium funding and advertising available spaces for children. Both with the view of increasing incoming revenue.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others None held

# **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### **Auditor**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

L Fynn

**CM Jones** 

Chair - from 1 July 2023

# **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### Scope of responsibility

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

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Hadleigh Infants And Nursery School (Academy) and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

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

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
S Basnett (Resigned 18 May 2023)	0	4
PL Burls (Resigned 3 February 2023)	1	4
D Glanville (Resigned 31 August 2023)	6	6
D Long (Chair) (Resigned 1 September 2022)	. 0	0
LW Wyatt (Chair - from 1 September 2022) (Resigned 31 August 2023)	5	6
LA Bicknell (Resigned 23 January 2023)	1	4
Dr PB Hayman	6	6
D Turner (Appointed 6 October 2022)	5	6
R Fry (Appointed 6 October 2022)	4	6
L Fynn (Appointed 24 January 2023)	. 4	4
YJ Mistry (Appointed 8 December 2022)	<sub>.</sub> 5	5
CM Jones (Chair - from 1 July 2023) (Appointed 13 July 2023)	0	0

# **Conflicts of interest**

To manage conflicts of interest, the academy maintains an up-to-date and complete register of interests.

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

Review and monitor the financial position of the academy and provide recommendations to the full governing body as appropriate.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
D Glanville (Resigned 31 August 2023)	. 2	3
LW Wyatt (Chair - from 1 September 2022) (Resigned 31 August 2023)	2	3
Dr PB Hayman	3	3

# GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Head Teacher's Pay Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

Review the Head Teacher's performance against targets set and make recommendations to the full governing body linked to future pay increases.

New Head appointed in Jan 2023, Head teachers pay review took place in November 2023

## Review of value for money

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

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

- DPO The Trustees, Members, CFO and Head Teacher decided to buy into a service for a shared DPO.
  The academy has a SIRO and IC within school who liaise with the DPO to ensure that the school remains
  GDPR compliant. The cost of a shared DPO provides better value for money compared to having a sole
  DPO within the school setting.
- Training for support staff to enable them to teach classes. Training each member of support staff has allowed the school to use them as cover during times where teachers have been absent for either sickness or on courses. As a result of the training, we have been able to cover classes for PPA and staff absences at a very low cost compared to what supply teachers would have cost the school. The school spent considerably less on cover by using the HLTAs to cover. Without the support staff completing the cover, the Academy would have seen cover costs increase considerably as the school struggled to manage staffing shortages during 2022-2023 academic year.
- Key training is delivered by the school's senior leaders. The Head Teacher has completed high level
  training linked to Safeguarding and Health and Safety; this training has allowed her to complete regular and
  routine training which the school had previously paid for. We have also subscribed to new systems which
  allow training to take place via online learning which has reduced the need for external experts.
- The school has also made use of the current fully funded NPQ programmes to upskill teachers and enable them to work towards National Professional Qualifications which usually incur a significant cost. In 2022/23 three members of teaching staff started courses, a further two (at least) will take up this opportunity.
- Collaboration. As a trust we work with many local schools in the area. The school pays a small membership
  fee annually. The school receives support in many different ways including: training, sharing of resources
  and technical support. This support has led to a greater consistency across the schools and mutual sharing
  of expertise. We are also working closely with South Essex Academy Trust to access group discounts,
  teaching support, CPD opportunities and central team support
- The school has looked at Investing in technology using the option of operational leasing. This has resulted in new technology being installed in all ten classrooms at a sustainable fixed fee over a period of time. The school previously invested in technology at one time which resulted in the majority of the technology needing to be replaced within a short space of time. Using the leasing option allowed the school to continue to function at a high standard, be cost effective and allowed the school to better plan for future investment.
- Financial governance and oversight. Our trustees provide strong oversight and regularly question and challenge decisions made by the Academy.

# **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Hadleigh Infants And Nursery School (Academy) for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

## Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

#### The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to hire School Business Management Services as the school's internal auditor. The Risk and Audit committee set the areas that were to be reviewed by the group. These areas were identified by the group working with the CFO and analysing previous audits and considering potential concerns.

All planned work was carried out and no material control issues were discovered. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- review of risk management
- · testing of income and debtors
- · testing of purchases and creditors

The outcomes of both internal and external audits are shared with the Risk and Audit committee as well as the Full Governing Body. The CFO and Accounting Officer also provide regular updates as to the actions that have been completed following any audit.

There were no material control or other issues reported by the reviewer to date.

### Review of effectiveness

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

- · the work of the responsible officer;
- · the work of the external auditor;
- · the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

# GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20/12/23.. and signed on its behalf by:

L Fynn

CM Jones

Chair - from 1 July 2023

# STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

As accounting officer of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy), I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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

L Fynn

Accounting Officer

# STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees (who are also the directors of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on  $\frac{20}{12}$ , and signed on its behalf by:

L Fynn

CM Jones

Chair - from 1 July 2023

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

### 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 academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

It has been agreed by the trustees that the school will be transferred into a multi academy trust during the next academic year.

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, which 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.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated 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 academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

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

#### Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

# Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the 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.

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our: general commercial and sector experience; through verbal and written communications with those charged with governance and other management; and via inspection of the Academy Trust's regulatory and legal correspondence.

We discussed with those charged with governance and other management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

We communicated identified laws and regulations to our team and remained alert to any indicators of non-compliance throughout the audit, we also specifically considered where and how fraud may occur within the Academy Trust.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Academy Trust is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements, including: the Academy Trust's constitution; relevant financial reporting standards; company law; the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with FRS 102 (effective from 1 January 2019); the Academies Accounts Direction 2022-23; and we assess the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly the Academy Trust is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of non-compliance could have a material effect on the amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines and penalties, or through losses arising from litigations. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an affect: legislation directly applicable to charities sector such as the Charities Act 2011, the Academy Trust's funding agreement; the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021; employment legislation; health and safety legislation; safeguarding legislation; the regulatory requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency; data protection legislations; anti-bribery and corruption legislation.

International Auditing Standards (UK) limit the required procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to the procedures, and no procedures over and above those already noted are required. These limited procedures did not identify any actual or suspected non-compliance which laws and regulations that could have a material impact on the financial statements.

In relation to fraud, we performed the following specific procedures in addition to those already noted:

- Challenging assumptions made by management in its significant accounting estimates in particular: income recognition, depreciation of tangible fixed assets; and valuation of local government pension scheme;
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any entries posted with unusual nominal ledger account combinations, journal entries posted by senior management;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify unexpected movements in account balances which may be indicative of fraud;
- Ensuring that testing undertaken on both the Statement of Financial Activity (SoFA) and the Balance Sheet includes a number of items selected on a random basis;
- Reviewing the minutes of the meetings of the Governing Body and key sub committees;
- Evaluating internal control and review procedures, and reviewing findings of internal audit reviews;
- Evaluating and documenting internal controls and testing their application by walkthrough;
- · Reviewing the work carried out for the Regularity Assurance Report.

These procedures did not identify any actual or suspected fraudulent irregularity that could have a material impact on the financial statements.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoldable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with International Auditing Standards UK). For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the procedures that we are required to undertake would identify it. In addition, as with any audit, there remains a high risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these might involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance with laws and regulations or fraud, and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations or every incidence of fraud.

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

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# 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.

Kate Bell (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Rickard Luckin Limited

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

20/12/23

Phoenix House, Suite 8 Christopher Martin Road Basildon Essex SS14 3EZ

# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1 October 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

# Respective responsibilities of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy)'s accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy)'s funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 7 July 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, 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 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

### Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- · Reviewing the minutes of the meetings of the Governing Body and key sub committees;
- Evaluating internal control and review procedures, and reviewing findings of internal audit reviews;
- Reviewing action taken as a result of recommendations from internal audit procedures, external audit, and ESFA updates;
- · Evaluating and documenting internal controls and testing their application by walkthrough;
- Testing a sample of payments to ensure that they have been authorised in accordance with the Academy's financial procedures and the Academies Trust Handbook.

# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO HADLEIGH INFANTS AND NURSERY SCHOOL (ACADEMY) AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Rickard Luckin Limited Phoenix House, Suite 8 Christopher Martin Road Basildon Essex SS14 3EZ

Dated: 20/12/23

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Unrestricted funds		icted funds: Fixed asset	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Notes	£	Seneral £	£	2023 £	£
Income and endowments from:	,,,,,,,	. —	-	_	_	-
Donations and capital grants	3	25,609	-	23,268	48,877	30,576
Charitable activities:						•
- Funding for educational operations	4	54,087	1,580,782	-	1,634,869	1,567,155
Investments	5	350	-	-	350	34
Total		. 80,046	1,580,782	23,268	1,684,096	1,597,765
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	65,750	1,561,293	68,854	1,695,897	1,793,817
Total	6	65,750	1,561,293	68,854	1,695,897	1,793,817
Net income/(expenditure)		14,296	19,489	(45,586)	(11,801)	(196,052)
Transfers between funds	15	-:	2,736	(2,736)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)				·		
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	21		306,000		306,000	1,426,000
Net movement in funds		14,296	328,225	(48,322)	294,199	1,229,948
Reconciliation of funds					·	
Total funds brought forward		82,199	(226,153)	2,185,304	2,041,350	811,402
Total funds carried forward		96,495	102,072	2,136,982	2,335,549	2,041,350

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restri	cted funds:	Total
Year ended 31 August 2022		funds	General	Fixed asset	2022
•	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	. 3	18,461		12,115	30,576
- Funding for educational operations	4	45,806	1,521,349		1,567,155
Investments	5	34		_	34
Total	,	64,301	1,521,349	12,115	1,597,765
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities: - Educational operations	7	52,914	1,672,520	68,383	1,793,817
Total	6	52,914	1,672,520	68,383	1,793,817
		· <del></del>			
Net income/(expenditure)	,	11,387	(151,171)	(56,268)	(196,052)
Transfers between funds	15	- -	(16,177)	16,177	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	21	· <u>-</u>	1,426,000		1,426,000
Net movement in funds		11,387	1,258,652	(40,091)	1,229,948
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		70,812	(1,484,805)	2,225,395	811,402
Total funds carried forward		82,199	(226,153)	2,185,304	2,041,350

# BALANCE SHEET

# AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023		20	
Fixed assets	Notes	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	11		2,122,894		2,180,504
Current assets					
Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	12	13,123 428,628		11,276 368,861	
$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + $		441,751		380,137	
Current liabilities Creditors: amounts falling due within one					
year	13	(214,242)		(220,137)	
Net current assets			227,509		160,000
Total assets less current liabilities		·	2,350,403	•	2,340,504
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(14,854)		(18,154
Net assets before defined benefit pensio scheme liability	n		2,335,549	·	2,322,350
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	21		•		(281,000
Total net assets			2,335,549		2,041,350
Funds of the academy trust:	4 **		. :		· · ·
Restricted funds - Fixed asset funds	15		2,136,982		2,185,304
- Restricted income funds			102,072		54,847
- Pension reserve			-		(281,000
Total restricted funds			2,239,054		1,959,151
Unrestricted income funds	15		96,495		82,199
Total funds			2,335,549		2,041,350
•					

The accounts on pages 25 to 46 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on .20/2/23. and are signed on their behalf by:

L Fynn

**CM Jones** 

Chair - from 1 July 2023

Company registration number 07698504

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	202: £		202: £	_
	Notes	Σ.	£	<b>7.</b> .	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	18		50,693		135,527
Cash flows from investing activities Dividends, interest and rents from investments	i	350		34	
Capital grants from DfE Group		23,268		7,315	
Capital funding received from sponsors and ot	hers			4,800	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(11,244)	•	(23,492)	
Tarbinade of language incode abbotis				(20,102)	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing ac	tivities		12,374		(11,343)
Cash flows from financing activities			_		
Repayment of other loan		(3,300)		(1,651)	
Repayment of other loan		(0,500)		(1,001)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(3,300)		(1,651)
				• .	
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents i reporting period	in the		59,767		122,533
				-1	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the	year		368,861		246,328
					<del></del>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the ye	ar		428,628		368,861

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# 1 Accounting policies

Hadleigh Infants and Nursery School (Academy) is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England, and an exempt charity. The registered office is Bilton Road, Hadleigh, Essex, SS7 2HQ.

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

### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

### 1.2 Going concern

The governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cause doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as going concern. The governors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements.

It has been agreed by the trustees that the school will be transferred into a multi academy trust during the next academic year. As such the assets and liabilities have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts will be recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount which will be recognised in the statement of financial activities under charitable expenditure amounts transferred to multi academy trust.

On this basis the accounts have been prepared on the break up basis, where all assets and liabilities have been transferred at realisable values.

#### 1.3 Income

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

#### Grants

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

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

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

### Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

### **Donations**

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

### Other income

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

## Donated goods, facilities and services

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

### Donated fixed assets

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

# 1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

### Expenditure on raising funds

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

### Charitable activities

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

Included within the fixed asset value is £100,000 that relates to non-depreciable land.

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

Freehold land and buildings Computer equipment

2% straight line 3 years straight line

Furniture and equipment

5 years straight line

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

## 1.6 Liabilities

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

## 1.7 Leased assets

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

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

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

## Financial assets

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

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

### Financial liabilities

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

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

# 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.9 Taxation

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

### 1.10 Pensions benefits

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

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

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

### 1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

## 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 21, 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 2023. 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.

Included in accruals is an estimate of the energy costs incurred by the Academy for the period October 2018 to August 2023. There has been an error in the meter readings over this period, and therefore the accrual is based on the best estimate of the Trust's energy use for this period.

### Critical areas of judgement

In the application of the company's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. The only case whereby this arises is in respect of the depreciation policies relating to the fixed assets held by the academy, which are based on the estimated useful lives of the assets.

# 3 Donations and capital grants

Bondhone and capital glants			· ·	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Capital grants		23,268	23,268	7,315
Other donations	25,609	-	25,609	23,261
	25,609	23,268	48,877	30,576

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4	Funding for	the academy	trust's	charitable	activities
---	-------------	-------------	---------	------------	------------

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2023	2022
DELIZOTA mundo		£	£	£	£
DfE/ESFA grants			4 400 677	4 400 077	4 446 060
General annual grant (GAG)		<del>-</del>	1,109,677	1,109,677	1,116,060
Other DfE/ESFA grants:			05.004	05.004	04.500
- UIFSM		<b>-</b> .	95,931	95,931	94,530
- Pupil premium		~	61,477	61,477	59,064
- Supplementary grants		-	33,840	33,840	14,100
- Others		···	36,245	36,245	39,042
			1,337,170	1,337,170	1,322,796
Other government grants					
Local authority grants	-	_	206,851	206,851	170,587
COVID-19 additional funding					
DfE/ESFA					
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	ı ·		6,036	6,036	7,776
Other incoming resources	·	54,087	30,725	84,812	65,996
		•	· <del></del>		
Total funding		54,087	1,580,782	1,634,869	1,567,155
The academy received £6,036 of f totalled £6,036.	unding for ca	tch-up premium	and costs incur	ed in respect of	f this funding
Investment Income					
·		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
Short term deposits		funds	funds	2023	2022
Short term deposits		funds £	funds	2023 £	2022 £
		funds £	funds	2023 £	2022 £
Short term deposits  Expenditure		funds £ 350	funds £	2023 £ 350	2022 £ 34
	Staff costs	funds £ 350 ———— Non-pay	funds £	2023 £ 350 ———	2022 £ 34 
	Staff costs	funds £ 350	funds £	2023 £ 350	2022 £ 34
		funds £ 350 Non-pay Premises	funds £ expenditure Other	2023 £ 350 ———————————————————————————————————	2022 £ 34 Total 2022
		funds £ 350 Non-pay Premises	funds £ expenditure Other	2023 £ 350 ———————————————————————————————————	2022 £ 34 Total 2022
Expenditure		funds £ 350 Non-pay Premises	funds £ expenditure Other	2023 £ 350 ———————————————————————————————————	2022 £ 34 Total 2022
Expenditure  Academy's educational operations	£	funds £ 350 Non-pay Premises	funds £	2023 £ 350 ———————————————————————————————————	2022 £ 34 Total 2022 £

Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit - Other services	Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes	::		2023	2022
- Audit		•			£
Other services Operating lease rentals Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Net interest on defined benefit pension liability  7 Charitable activities    Unrestricted funds	Fees payable to auditor for:				
Operating lease rentals	- Audit			11,455	10,200
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets   68,854   68, Net interest on defined benefit pension liability   10,000   24,	- Other services			895	1,593
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability   10,000	Operating lease rentals	•		5,405	5,893
Charitable activities	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets			68,854	68,383
Unrestricted funds	Net interest on defined benefit pension liability			10,000	24,000
Unrestricted funds					
Funds   Fund	Charitable activities				
F		Unrestricted	Restricted		Tota
Direct costs         Educational operations         59,532         1,168,736         1,228,268         1,160,           Support costs         Educational operations         6,218         461,411         467,629         633,           Analysis of costs         2023         2         £           Direct costs         2023         2         £           Direct costs         1,127,948         1,070,         1,070,         Staff development         5,608         8,8         8,7055         74,8         Educational supplies and services         87,055         74,948         1,070,         5,608         8,7055         74,948         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         2,077,0         5,08         8,070,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         2,070,0         2,077,0         5,000,0         1,070,0         2,070,0         2,070,0         2,070,0         2,0		funds	funds	2023	2022
Educational operations   59,532	·	£	£	£	£
Support costs         6,218         461,411         467,629         633,           65,750         1,630,147         1,695,897         1,793,           Analysis of costs         2023         2           E           Direct costs         1,127,948         1,070,           Staff development         5,608         8,           Educational supplies and services         87,055         74,           Educational consultancy         6,705         74,           Other direct costs         6,987         5,           Support costs         1,228,268         1,160,           Support staff costs         260,898         384,           Depreciation         68,854         68,           Maintenance of premises and equipment         22,282         28,           Cleaning         19,590         17,           Rent, rates and other occupancy costs         2,167         26,           Insurance         6,077         5,           Catering         40,788         40,           Finance costs         10,000         24,           Other support costs         24,623		•			
Educational operations	Educational operations	59,532	1,168,736	1,228,268	1,160,712
Educational operations	Support costs				· · · :
Analysis of costs         2023 £           Direct costs         1,127,948 1,070, Staff development 5,608 8, Educational supplies and services 87,055 74, Educational consultancy 670 1, Other direct costs 6,987 5,           Support costs         1,228,268 1,160, Support staff costs 6,987 5, Support staff costs 260,898 384, Depreciation 68,854 68, Maintenance of premises and equipment 22,282 28, Cleaning 19,590 17, Rent, rates and other occupancy costs 2,167 26, Insurance 6,077 5, Catering 40,788 40, Finance costs 10,000 24, Other support costs 24,623 26, Governance costs 12,350 11,		6,218	461,411	467,629	633,105
Analysis of costs         2023 £           Direct costs         1,127,948 1,070, Staff development 5,608 8, Educational supplies and services 87,055 74, Educational consultancy 670 1, Other direct costs 6,987 5,           Support costs         1,228,268 1,160, Support staff costs 6,987 5, Support staff costs 260,898 384, Depreciation 68,854 68, Maintenance of premises and equipment 22,282 28, Cleaning 19,590 17, Rent, rates and other occupancy costs 2,167 26, Insurance 6,077 5, Catering 40,788 40, Finance costs 10,000 24, Other support costs 24,623 26, Governance costs 12,350 11,		65,750	1,630,147	1,695,897	1,793,817
Packet costs   1,127,948   1,070, Staff development   5,608   8, Educational supplies and services   87,055   74, Educational consultancy   670   1, Other direct costs   1,228,268   1,160,		tricina .			
Direct costs           Teaching and educational support staff costs         1,127,948         1,070, Staff development         5,608         8, Educational supplies and services         87,055         74, Educational consultancy         670         1, Other direct costs         6,987         5, Educational consultancy         6,987         5, Educational consultancy         6,987         5, Educational consultancy         1,160, Educational consultancy         1,160, Educational consultancy         5, Educational consultancy         1,160, Educational consultancy         5, Educational consultancy         6, 987         5, Educational consultancy         5, Educational consultancy         6, 987         5, Educational consultancy         6, 8, 24, 28         2, Educational consultance         1, 1, 160, 20         24, 24         24, 22         28, Educational consultance         1, 1, 160, 20         24, 24         24, 22         28, Educational consultance         1, 1, 160, 20         24, 24, 23         26, Educational consultance         1, 1, 160, 20         24, 24, 2	Analysis of costs				2022
Staff development       5,608       8, Educational supplies and services       87,055       74, Educational consultancy       670       1, Other direct costs       1,228,268       1,160, Indeed costs       1,160, Indeed costs       1,160, Indeed costs       384, Indeed costs       384, Indeed costs       384, Indeed costs       68,854       68, Indeed costs       68,854       68, Indeed costs       68,854       68, Indeed costs       68,854       68, Indeed costs       19,590       17, Indeed costs       17, Indeed costs       26,077       5, Indeed costs       26,077       5, Indeed costs       40,788       40, Indeed costs       40,788       40, Indeed costs       40,788       40, Indeed costs       40,788       40, Indeed costs       24,623       26, Indeed costs       26, Indeed costs       24,623       26, Indeed costs       2	Direct costs			£.	£
Staff development       5,608       8, Educational supplies and services       87,055       74, Educational consultancy       670       1, Other direct costs       1,228,268       1,160, Indeed costs       1,160, Indeed costs       1,160, Indeed costs       384, Indeed costs       384, Indeed costs       384, Indeed costs       68,854       68, Indeed costs       10,590       17, Indeed costs       17, Indeed costs       26,077       5, Indeed costs       26,077       5, Indeed costs       40,788       40, Indeed costs       24,623       26, Indeed costs       26, Indeed	Teaching and educational support staff costs			1,127,948	1,070,865
Educational supplies and services       87,055       74,         Educational consultancy       670       1,         Other direct costs       6,987       5,         Support costs       1,160,         Support staff costs       260,898       384,         Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,					8,474
Other direct costs       6,987       5,         Support costs       1,1228,268       1,160,         Support staff costs       260,898       384,         Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,	Educational supplies and services				74,06
Support costs       260,898       384,         Support staff costs       260,898       384,         Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,	Educational consultancy		•	670	1,936
Support costs         Support staff costs       260,898       384,         Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,	Other direct costs			6,987	5,376
Support staff costs       260,898       384,         Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,				1,228,268	1,160,712
Support staff costs       260,898       384,         Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,	Summant and a				<u> </u>
Depreciation       68,854       68,         Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,		•			204.004
Maintenance of premises and equipment       22,282       28,         Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,					
Cleaning       19,590       17,         Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,	-		•		68,383
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs       2,167       26,         Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		~		
Insurance       6,077       5,         Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,			•		26,037
Catering       40,788       40,         Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,			•	•	5,761
Finance costs       10,000       24,         Other support costs       24,623       26,         Governance costs       12,350       11,		•			40,244
Other support costs         24,623         26,           Governance costs         12,350         11,					24,000
Governance costs 12,350 11,					26,179
					11,793
467 620 622			•		
407,029 033,				467,629	633,105

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 8 Staff

Staff	costs

Staff costs during the year were:				
Claim Cooks daming the year more.	2023	2022		
	£	£		
Wages and salaries	1,037,161	976,103		
Social security costs	85,146	74,979		
Pension costs	261,833	377,390		
Staff costs - employees	1,384,140	1,428,472		
Agency staff costs	4,706	27,298		
•	1,388,846	1,455,770		
Staff development and other staff costs	5,608	8,474		
Total staff expenditure	1,394,454	1,464,244		

#### Staff numbers

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teachers	10	12
Administration and support	35	35
Management	4	3
	49	50

### Higher paid staff

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

	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	2023 Number	2022 Number
000 004 070 000			
£60,001 - £70,000			1
	•		

### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £308,952 (2022 -£347,434).

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

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

L Fynn (Head teacher) (Appointed 1 January 2023):

Remuneration: £40,000 - £45,000

Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000

D Glanville (Staff governor) (Resigned 31 August 2023):

Remuneration: £45,000 - £50,000 (2022 - £40,000 - £45,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £10,000 - £15,000 (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

P Burls (Staff governor) (Resigned 3 February 2023):

Remuneration: £5,000 - £10,000 (2022 - £20,000 - £25,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

L Bicknell (Staff governor) (Resigned 23 January 2023):

Remuneration: £10,000 - £15,000 (2022 - £30,000 - £35,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2023, expenses totalling £0 (2022 - £4,090) were reimbursed directly to one trustee, (for 2022 these expenses were for school resources, PPE and school meal vouchers).

### 10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim. The cost of this insurance in included in the total insurance cost.

11	Tangible fixed assets			:	
		Freehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Furniture and equipment	Total
		£	£	£	£
	Cost	2 700 740	100 140	64.900	0.076.600
	At 1 September 2022 Additions	2,708,740	106,442 5,574	61,320 5,670	2,876,502 11,244
	, and the second				
	At 31 August 2023	2,708,740	112,016	66,990	2,887,746
	Depreciation				
	At 1 September 2022	564,348	101,687	29,963	695,998
	Charge for the year	52,175	5,474	11,205	68,854
	At 31 August 2023	616,523	107,161	41,168	764,852
	Net book value	. ,			
	At 31 August 2023	2,092,217	4,855	25,822	2,122,894
	At 31 August 2022	2,144,392	4,755	31,357	2,180,504
12	Debtors		•		
				2023	2022
				£	£
	VAT recoverable			1,992	1,909
	Prepayments and accrued income			11,131	9,367
				13,123	11,276
13	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	r			.*
				2023	2022
				£	£
	Other loans			3,300	3,300
	Other taxation and social security			44,284	42,303
	Other creditors			95,148	98,723
	Accruals and deferred income			71,510	75,811
			•	214,242	220,137
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# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
	2023	2022
	<b>£</b>	£
Other loans	14,854	18,154
Analysis of loans	2023 £	2022 £
Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	18,154	21,454
Less: included in current liabilities	(3,300)	(3,300)
Amounts included above	14,854	18,154
Loan maturity		
Debt due in one year or less	3,300	3,300
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	3,300	3,300
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	9,902	9,902
Due in more than five years	1,650	4,952
	18,152	21,454

Other loans relate to a Salix loan for energy efficient lighting.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

					•	•
15	Funds					
		Balance at			Gains,	Balance at
		1 September			losses and	31 August
		2022	Income	Expenditure	transfers	2023
		£	£	£	£	£
	Restricted general funds			•		
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	45,780	1,109,677	(1,065,757)	2,736	92,436
	UIFSM	-	95,931	(95,931)	-	· -
	Pupil premium	9,067	61,477	(60,908)		9,636
	Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19					
	funding	· -	6,036	(6,036)		-
	Other DfE/ESFA grants		70 <b>,08</b> 5	(70,085)		-
	Other government grants	-	206,851	(206,851)	-	
	Other restricted funds	-	30,725	(30,725)	-	
	Pension reserve	(281,000)		(25,000)	306,000	-
		(226,153)	1,580,782	(1,561,293)	308,736	102,072
		-				<u>*************************************</u>
	Restricted fixed asset funds					
	Inherited on conversion	1,868,000	-	(48,000)	-	1,820,000
	DfE group capital grants	312,504	23,268	(19,720)	(3,606)	312,446
	Private sector capital					
	sponsorship	4,800	4	(1,134)	870	4,536
		2,185,304	23,268	(68,854)	(2,736)	2,136,982
		And the second s				
	Total restricted funds	1,959,151	1,604,050	(1,630,147)	306,000	2,239,054
	Unrestricted funds					
	General funds	82,199	80,046	(65,750)		96,495
	. •					
	T-4-1 &1-	0.044.050	4.004.000	(4 005 005)	000.000	0.00==:
	Total funds	2,041,350	1,684,096	(1,695,897)	306,000	2,335,549
						P. P

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

Restricted general funds are generated from Government sources and include General Annual Grant, Pupil Premium and similar income. These funds are applied for the purposes intended in accordance with the objects of the Academy Trust.

Unrestricted funds have no specific restriction and are used in accordance with the objects of the Academy Trust.

Restricted fixed asset funds first arose when assets were donated from the predecessor school. Subsequent additions have also been included in this fund. The assets are used for the purposes intended in accordance with the objects of the Academy Trust.

Restricted pension funds relate to the local government pension scheme which is an asset position. The fund is specific to the Academy share of the scheme assets and liabilities.

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

15	Funds					(Continued)
	Comparative information in re	spect of the pre	ceding period	is as follows:		
	÷	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
	Restricted general funds					
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	31,845	1,116,060	(1,085,948)	(16,177)	45,780
	UIFSM	-	94,530	(94,530)	<del>-</del> .	-
	Pupil premium	10,350	59,064	(60,347)	-	9,067
	Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	53,142	(53,142)	-	-
	Other government grants	-	178,363	(178,363)	-	-
	Other restricted funds	<b></b>	20,190	(20,190)		-
	Pension reserve	(1,527,000)	-	(180,000)	1,426,000	(281,000)
		(1,484,805)	1,521,349	(1,672,520)	1,409,823	(226,153)
	Restricted fixed asset funds					
	Inherited on conversion	1,916,000	_	(48,000)	_	1,868,000
	DfE group capital grants	309,395	7,315	(20,383)	16,177	312,504
	Private sector capital	000,000	1,010	(20,000)	10,177	012,001
	sponsorship	-	4,800			4,800
		2,225,395	12,115	(68,383)	16,177 ———	2,185,304
	Total restricted funds	740,590	1,533,464	(1,740,903)	1,426,000	1,959,151
	Unrestricted funds					
	General funds	70,812	64,301	(52,914)		82,199
	Total funds	811,402	1,597,765	(1,793,817)	1,426,000	2,041,350
	i osar i ariao	071,402	1,007,700	(1,700,017)		2,041,000
	•			*.		
16	Analysis of net assets between	n funds				
	· ·		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
			Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
			£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 20 represented by:	)23 are				
	Tangible fixed assets		-	-	2,122,894	2,122,894
	Current assets		96,495	331,168	14,088	441,751
	Current liabilities		-	(214,242)	-	(214,242)
	Non-current liabilities			(14,854)		(14,854)
	Total net assets		96,495	102,072	2,136,982	2,335,549

16	Analysis of net assets between funds				(Continued)
	•	Unrestricted Funds	Restr General	icted funds: Flxed asset	Total Funds
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:		_	. ~	-
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,180,504	2,180,504
	Current assets	82,199	293,138	4,800	380,137
	Current liabilities	-	(220, 137)	_	(220,137)
	Non-current liabilities	<b></b>	(18,154)	-	(18,154)
	Pension scheme liability		(281,000)	_	(281,000)
	Total net assets	82,199	(226,153)	2,185,304	2,041,350
			<del></del>	-	
47	I ama tama a a a a tama				
17	Long-term commitments				
	Operating leases				
	At 31 August 2023 the total of the academy trus operating leases was:	t's future minim	um lease payn	nents under no	n-cancellable
				2023	2022
		•	,	2023 £	2022 £
	•			~	-
	Amounts due within one year			6,201	5,405
	Amounts due in two and five years	•		7,236	8,857
				13,437	14,262
			•		·
18	Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash fl	ow from operat	ing activities		
	•	•	J	2023	2022
			Notes	£	£
	Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the financial activities)	statement of		(44.004)	(400.050)
	mianciai activities)	1		(11,801)	(196,052)
	Adjusted for:				
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income			(22.260)	(10 115)
	Investment income receivable		5	(23,268) (350)	(12,115)
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions pa	wahla	21	15,000	(34) 156,000
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	iyabie	21	10,000	24,000
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		Æ I	68,854	68,383
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors			(1,847)	28,618
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors			(5,895)	66,727
	(2 3 . 3 . 3 . 3 . 3 . 3 . 3 . 3 . 3 . 3			(0:000)	
	Net cash provided by operating activities			50,693	135,527

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

19	Analysis of changes in net funds				
		1 September 2022	Cash flows	Other non- ash changes	31 August 2023
•		£	£	£	£
	Cash	368,861	59,767	_	428,628
	Loans falling due within one year	(3,300)	3,300	(3,300)	(3,300)
	Loans falling due after more than one year	(18,154)	•	3,300	(14,854)
		347,407	63,067		410,474

#### 20 Members' liability

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

#### 21 Pension and similar obligations

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

There was £15,139 (2022: £14,508) outstanding Teachers pensions contributions and £11,413 (2022: £10,583) outstanding LGPS contributions at the end of the financial year. There were no prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

### Introduction

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 21 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £124,708 (2022; £120,606).

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

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

### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23% for employers and 5.5 - 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Total contributions made	2023	2022
	£	£
Employer's contributions	116,000	101,000
Employees' contributions	27,000	25,000
Total contributions	143,000	126,000
Principal actuarial assumptions	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.85	3.95
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.85	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.3	4.25
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.85	2.95

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

### 21 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.7	21.0
- Females	23.2	23,5
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.0	22.3
- Females	24.6	24.9

	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Adjustment to discount rate	£	£	£
Present value of total obligation	1.598,000	1,629,000	1,661,000
Projected service cost	90,000	92,000	95,000

	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Adjustment to long term salary increase	£	£	£
Present value of total obligation	1,631,000	1,629,000	1,627,000
Projected service cost	92,000	92,000	92,000

	+0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%
Adjustment to pension increases and deferred revaluation	nd£	£	£
Present value of total obligation	1,660,000	1,629,000	1,599,000
Projected service cost	95,000	92,000	89,000

				+1 Year	None	-1 Year
Adjustment assumptions	to	lífe	expectancy	£	£	£
Present value o	of total	obligatio	n	1,675,000	1,629,000	1,584,000
Projected servi	ce cost			96,000	92,000	89,000

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2023 Fair value £	2022 Fair value £
Equities	966,000	814,000
Gilts	21,000	28,000
Other bonds	<b>.</b>	64,000
Cash	49,000	43,000
Property	130,000	137,000
Other assets	495,000	361,000
Total market value of assets	1,661,000	1,447,000
		<del></del>

The actual return on scheme assets was £88,000 (2022: £3,000).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

21	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
	Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2023 £	2022 £
	Current service cost	131,000	257,000
	Interest cost	10,000	24,000
	Total operating charge	141,000	281,000
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations		2023
			£
	At 1 September 2022		1,728,000
	Current service cost		130,000
	Interest cost		74,000
	Employee contributions		27,000
	Actuarial gain		(281,000)
	Benefits paid		(17,000)
	At 31 August 2023		1,661,000
	Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets		······································
	onding to the fall fallot of the academy traces shall of softene assets		2023
			£
	At 1 September 2022		1,447,000
	Interest income		64,000
	Actuarial (gain)/loss		24,000
	Employer contributions		116,000
	Employee contributions		27,000
	Benefits paid		(17,000)
	At 31 August 2023		1,661,000

### 22 Related party transactions

W Bennett, partner of P Hayman, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a supply teacher. W Bennett's appointment was made in open competition and P Hayman was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. W Bennett is paid within the normal pay scale for her role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship to a trustee.