Registration number: 08242856

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

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Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	Diocese of Leicester Educational Trust S Hardy V Patel (resigned 29 September 2022) Rev T Day (resigned 31 August 2022)
Governors and Trustees (Directors)	S Hardy (Chair) D Brown (Headteacher) L J Morgan V Patel (resigned 29 September 2022) A Parker-Bates (resigned 31 August 2022) M Sudera M Green (Vice Chair) B Seaton V Bott (appointed 29 September 2022) E Glover (appointed 29 September 2022) S Patel (appointed 29 September 2022) C Rasanayagam (appointed 29 September 2022) S Sweet (appointed 29 September 2022) M Tebbutt (appointed 29 September 2022) R Saxton (appointed 29 September 2022)
Senior Management Team	D Brown, Headteacher M Sudera, Deputy Headteacher
Principal and Registered Office	Church Hill Road Thurmaston Leicester Leicestershire LE4 8DE
Company Registration Number	08242856
Auditors	Fortus Audit LLP Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close Leicester LE4 9LJ

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
7 High Street
Leicester
LE1 9FS

Aldermore Bank PLC
Apex Plaza
Forbury Road
Reading
RG1 1AX

Cambridge & Counties Bank
Charnwood Court
5B New Walk
Leicester
LE1 6TE

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

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

The Trust operates an Academy for pupils aged 7 to 11 serving a catchment area in Thurmaston. It has a pupil capacity of 360 and had a roll of 298 in the summer 2022 school census.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The company registration number is 08242856.

The Governors act as the Trustees for the charitable activities of Church Hill Church of England Junior School and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the schools normal practice the school has purchased insurance to protect the Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on school business. The cover under the policy is £3 million and in the period under review the sum of £16 was paid.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Trustees are appointed as follows:

Parent Trustees will be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when he/she is elected.

The members may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine, provided that the total number of Trustees (including the Headteacher) who are employees of the Academy trust does not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

Foundation members will appoint the Foundation Trustee(s) and the team vicar within the Fosse team ministry responsible for the parish of Thurmaston shall be an ex-officio Foundation Trustee. Further the foundation members may appoint additional Foundation Trustees provided that the total number of Foundation Trustees (including ex-officio Foundation Trustees) would not thereby exceed 25% of the total number of Trustees (excluding an additional or further Trustees).

Community Trustees will be nominated and selected by the Board of Trustees of Church Hill C of E Junior School. We would seek to appoint Trustees with relevant background and experience to complement existing Trustee qualifications.

Church Hill C of E Junior School will endeavour to appoint Trustees which will benefit the Academy and contribute to raising standards.

Steven Hardy, Vinesh Patel and the Director of Education for the Diocese of Leicester Educational Trust are all members and can nominate Trustees. Any nomination must be approved by the other members. Staff and Parent Trustee vacancies are balloted once applications have been received.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

We expect all Trustees to undertake training as appropriate to their work at the school. All new Trustees will be provided with induction training, both by the school and by external sources. The school subscribes to the Leicestershire County Council Governor Development Service and provides details of all courses to Trustees.

Details of Trustee training is logged and reviewed on a regular basis.

Organisational structure

The Trustees determine the general policy of the school. The day to day running of the school is delegated to the Headteacher. The Headteacher undertakes the key leadership role overseeing education, pastoral and administrative functions and is supported by senior staff. The day to day administration is undertaken with their policies and procedures approved by the Trustees. Only significant expenditure and major capital projects are referred to Trustees for approval.

The Headteacher oversees all recruitment of all educational staff, whilst under delegated authority the Business Manager oversees the recruitment of administrative and non teaching support staff. The Headteacher is an ex-officio Trustee, Principal, Accounting Officer and attends all meetings. The School Business Manager attends meetings as appropriate.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Academy follows the national Teachers Pay and Conditions for teachers pay and set pay increases as agreed though national pay deals and incremental increases following performance review meetings. For support staff we follow Leicestershire local government pay scales and implemented locally agreed pay increases.

Church Hill C of E Junior School has a pay policy which is ratified by our Finance Committee and Full Governing Body.

The rules for determining the pay of teachers in the school are set out in the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD). Under the STPCD, leadership pay will be determined when there is a new appointment, or the responsibilities of existing members of the leadership group have changed significantly. Schools may also choose to review pay to maintain consistency with pay arrangements for those who have had their pay set in either of the above cases.

Headteachers, Deputy Headteachers and Assistant Headteachers will be paid on a leadership pay range, which is between £42,195 and £117,197 per year.

The governing body should consider the complexity and challenge of the role within the context of the school, and set an indicative pay range, ensuring that it leaves scope for performance related progression. For Headteachers, governing bodies have the option to increase the pay range by a maximum of 25% above the Headteacher group, if they determine that circumstances specific to the role or candidate warrant this. Governors should also consider factors such as the context and challenge arising from pupil needs, any factors that may make it difficult to attract candidates, and any other additional accountabilities.

The Headteacher has an external consultant to carry out her performance management with a governor's performance management committee made up of 3 governors.

The Assistant Headteacher's performance management is carried out by the Headteacher and reported back to the governor's pay committee as are all the teaching staff to agree any performance related pay increases.

The School Business Manager's (SMT) performance management is carried out by the Headteacher. The education support staff performance management is carried out b the Deputy Headteacher and ratified with the Headteacher. The clerical and premises support staff performance management is carried out by the School Business Manager (SMT).

From February 2021, the school has a service level agreement with Schools Service Support Ltd for the supply of an ICT technician.

The Headteacher reports the targets set for performance management to the Full Governing Body once a year and informs them of the review meetings throughout the year.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

The school is part of the Fosse group, a collaboration between six local Church of England schools for mutual support and challenge, with a particular focus on supporting small church schools. The group works collaboratively at a number of levels, for example shared learning walks, staff meetings and CPD opportunities and some cross-school moderation. This partnership enables the school to share and receive services ensuring best value for the school. The collaboration between the schools enables the school to keep abreast with all current educational matters, networking to ensure good practice, sharing expertise and knowledge.

The school has a connected charity, Church Hill Friends which was established for the purpose of supporting the school in a manner as determined by its own independent board. These funds are under the control of this independent board, not the Academy. In line with the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 (SORP 2019) some summary details of this charity's activities are included in note 11 to the financial statements.

The school also has a service level agreement with the Leicester Diocesan Board of Education through which the school receives training and support. Additionally, Church Hill C of E Junior School works with the Ed Tech demonstrators programme to keep abreast of important changes and developments regarding technology.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Academy members pledge that:

- the school will retain and maintain its distinctive Anglican and Christian ethos and character;
- collective worship will continue to be distinctly Christian in character and central to the life of the school;
- Religious Education remains an important element of the curriculum for all children, and the curriculum reflects the locally agreed syllabus;
- the leadership and management of the school will engage with distinctive Christian values in developing the vision for the school;
- Governance will include the representation of all stakeholders – parents, staff, the diocese, local church representation, and the community;
- National agreements on pay and terms for teaching and support staff will be upheld by the Academy.

Vision: Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

Mission Statement: TEAM- Together Everyone Achieves More

We are: A Family of Creative Thinkers Aspiring to Excellence

To develop outstanding citizens of the future who are innovative, resilient and committed to making a difference.

By: Teaching the importance of being compassionate and respectful to others and role modelling the Christian Values of Courage, Thankfulness, Truthfulness, Koinonia, Fairness, Kindness and Responsibility alongside the British Values of Democracy, The Rule of Law, Tolerance, Mutual Respect and Individual Liberty.

- Providing a creative curriculum that inspires a passion for learning and promotes excellence.
- Collaborating with others to support everyone to achieve their very best.
- Providing a nurturing and safe environment where children can be healthy and happy both physically and emotionally.
- Facilitating investigative learning opportunities through the development of the effective characteristics of learning.
- Promoting philosophical enquiry to stretch and develop analytical thinking and questioning.
- Embracing the uniqueness of every individual, building upon their strengths and interests.
- A partnership with families and the wider community including St Michael & All Angels Church

Activities for achieving objectives:

We aim to provide a caring, stimulating and safe school environment where achievements are celebrated in the classroom and 'Celebration Get Together' and where the whole school family are valued and shown respect.

We do this through providing:

• A secure and vibrant environment where everyone has a voice and is equipped with the life skills to keep themselves and others safe.
• A creative, relevant, enjoyable and evolving curriculum that motivates our children to become life long learners and encourage each child to be the best they can be to develop as an individual - letting 'their light shine'.
• The highest first quality teaching and learning to enable all children to reach their full potential and thus laying strong foundations for their future. To value themselves, others and the environment through positive relationships, attitudes and actions.
• The children with a structure which enables them to question and evaluate all areas relating to their emotional and physical health and well-being and so make informed choices.
• Opportunities to develop self-worth and develop skills to make a positive contribution to our local and national community and where children, parents, school and the community work in mutually beneficial partnership to support our Church Hill family.

The principal activity of the academy trust is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of forgoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing school offering a broad and balanced curriculum which is underpinned by its intent, implementation and impact statements.

Since conversion, ongoing planning has been around the continuing need to raise standards the development of the school site and learning environments for pupils and staff. Trustees have overseen full refurbishment of all the classrooms now completed. The outdoor learning area has significantly improved with the outdoor learning classroom, Reflection Area and mile running track.

A number of key achievements 2021 - 2022

- A successful recovery curriculum was implemented
- Despite the disruption to their education due to the pandemic, our Y6 cohort's attainment was significantly above national in all areas
- Renewed focus on reading for pleasure and cross curricular reading
- Consolidation of changes to the English and Maths curriculum and some coaching cycles for staff for the maths mastery approach
- Purchase and use of manipulatives for mathematics
- Spelling miscue analysis used proactively to inform teaching
- Focused use of small group tuition to aid recovery
- A successful OFSTED January 2022
- Reopening of the school to the local community - invitations to performances
- Curriculum enriched through a range extra-curricular clubs on offer again after the pandemic
- Introduction of a Science Fayre and Church *Hill's* Got Talent competitions
- Jubilee Concert with the Fosse Schools
- Strategic planning of the inclusion of school values through collective worship
- Renaming of our collective worship as our Get Togethers.
- Completion of our reflection area
- Focus on environmental issues concerning waste and courageous advocacy linked to this
- Use of De Bon's Thinking Hats to promote discussion and debate across the curriculum
- New model Music curriculum introduced and new RE locally agree syllabus
- Successful bid via the decarbonisation scheme for new heat pumps to replace the old boiler system
- Disabled access improved through new ramps and *railings.*
- Railings heightened at the front of the school for safeguarding purposes
- Charity fundraising for UNICEF, Children in Need, Comic Relief, Operation Christmas Child, Ukraine and Red Cross
- Head Teacher achieved CofEQPH
- Two members of SMT began NPQs
- RE leader became lead teacher for the diocese
- Maths leader specialist leader for the Maths Hub

Public benefit

Church Hill C of E Junior School is a charitable trust which seeks to benefit the public through pursuit of its stated aims.

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

At Church Hill C of E Junior School, we promote learning by working as a whole school community with an ethos firmly rooted in Christian Principles.

At Church Hill Church of England Junior School, we see the education of children as a blessing and a joy. Our warmly Christian ethos is founded in care, compassion and a commitment to serving our community through our vision, "Let your light shine," (Matthew 5:16). Here at Church Hill, we have many families of different faiths and none. Diverse world views are welcomed, respected and cherished. Our culture is deeply rooted in seven Christian values of Courage, Fairness, Kindness, Koinonia, Responsibility, Thankfulness and Truthfulness. Through these values, as well as the five British values of Democracy, Mutual Respect, Individual Liberty, Tolerance and the Rule of Law, we invite our school community to explore Christianity, their own spiritual development and the meaning of faith. The importance of collective worship and prayer is central to this. We have our own unique name for collective worship – our Get Togethers – and children proudly plan and lead these. We take delight in learning through a broad and balanced curriculum with inspirational teaching and we are passionate about the pursuit of wisdom. We believe academic excellence is equal and complementary to strong development of character. Our aspiration is that our school will shine locally, nationally and internationally through transforming the lives of young people and serving the common good.

Our Curriculum Intent

At Church Hill C of E Junior School every child is recognised as a unique individual. Through our vision, "Let your light shine," (Matthew 5:16) we aspire for all children to celebrate their strengths and be proud of their achievements. This is encapsulated by our curriculum as we provide extensive opportunities for all children to shine and to encourage the light in others. On leaving our school, we aim for all pupils to lead a life rich in happiness, health and fun.

Our ambitious and inclusive curriculum fosters a love of learning. We encourage metacognition through developing the growth mind-set to equip our children with the strategies to succeed. With strong pedagogical progression of transferable knowledge and skills, we aim to prepare our pupils to thrive in the fast-changing world ahead of them. We endeavour to foster independence, confidence and to provide opportunities for enterprise.

Our curriculum aims to develop pupils' interpersonal skills so that they are resilient, curious and passionate citizens. Through strong links with our local community, we recognise the distinctive character of the village of Thurmaston. Community involvement is an essential part of our curriculum as we celebrate local traditions, learning new skills to enable the children to take an active role in events throughout the year. We respect the eclectic mix of our cultural heritage and value tolerance and empathy; we celebrate difference and diversity. Our curriculum also ensures children are knowledgeable about the history and geography of our local area because this is important to our community. Children develop a sense of belonging to this tightly knit community where they have the confidence and skills to make decisions, self-evaluate, make connections and become lifelong learners. Citizenship is further fostered through an emphasis on the core British values and we promote courageous advocacy. We want our children to have the confidence and determination to champion local, national and global issues.

Strategic Report

As a Church of England school, our curriculum also offers children the opportunity to explore faith and spirituality. Together, with Jesus, everyone strives to make a difference within our community by letting God's light shine. In the same way, we achieve and accomplish more with our Christian values of courage, fairness, truthfulness, kindness, responsibility, thankfulness and koinonia, creating a flourishing school.

The overarching intention of our curriculum is to provide our learners with the cultural capital and life-skills to 'let their light shine' in all that they do and to create happy, well-rounded and ambitious individuals.

The autumn term was focused on returning to normal after the pandemic with the school community coming together again as we worked, played, ate and worshipped together. Staff worked tirelessly to navigate the impact of COVID cases within the school community, supporting each other and helping the children to continue learning via the VLE if at home. There was also a huge focus on academic recovery with wise use of assessment to inform curriculum plans to maximise learning time. Furthermore, there was a focus on courageous advocacy via parliament workshops and letter writing to our MP before the COP26 summit.

Opportunities for performance were emphasized through the Christmas Nativity, Church Hill's Got Talent, Jubilee Concerts and Year 6 end of year performance. Visits to the Church were reinstated after the pandemic and we are particularly proud of our Science Fayre which proved to be an enriching and aspirational event.

The spring term proved challenging as the rate of staff and pupil absence was felt due to rises in COVID cases in our community. However, the children's learning and behaviour remained at the forefront due to the hard work of staff at all levels.

In January, we had a very successful OFSTED which acknowledged the exemplary behaviour and expert teaching as well as reflecting the warm ethos of the school.

The summer term gave further opportunities for curriculum enrichment via the Platinum Jubilee. We planted a tree for the Queen's Green Canopy initiative in our reflection area, held a Jubilee concert, enjoyed a Jubilee lunch, street party style, alongside a range of themed learning activities. The children also enjoyed Greek week, learning about the life and legacy of the Ancient Greeks and we welcomed parents on site again for Sports Day.

The school is particularly proud of the hard work and dedication of our Year 6 children who achieved some amazing end of Key Stage results, which were significantly above national average. This is a testament to their families' support, the hard-work of the children and the expertise and dedication of the staff who maintained high standards of education during the most trying of times.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

Strategic Report

Financial review

The Academy had a net increase in funds for the year ended 31 August 2022 of £1,107,806 iincluding fixed assets movements. As at 31 August 2022 the Academy held £81,453 of unrestricted reserves plus £288,041 of unspent (non fixed asset) restricted funds. The Academy therefore held combined unrestricted and non fixed asset restricted funds, being its available reserves of £369,494.

The Academy Trust had a pension deficit on their Local Government Pension Scheme of £197,000 at 31 August 2022 and a fixed asset reserve of £533,503 being the book value of past purchases.

There are no significant factors going forward that are expected to impact on the normal continuing operation of the academy. The principal financial management policies adopted in the period are included in the Academy's internal financial policies and are typical for an Academy Trust of this size and type. There were no unusual significant events worthy of comment during the year.

The principal sources of funding for the academy are the General Annual Grant (GAG) and other DfE Group grants, such as Pupil Premium. This funding has been used to support the key educational objectives of the academy trust, subject to any remaining reserves.

The Academy's investment policy is only to hold cash reserves on deposit with major holding banks so as to minimise risk.

Strategic Report

Reserves policy

1. Maintaining an appropriate level of financial reserves is considered essential in protecting the school from financial risk generated by:

- Likely future reductions in government funding
- Unexpected falls in pupil numbers
- Cash flow issues due to delays in receipt of funding
- Emergencies (large unbudgeted expenditure)

2. It is considered prudent to maintain a level of useable reserves sufficient to cover unexpected and unplanned events so that the school's primary objective is preserved. At the same time, the school wishes to ensure it uses its funding to benefit the pupils in its care which implies an imperative to consider actively the use of reserves to enhance education provision.

3. Trustees will monitor the levels of reserves in financial reports provided by the School Business Manager and in the annual financial statement. Trustees will ensure prudent levels of reserves are maintained, bearing in mind the recurrent spending needs to ensure high quality provision. In deciding the levels of reserves Trustees' will take into account the following:

- One month's salary bill
- Their annual review of the reserves target
- The school's annual budget
- The need for any large project spends, facilities and building maintenance needs
- Any uncertainty, turbulence or expected reduction in funding arrangements
- Funding for next 3 - 5 years

The trustees have developed a reserves policy for the school which is reviewed at least annually. The trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves, which it considers to be unrestricted funds plus unspent General Annual Grant (GAG), should be approximately one months salary as a minimum being £90,000 plus funding for eventualities of £60,000 amounting to total reserves of £150,000.

Actual free reserves plus unspent GAG as at 31 August 2022 were £369,494, being approximately £219,494 higher than the target level set by the trustees. The trustees intend to bring actual reserves into line with target by additional spending on school refurbishments. Cash at bank at 31 August 2022 was £153,453 higher than total available reserves due principally to accruals timing differences and unspent CIF funding.

At 31 August 2022 the academy's fixed asset reserve of £533,503 represented funds which could only be realised if the assets were sold.

The only reserve in deficit at the year end was the pension reserve (deficit of £197,000) which will be addressed via contribution rates decided on from time to time by the pension scheme actuaries. This deficit has arisen, as with many other schemes of this type, mainly due to increased life expectancies and reduced investment returns.

Strategic Report

Investment policy

Monitor cash flow on a regular basis to ensure immediate financial commitments can be met (essential payroll commitments and payment runs) and that the account has adequate balances to meet forthcoming commitments. In practice a working balance of £100,000 to £200,000 is likely to be maintained.

Identify any surplus funds which can be transferred into an account attracting a higher interest rate. Review interest rates and investment opportunities in a timely manner.

The schools current policy is to only invest in risk free deposit accounts.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The school's Trustees are responsible for the overseeing of the risks faced by the school. Detailed considerations of risks are delegated to the senior leadership team. The school's risks are identified assessed and controls established. A formal review of the school's risk management processes will be undertaken on an annual basis. Risk is managed under the headings of financial sustainability, safety, pupil welfare, employment, trips, events and community access.

Through the risk management process established for the school, the Trustees are satisfied that major risks are identified and mitigated where necessary. It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been managed.

At 31 August 2022 the pension deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme stood at £197,000 (2021: £1,029,000). The Academy has mitigated its risk in relation to this pension scheme by taking out insurance against early retirement on the grounds of ill health. Changes in contributions rates as decided upon by the actuaries of the scheme are budgeted for as soon as they are known, when they are updated every three years.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to guarantee that, in the event of Academy closure, outstanding pension scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Fundraising

Fundraising has been limited to small events held to raise funds for external charities, such as non-uniform days and sponsored events. These funds are paid across in full to the nominated charities such as Children in Need, Red Nose Day, Christian Aid, UNICEF. A retiring collection for the Red Cross Ukraine appeal was held at the Fosse School collaborative Jubilee concert. Other fundraising by Church Hill Friends and Parent Teacher Association was limited due to COVID-19 disruptions.

Strategic Report

Plans for future periods

The Trustees intend to continue with their current strategies of maintaining the school's position in a competitive market, providing outstanding education facilities, achieving high standards whilst constantly striving to improve pupil's outcome.

The Headteacher and senior staff continue to review the curriculum to ensure that education standards are met and attained. Our future plans are financed by income direct from the DfE and are related to pupil numbers. Trustees will endeavour that funding is invested to make sure the next generation of pupils have the same opportunities as those before them.

We have a planned programme of maintenance and investment in the school site. We also have an ICT infrastructure to maintain to ensure our staff and pupils have the best technology we can provide.

Continued emphasis on the academic and personal recovery from the impact of the pandemic for both pupils and staff will be the overarching intention of the next academic year, particularly for our younger pupils who had more disruption when acquiring basic skills. Appreciation of God's wonderful world and re-engaging with nature will be a focus. We also intend to use environmental issues as opportunities for courageous advocacy. The Geography curriculum will be an area of focus for the academic year 2022-2023 as we ensure human geography carries equal weighting to physical geography and strategically plan for field work knowledge. We also intend to develop our curriculum maps further to ensure the school vision and values are deeply embedded and the key knowledge that pupils need to learn is broken down. A more consistent approach to the assessment of foundation subjects will be prioritised with pupil book studies.

The school is planning to develop the site and facilities for the pupils by removing the swimming pool which is no longer fit for purpose. The school is applying for bids to help support this development and currently has a sum of money set aside for this purpose. The school is hoping to receive support through a CIF bid to the EFSA to replace the original piping.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The Academy does not hold funds on behalf of any other organisations.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Reappointment of auditor

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of Fortus Audit LLP as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 24 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

M Green (Vice Chair)
Governor and trustee

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Governance Statement

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to D Brown (Headteacher), 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 Church Hill Church of England Junior School 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 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rev T Day (resigned 31 August 2022)	5	5
S Hardy	5	5
M Sudera	5	5
A Parker-Bates (resigned 31 August 2022)	4	5
V Patel (resigned 29 September 2022)	1	5
L J Morgan	2	5
M Green (Vice Chair)	1	5
B Seaton	4	5
D Brown (Headteacher)	5	5

Governance Statement (continued)

Governance reviews

The challenge the Board has faced is the upcoming change in the curriculum, funding changes and to ensure that the Board has the best interest of our pupils in mind at all times. Also to attract and appoint governors with skills which will really make a positive impact on the school.

The findings of the annual review carried out during the year to 31 August 2022 were to ensure monitoring is effective and training of Governors is effective and timely. That the board meets at times to attract governors to the board to facilitate maximum attendance of meetings. The actions taken as a result of those findings and the impact they had were as follows:

- Change of date and time of FGB – Attendance increased.
- Schedule of training minuted every meeting; training provided through GDS and STEP TSA Governor training; thus allowing governors to share good practice.
- Clerk communicating with Chair effectively.
- Recruitment drive, volunteers targeted with appropriate skills.
- Chair of Governors met regularly with Head teacher and Senior Leadership Team to review COVID-19 Risk Assessment and to monitor the school's performance and operation during COVID-19 situation. Chair reported to Full Governing Body when possible via virtual Teams meetings.
- Teams Meetings to ensure communications maintained and meetings held
- Appointment of new Clerk

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to review and regulate the schools internal systems.

Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rev T Day (resigned 31 August 2022)	4	6
S Hardy	6	6
M Sudera	5	6
B Seaton	5	6
A Parker-Bates (resigned 31 August 2022)	5	6

Review of value for money

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

- Regularly reviewing data in governing body meetings to monitor the impact of activities and funding streams
- Conducting financial benchmarking to compare the school's performance against that of similar schools
- Regularly reviewing contracts and service level agreements, Procurement and planning
- Streamlining financial systems
- Ensuring effective deployment of resources
- Better purchasing

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 ongoing 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 Church Hill Church of England Junior School for the year ended 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the 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 year ended 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Finance and General Purposes Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.
- to employ Leicestershire County Council as internal auditor

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

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

On an annual basis, the auditor reports to the Board of Trustees, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees's financial responsibilities.

The latest internal audit visit was in February 2022. No material control issues were identified as a result of the internal auditor's review work.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, D Brown (Headteacher) has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

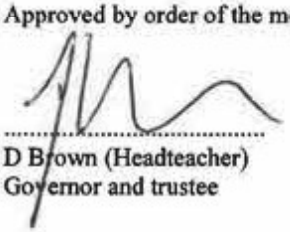
- the work of the internal auditor internal auditor ;
- the work of the external auditor;

Governance Statement (continued)

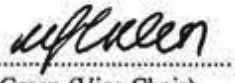
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and General Purposes Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 24 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



D Brown (Headteacher)
Governor and trustee



M Green (Vice Chair)
Governor and trustee

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of Church Hill Church of England Junior School 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 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 2021.

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

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

.....

D Brown (Headteacher)
Accounting officer

24 November 2022

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board on 24 November 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



M Green (Vice Chair)
Governor and trustee

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Church Hill Church of England Junior School (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2022, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy trust's affairs at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information (covers the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance Statement)

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Church Hill Church of England Junior School (continued)

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 [set out on page 21], 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's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Church Hill Church of England Junior School (continued)

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Academy Trust and determined that the most significant frameworks which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those that relate to the reporting frameworks.

We understood how the Academy Trust is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We corroborated our enquiries through review of board minutes and discussions with those charged with governance.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Academy Trust's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by discussion with management from various parts of the business to understand where they considered there was a susceptibility to fraud. We considered the procedures and controls that the Academy Trust has established to prevent and detect fraud, and how these are monitored by management, and also any enhanced risk factors such as performance targets.

Based on our understanding, we designed our audit procedures to identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations identified in the paragraphs above.

We also performed audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Academy's trustees 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 Academy and its Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
Richard Buckby (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Fortus Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor

Hamilton Office Park
31 High View Close
Leicester
LE4 9LJ

Date:.....

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Church Hill Church of England Junior School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

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

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

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Trustees' accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Board of Trustees's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2021, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- On a sample basis testing transactions and balances.
- Making enquiries of the academy regarding systems and controls in place that are relevant to our regularity conclusion.
- On a sample basis reviewing records for evidence of those systems and controls in place.

Conclusion

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

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Church Hill Church of England Junior School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

.....
Richard Buckby
For and on behalf of Fortus Audit LLP, Chartered Accountants

Hamilton Office Park
31 High View Close
Leicester
LE4 9LJ

Date:.....

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2022 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2021/22 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	-	-	321,943	321,943
Other trading activities	4	5,523	300	-	5,823
Investments	5	29	-	-	29
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	1,551,546	-	1,551,546
Total		5,552	1,551,846	321,943	1,879,341
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	1,676,519	69,016	1,745,535
Net income/(expenditure)		5,552	(124,673)	252,927	133,806
Transfers between funds		-	(1,817)	1,817	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	974,000	-	974,000
Net movement in funds		5,552	847,510	254,744	1,107,806
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021		75,901	(756,469)	278,759	(401,809)
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2022		81,453	91,041	533,503	705,997

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2020/21 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	-	-	7,904	7,904
Other trading activities	4	2,280	(467)	-	1,813
Investments	5	26	-	-	26
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	1,558,940	-	1,558,940
Total		2,306	1,558,473	7,904	1,568,683
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	1,627,949	61,555	1,689,504
Net income/(expenditure)		2,306	(69,476)	(53,651)	(120,821)
Transfers between funds		-	(29,353)	29,353	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	(101,000)	-	(101,000)
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		2,306	(199,829)	(24,298)	(221,821)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2020		73,595	(556,640)	303,057	(179,988)
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2021		75,901	(756,469)	278,759	(401,809)

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

(Registration number: 08242856)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	546,553	297,330
Current assets			
Debtors	13	146,792	45,175
Investments		170,000	-
Cash at bank and in hand		352,947	381,974
		669,739	427,149
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	(300,057)	(77,432)
Net current assets		369,682	349,717
Total assets less current liabilities		916,235	647,047
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(13,238)	(19,856)
Net assets excluding pension liability		902,997	627,191
Pension scheme liability	25	(197,000)	(1,029,000)
Net assets/(liabilities) including pension liability		705,997	(401,809)
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund		288,041	272,531
Restricted fixed asset fund		533,503	278,759
Restricted pension fund		(197,000)	(1,029,000)
		624,544	(477,710)
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund		81,453	75,901
Total funds		705,997	(401,809)

The financial statements on pages 27 to 49 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 24 November 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

M Green (Vice Chair)
Governor and trustee

Church Hill Church of England Junior School

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	19	151,488	255
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(173,896)	(47,897)
Cash flows from financing activities	20	(6,618)	(6,618)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(29,026)	(54,260)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		381,974	436,235
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	22	352,948	381,975

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the 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 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

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

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 year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised 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 spent on capital projects in line with the terms and conditions of the grant. 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.

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 financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

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

Donated fixed assets

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

Expenditure

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

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. 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 such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful lives, per the table below.

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

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Leasehold improvements	5% Straight line
Fixtures and fittings	15% Straight line
Fixtures and fittings - windows	10% straight line
Computer equipment	25% Straight line

Liabilities

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

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Leased assets

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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.

Pension 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. 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 of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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 Department for Education Group.

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

1 Accounting policies (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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, 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 31/08/2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2021/22 Total £	2020/21 Total £
Capital grants	321,943	321,943	7,904

The income from donations and capital grants was £321,943 (2021: £7,904) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2021: £Nil), £Nil restricted funds (2021: £Nil), £321,943 restricted fixed asset funds (2021: £7,904) and £Nil endowment funds (2021: £Nil).

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds £	2021/22 Total £	2020/21 Total £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,386,746	1,386,746	1,350,224
Other government grants	24,481	24,481	61,219
Sports funding	19,260	19,260	19,470
Pupil Premium	86,030	86,030	81,584
FSM	-	-	3,150
	1,516,517	1,516,517	1,515,647
Other government grants			
Local authority grants	26,514	26,514	23,504
Non-government grants and other income			
Other income	8,515	8,515	-
Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up premium	-	-	19,789
Total grants	1,551,546	1,551,546	1,558,940

The funding for educational operations was £1,551,546 (2021: £1,558,940) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2021: £Nil), £1,551,546 restricted funds (2021: £1,558,940), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2021: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2021: £Nil).

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

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021/22 Total £	2020/21 Total £
Hire of facilities	2,965	-	2,965	-
Recharges and reimbursements	-	300	300	(467)
Other sales	2,558	-	2,558	2,280
	5,523	300	5,823	1,813

4 Other trading activities (continued)

The income from other trading activities was £5,823 (2021: £1,813) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £5,523 unrestricted funds (2021: £2,280), £300 restricted funds (2021: (£467)), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2021: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2021: £Nil).

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2021/22 Total £	2020/21 Total £
Short term deposits	29	29	26

The income from other trading activities was £29 (2021: £26) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £29 unrestricted funds (2021: £26), £Nil restricted funds (2021: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2021: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2021: £Nil).

6 Expenditure

	Non Pay Expenditure				
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	2021/22 Total £	2020/21 Total £
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	1,136,690	48,311	55,684	1,240,685	1,248,128
Allocated support costs	295,400	97,906	111,544	504,850	441,376
	1,432,090	146,217	167,228	1,745,535	1,689,504

7 Charitable activities

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Direct costs - educational operations	1,240,685	1,248,128
Support costs - educational operations	504,850	441,376
	1,745,535	1,689,504

7 Charitable activities (continued)

	Educational operations £	2021/22 Total £	2020/21 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	295,400	295,400	243,024
Depreciation	20,705	20,705	15,389
Technology costs	2,066	2,066	1,072
Premises costs	77,201	77,201	85,554
Other support costs	102,553	102,553	90,937
Governance costs	6,925	6,925	5,400
Total support costs	504,850	504,850	441,376

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	976,182	983,890
Social security costs	79,916	77,502
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	355,380	307,835
	1,411,478	1,369,227
Supply staff costs	20,612	26,143
	1,432,090	1,395,370

Staff numbers

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

	2021/22 No	2020/21 No
Teachers	15	14
Administration and support	36	30
Management	2	3
	53	47

Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 was:

	2022 No	2021 No
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1

8 Staff (continued)

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 and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £170,206 (2020: £221,022).

9 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from 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 role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

S Kirk (Headteacher and Trustee):

Remuneration: £Nil (2021 - £75,000 - £80,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2021 - £15,000 - £20,000)

M Sudera (Assistant Head and Trustee):

Remuneration: £50,000 - £55,000 (2021 - £35,000 - £40,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2021 - £5,000 - £10,000)

D Brown (Headteacher) (Headteacher):

Remuneration: £60,000 - £65,000 (2021 - £45,000 - £50,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £10,000 - £15,000 (2021 - £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2022, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil (2021 - £Nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to 0 trustees (2021 - 0).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 26.

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £3,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £16 (2021 - £19).

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

11 Connected charities

Church Hill Friends raise money for the academy and then, in line with its own board decisions, donates funds for particular projects, or assets for the benefit of the academy. The charity's net assets/reserves at 31 August 2022 were £1,494 (2021 - £2,083). The charity's gross income for the year to 31 August 2022 was £nil (2021 - £nil), its expenditure was £589 (2021 - £186) and its deficit in the year was £589 (2021 - deficit £186).

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2021	178,073	364,660	115,734	658,467
Additions	323,174	-	2,694	325,868
At 31 August 2022	501,247	364,660	118,428	984,335
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021	16,379	254,916	97,470	368,765
Charge for the year	11,192	47,838	9,987	69,017
At 31 August 2022	27,571	302,754	107,457	437,782
Net book value				
At 31 August 2022	473,676	61,906	10,971	546,553
At 31 August 2021	161,694	109,744	18,264	289,702

13 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
VAT recoverable	56,824	4,347
Prepayments	25,102	17,529
Accrued grant and other income	64,866	23,299
	146,792	45,175

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	192,708	2,840
Other taxation and social security	17,849	15,960
Loans	6,619	6,619
Other creditors	31,510	28,021
Accruals	35,872	13,746
Deferred income	15,499	10,246
	300,057	77,432

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	10,246	15,050
Resources deferred in the period	15,499	10,246
Amounts released from previous periods	(10,246)	(15,050)
Deferred income at 31 August 2022	15,499	10,246

Deferred income relates to school trip monies received in advance of the 2022/23 academic year.

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Loans	13,238	19,856

The above creditor relates to Condition Improvement Fund loans as approved by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. The loan attracts an interest rate of 2.01% and is repayable over a period of 5 years up to 31 August 2025.

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	268,802	1,386,746	(1,366,990)	(1,817)	286,741
Pupil Premium	-	86,030	(86,030)	-	-
Sports funding	2,729	19,260	(21,989)	-	-
Other government grants	-	24,481	(23,281)	-	1,200
Other income	-	8,815	(8,715)	-	100
Local Authority grants	-	26,514	(26,514)	-	-
Catch-up premium	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
	272,531	1,551,846	(1,534,519)	(1,817)	288,041
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Net book value of assets	270,855	-	(69,016)	324,857	526,696
Dfe/ESFA Capital grant	7,904	7,667	-	(8,764)	6,807
Decarbonisation grant	-	314,276	-	(314,276)	-
	278,759	321,943	(69,016)	1,817	533,503
Restricted pension funds					
Pension reserve	(1,029,000)	-	(142,000)	974,000	(197,000)
Total restricted funds	(477,710)	1,873,789	(1,745,535)	974,000	624,544
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	75,901	5,552	-	-	81,453
Total funds	(401,809)	1,879,341	(1,745,535)	974,000	705,997

16 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	277,360	1,350,224	(1,329,429)	(29,353)	268,802
Pupil Premium	-	81,584	(81,584)	-	-
FSM	-	3,150	(3,150)	-	-
Sports funding	-	19,470	(16,741)	-	2,729
Other government grants	-	61,219	(61,219)	-	-
Other income	-	(467)	467	-	-
Local Authority grants	-	23,504	(23,504)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	19,789	(18,789)	-	1,000
	277,360	1,558,473	(1,533,949)	(29,353)	272,531
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Net book value of assets	303,057	-	(61,555)	29,353	270,855
Dfe/ESFA Capital grant	-	7,904	-	-	7,904
	303,057	7,904	(61,555)	29,353	278,759
Restricted pension funds					
Pension reserve	(834,000)	-	(94,000)	(101,000)	(1,029,000)
Total restricted funds	(253,583)	1,566,377	(1,689,504)	(101,000)	(477,710)
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	73,595	2,306	-	-	75,901
Total funds	(179,988)	1,568,683	(1,689,504)	(101,000)	(401,809)

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	546,553	546,553
Current assets	81,453	388,771	199,515	669,739
Current liabilities	-	(100,730)	(199,327)	(300,057)
Creditors over 1 year	-	-	(13,238)	(13,238)
Pension scheme liability	-	(197,000)	-	(197,000)
Total net assets	81,453	91,041	533,503	705,997

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	297,330	297,330
Current assets	75,901	343,344	7,904	427,149
Current liabilities	-	(70,813)	(6,619)	(77,432)
Creditors over 1 year	-	-	(19,856)	(19,856)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,029,000)	-	(1,029,000)
Total net assets	75,901	(756,469)	278,759	(401,809)

18 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2022 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts due within one year	3,824	7,771
Amounts due between one and five years	1,262	5,562
	5,086	13,333

19 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Net income/(expenditure)	133,806	(120,821)
Depreciation	69,017	61,554
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(321,943)	(7,904)
Interest receivable	(29)	(26)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	124,000	79,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(21,000)	(16,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	39,000	31,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(101,617)	20,326
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	230,254	(46,874)
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	151,488	255

20 Cash flows from financing activities

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Repayments of borrowing	(6,618)	(6,618)
Net cash used in financing activities	(6,618)	(6,618)

21 Cash flows from investing activities

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	29	26
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(325,868)	(55,827)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	321,943	7,904
Investments	(170,000)	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(173,896)	(47,897)

22 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand and at bank	352,947	381,974
Total cash and cash equivalents	352,947	381,974

23 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021	Cash flows	At 31 August 2022
	£	£	£
Cash	381,974	(29,027)	352,947
Loans falling due within one year	(6,619)	-	(6,619)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(19,856)	6,619	(13,237)
	(26,475)	6,619	(19,856)
Total	355,499	(22,408)	333,091

24 Members' liability

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

25 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 Leicestershire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both 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.

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £133,337 (2021: £148,324).
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 contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £119,534 (2021 - £105,344), of which employer's contributions totalled £97,534 (2021 - £85,234) and employees' contributions totalled £22,000 (2021 - £20,110). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 24.7 per cent for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% per cent for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022 %	2021 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.70	3.40
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.20	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.30	1.70
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	3.20	2.90
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00	50.00

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

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

	2022	2021
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	21.50	21.70
Females retiring today	24.00	24.20
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	22.40	22.60
Females retiring in 20 years	25.70	25.90

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
Equities	795,000	705,000
Corporate bonds	365,000	352,000
Property	117,000	85,000
Cash and other liquid assets	26,000	73,000
Total market value of assets	1,303,000	1,215,000

The actual return on scheme assets was (£1,000) (2021 - £212,000).

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
Current service cost	218,000	164,000
Interest income	(21,000)	(16,000)
Interest cost	39,000	31,000
Total amount recognized in the SOFA	236,000	179,000

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

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
At start of period	2,244,000	1,764,000
Current service cost	218,000	164,000
Interest cost	39,000	31,000
Employee contributions	22,000	20,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(996,000)	297,000
Benefits paid	(27,000)	(32,000)
At 31 August	1,500,000	2,244,000

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

	2021/22 £	2020/21 £
At start of period	1,215,000	930,000
Interest income	21,000	16,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(22,000)	196,000
Employer contributions	94,000	85,000
Employee contributions	22,000	20,000
Benefits paid	(27,000)	(32,000)
At 31 August	1,303,000	1,215,000

26 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.