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 2023

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Reference and administrative details

Diocese of Leicester Educational Trust **Members**

S Hardy

V Patel (resigned 29 September 2022) M Green (appointed 29 September 2022)

Governors and **Trustees (Directors)** S Hardy (Chair)

M Green (Vice Chair)

D Brown (Headteacher)

L J Morgan

V Patel (resigned 29 September 2022)

M Sudera **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

R Saxton, Acting Assistant Headteacher N Lewitt, School Business Manager

Principal and **Registered Office** Church Hill Road Thurmaston Leicester Leicestershire LE4 8DE

Company Registration 08242856

Number

Auditors TC Group

> Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close

Leicester LE4 9LJ

Bankers Lloyds Bank

> 7 High Street Leicester LE1 9FS

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31/08/2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 7 to 11 serving serving a catchment area in Thurmaston, Leicester. It has a pupil capacity of 360 and had a roll of 289 in the school census of Summer 2023.

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 £17 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.

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.

S Hardy, M Green 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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 £44,305 and £123,057 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 is responsible for the performance management of the Deputy Head and Acting Assistant Head.

For the academic year 2022-2023 it was the Acting Assistant Head who was responsible for the Support Staff performance management.

The School Business Manager's (SMT) performance management is carried out by the Headteacher. The education support staff performance management is carried out by 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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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, national and international 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.

To ensure the premises is maintained well and is sustainable, heat pumps have been fitted and LED lights are now throughout the whole building.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

A number of key achievements 2022 - 2023

- The strength of the curriculum was further developed through curriculum maps, incorporating the school vision, values and opportunities for spiritual development.
- Y6 cohort's attainment at the expected standard was significantly above national in Maths, Writing and Grammar/Spelling/Punctuation and in line with national for reading.
- Year 4 Multiplication Check attainment improving, building on the successes of last year.
- Renewed focus on reading for pleasure and cross curricular reading
- Consolidation of changes to the English and Maths curriculum and coaching cycles for staff for the writing lenses (Jane Considine)
- Spelling miscue analysis used proactively to inform teaching and changes to the English curriculum to allow for more regular spelling focus
- Focused use of small group tuition to aid recovery
- A successful writing moderation Summer 2023
- Curriculum enriched through a range extra-curricular clubs on offer both at lunch time (Buzz Club Christian values art and crafts sports and chess; after school: sports, military drumming, radio club, choir, steel pans, djembes, science club, homework club and academic support clubs. In school musical instrument lessons clarinets and Rock Steady.
- Consolidation of a Science Fayre and Church Hill's Got Talent competitions
- One World Concert with the Fosse Schools based on courageous advocacy for the environment.
- Focus on environmental issues concerning God's Wonderful World and courageous advocacy linked to this
- Consolidation of De Bono's Thinking Hats to promote discussion and debate across the curriculum
- New Geography curriculum introduced to ensure a better balance between physical and human geography as well as field work
- Heat Pumps fitted and working and LED lights fitted throughout the building
- Charity fundraising for UNICEF, Children in Need, Comic Relief, Operation Christmas Child, Turkey/Syria Earthquake and Red Cross
- Two members of SMT continues with their NPQs
- RE leader developed into the role of lead teacher for the diocese
- Maths leader specialist leader for the Maths Hub completed Primary PD Lead qualification

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 began with a renewed focus on courageous advocacy via parliament workshops, a live lesson from the World Wildlife Fund about climate change, learning about COP27 and letters to our MP. The school enjoyed the solar eclipse, learning more about Science and there were lots of opportunities for extra-curricular PE (Inclusive Commonwealth Games Festival, cross country, badminton and football). Our Year 5 children improved their swimming. The children experienced live theatre thanks to the Church Hill Friends. We also linked with our local community for Diwali, Bonfire Night, Armistice Day and our choir sang at the church for Thurmaston Lights Up (Christmas Lights). Opportunities for performance were emphasized through the Christmas Nativity from the Year 3 children and the school carol service lead by the Year 5 children. Our creativity challenge allowed children to represent God's wonderful world in a creative way and we had some wonderful entries ranging from art work, to technology, games, models, poetry and cakes.

The spring term began as the whole school took part in the RSPB national birdwatch, supporting conservation in the UK. We also held our annual Church Hill's Got Talent competition. This was an exciting event in which many children participated with various acts such as singing, playing musical instruments, telling jokes, sports tricks and dancing. On 2nd March, we celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite book characters and hearing the story Leaf by Sandra Dieckman. The children created some lovely art work inspired by this story which was displayed at the local library. We held our annual Science/STEM day on 13th March. This year, the children were tasked with creating a marble run. Our Science Fayre was a success. There were some amazing projects this year, including a replica of a steam engine, a model of the solar system, experiments with light, solubility, chemical reactions, vacuums, buoyancy, precipitation, electrical circuits and measuring the PH of different foods. For comic relief, the children had a glow in the dark disco, raising £378.44. The final weeks of term were geared towards Easter. Wendy Scales from Parable Arts did two full days in school so each class experience an Easter themed RE workshop and Year 4 lead our Easter service at the church.

Some key events from the summer term are as follows. On Fri 21st March, Bishop Martyn visited the school and spoke to the children about his role as Bishop of Leicester. We held our British Values Day on 5th May and this was themed around the coronation. The children learnt a lot about the symbolism of the coronation and created art work and prayers, some of which were displayed beautifully in the church. We also held a wonderful concert entitled 'A Right Royal Performance'. This was organised to showcase the many extra-curricular clubs. The radio club, steel pans, choir, military drumming group and talent show winners all performed. Each child took home a special coronation mug. There were some amazing trips in the summer to the New Walk Museum, Bosworth Battle Field, Warning Zones and the Year 4 residential to the National Forest/Conkers. Sports Day was again successful and enjoyed by families. Other sporting fixtures from the summer term were athletics, netball competitions and girls football festivals.

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Financial review

The Academy had a net increase in funds for the year ended 31 August 2023 of £239,228 including fixed assets movements. As at 31 August 2023 the Academy held £90,190 of unrestricted reserves plus £337,039 of unspent (non fixed asset) restricted funds. The Academy therefore held combined unrestricted and non fixed asset restricted funds, being its available reserves of £427,229.

The Academy Trust had a pension deficit on their Local Government Pension Scheme of £nil at 31 August 2023 and a fixed asset reserve of £517,995 being the book value of past purchases and unspent capital income.

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 2023 were £427,229, being approximately £277,229 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.

At 31 August 2023 the academy's fixed asset reserve of £517,995 represented funds which could only be realised if the assets were sold.

There were no reserves in deficit at the year end.

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 2023 the pension deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme stood at £nil (2022: £197,000). 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. 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 Turkey Syria Earthquake appeal was held at the Fosse School collaborative One Word Concert. A raffle was held for the coronation which supported the purchase of commemorative coronation mugs for all the children. Fundraising from the Church Hill Friends Parent Teacher Association was held via a disco, movie night and craft night. This funded the visiting theatre company.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 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. Engagement with thriving plants and animals will be a focus. We also intend to emphasise climate change, further enhancing the Geography curriculum by the introduction of an Environment Day. The Design Technology curriculum will be an area of focus for the academic year 2023-2024 as we ensure there is a strong progression of skills and all elements of the designing process have equal emphasis. Writing at the greater depth standard will also been an area of focus and we will be working in collaboration with our local secondary school on this. The consistent approach to the assessment of foundation subjects will continue to be prioritised as we further develop the pupil book studies. INSET and training regarding spiritual development will be provided for all staff to ensure a shared understanding.

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. In collaboration with the local pre-school, we are intending to develop the wooded area of the site to be more accessible for children and to offer a progressive Forest School curriculum. The school is hoping to receive support through a CIF bid to the EFSA to improve site safety including maintaining/improving the reception area with an intercom and camera.

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.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Reappointment of auditor

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of TC Group 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 30 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

S Hardy (Chair)
Governor and trustee

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), Governor and trustee, 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 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| S Hardy | 5 | 5 |
| M Sudera | 3 | 3 |
| V Patel (resigned 29 September 2022) | 1 | 1 |
| L J Morgan | 3 | 5 |
| M Green (Vice Chair) | 5 | 5 |
| B Seaton | 5 | 5 |
| D Brown (Headteacher) | 5 | 5 |
| M Tebbutt (appointed 29 September 2022) | 4 | 5 |
| C Rasanayagam (appointed 29 September 2022) | 4 | 5 |
| E Glover (appointed 29 September 2022) | 3 | 5 |
| R Saxton (appointed 29 September 2022) | 4 | 5 |
| S Patel (appointed 29 September 2022) | 3 | 5 |
| S Sweet (appointed 29 September 2022) | 4 | 5 |
| V Bott (appointed 29 September 2022) | 4 | 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 2023 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 |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| D Brown (Headteacher) | 4 | 4 |
| S Hardy | 4 | 4 |
| B Seaton | 4 | 4 |
| E Glover (appointed 29 September 2022) | 3 | 4 |
| R Saxton (appointed 29 September 2022) | 4 | 4 |
| S Patel (appointed 29 September 2022) | 3 | 4 |

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

Governance statement (continued)

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 2023 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 2023 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.

The Board of Trustees has decided:

• to employ Greenhill Independent Audit & Assurance as internal auditor

The 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:

On an annual basis, the auditor reports to the Board of Trustees, through the audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees's financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, D Brown (Headteacher), Governor and trustee 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;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

Governance statement (continued)

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 30 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by: |
|--|
| S Hardy (Chair) |
| Governor and trustee |
| |
| D Brown (Headteacher) Governor and trustee |

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, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

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

D Brown (Head Teacher) Accounting Officer

Date: 30 November 2023

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 2022 to 2023;
- 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 30 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by: | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| C Hardy (Chair) | | | | | |
| S Hardy (Chair) | | | | | |
| Governor and trustee | | | | | |

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 2023, 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 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor 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 TC Group, Statutory Auditor

Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close Leicester LE4 9LJ

Date: 12.12.2023

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 2022 to 2023, 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to 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 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- 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 operation.

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

Conclusion

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

Reporting Accountant TC Group

Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close Leicester LE4 9LJ

Date: 12.12.2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted General Funds £ | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £ | 2023/22 Total £ |
|---|------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Income and endowments from | n: | | | | |
| Donations and capital grants | 2 | - | 159 | 34,744 | 34,903 |
| Other trading activities | 4 | 5,021 | _ | - | 5,021 |
| Investments | 5 | 3,716 | - | - | 3,716 |
| Charitable activities: Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations | 3 | _ | 1,527,216 | _ | 1,527,216 |
| - | 3 | | | | |
| Total | | 8,737 | 1,527,375 | 34,744 | 1,570,856 |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Charitable activities: Academy trust educational operations | 7 | <u>-</u> | 1,499,793 | 53,835 | 1,553,628 |
| • | · | 9.727 | | | |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | 8,737 | 27,582 | (19,091) | 17,228 |
| Transfers between funds | | - | (3,583) | 3,583 | - |
| Other recognised gains and losses | | | | | |
| Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes | 25 | | 222,000 | | 222,000 |
| Net movement in funds/(deficit) | | 8,737 | 245,999 | (15,508) | 239,228 |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2022 | | 81,453 | 91,041 | 533,503 | 705,997 |
| Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023 | | 90,190 | 337,040 | 517,995 | 945,225 |

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 £ | 2022/21 Total £ |
|---|------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Income and endowments from | n: | | | | |
| 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 | | 1,676,518 | 69,016 | 1,745,534 |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | 5,552 | (124,672) | 252,927 | 133,807 |
| Transfers between funds | | - | (1,817) | 1,817 | - |
| Other recognised gains and losses | | | | | |
| Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes | 25 | <u>-</u> | 974,000 | | 974,000 |
| Net movement in funds | | 5,552 | 847,511 | 254,744 | 1,107,807 |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | | |
| Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021 | | 75,901 | (756,468) | 278,759 | (401,808) |
| Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2022 | | 81,453 | 91,043 | 533,503 | 705,999 |

(Registration number: 08242856) Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

| | Note | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|------|-----------|-----------|
| Fixed assets | | | |
| Tangible assets | 12 | 520,868 | 546,553 |
| Current assets | | | |
| Debtors | 13 | 42,627 | 146,794 |
| Investments | | 258,677 | 170,000 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | - | 248,096 | 352,947 |
| | | 549,400 | 669,741 |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | 14 | (118,425) | (300,057) |
| Net current assets | | 430,975 | 369,684 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | 951,843 | 916,237 |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 15 | (6,619) | (13,238) |
| Net assets excluding pension liability | | 945,224 | 902,999 |
| Pension scheme liability | 25 | <u> </u> | (197,000) |
| Net assets including pension liability | = | 945,224 | 705,999 |
| Funds of the Academy: | | | |
| Restricted funds | | | |
| Restricted general fund | | 337,039 | 288,043 |
| Restricted fixed asset fund | | 517,995 | 533,503 |
| Restricted pension fund | - | <u> </u> | (197,000) |
| | | 855,034 | 624,546 |
| Unrestricted funds | | | |
| Unrestricted general fund | - | 90,190 | 81,453 |
| Total funds | = | 945,224 | 705,999 |

The financial statements on pages 27 to 50 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 30 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

| | | |
|----------------------|------|--|
| S Hardy (Chair) | | |
| Governor and trustee | | |

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

| | Note | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|------|-----------|-----------|
| Cash flows from operating activities | | | |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities | 19 | (19,868) | 151,488 |
| Cash flows from investing activities | 21 | (78,365) | (173,896) |
| Cash flows from financing activities | 20 | (6,618) | (6,618) |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year | | (104,851) | (29,026) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September | | 352,947 | 381,974 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August | 22 | 248,096 | 352,948 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 is used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 classDepreciation method and rateLeasehold improvements5% Straight lineFixtures and fittings15% Straight lineFixtures and fittings - windows10% straight lineComputer equipment25% 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31/08/2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

| | Restricted General Funds £ | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £ | 2023/22 Total £ | 2022/21 Total £ |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Capital grants | - | 34,744 | 34,744 | 321,943 |
| Other donations | 159 | | 159 | |
| | 159 | 34,744 | 34,903 | 321,943 |

The income from donations and capital grants was £34,903 (2022: £321,943) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2022: £Nil), £159 restricted funds (2022: £Nil), £34,744 restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £321,943) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

| | Restricted General Funds £ | 2023/22 Total £ | 2022/21 Total £ |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Educational operations | | | |
| DfE/ESFA revenue grants | | | |
| General Annual Grant (GAG) | 1,297,892 | 1,297,892 | 1,383,580 |
| Pupil Premium | 85,535 | 85,535 | 86,030 |
| Sports funding | 18,980 | 18,980 | 19,260 |
| Supplementary grants | 56,299 | 56,299 | 15,642 |
| Other grant income | 23,470 | 23,470 | 12,005 |
| | 1,482,176 | 1,482,176 | 1,516,517 |
| Other government grants Local authority grants | 21,509 | 21,509 | 26,514 |
| Non-government grants and other income | | | |
| Other income | 23,531 | 23,531 | 8,515 |
| Total grants | 1,527,216 | 1,527,216 | 1,551,546 |

The funding for educational operations was £1,527,216 (2022: £1,551,546) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2022: £Nil), £1,527,216 restricted funds (2022: £1,551,546), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

4 Other trading activities

| | Unrestricted Funds | 2023/22 Total | 2022/21 Total |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Hire of facilities | 4,950 | 4,950 | 2,965 |
| Recharges and reimbursements | - | - | 300 |
| Other sales | 71 | 71 | 2,558 |
| | 5,021 | 5,021 | 5,823 |

The income from other trading activities was £5,021 (2022: £5,823) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £5,021 unrestricted funds (2022: £5,523), £Nil restricted funds (2022: £300), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

5 Investment income

| | Unrestricted | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
|---------------------|--------------|---------|---------|
| | Funds | Total | Total |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Short term deposits | 3,716 | 3,716 | 29 |

The income from other trading activities was £3,716 (2022: £29) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £3,716 unrestricted funds (2022: £29), £Nil restricted funds (2022: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

6 Expenditure

| | Non Pay Expenditure | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | Staff costs £ | Premises £ | Other costs | 2023/22 Total £ | 2022/21 Total £ | |
| Academy's educational operations | | | | | | |
| Direct costs Allocated support | 1,079,889 | 37,684 | 22,142 | 1,139,715 | 1,240,683 | |
| costs | 186,648 | 104,769 | 122,496 | 413,913 | 504,851 | |
| | 1,266,537 | 142,453 | 144,638 | 1,553,628 | 1,745,534 | |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

6 Expenditure (continued)

| Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes: | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| ` . | | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
| | | £ | £ |
| Depreciation | | 53,833 | 69,017 |
| Fees payable to auditor - audit | | 7,000 | 5,500 |
| - other audit services | | 1,650 | 1,465 |
| 7 Charitable activities | | | |
| | | 2023/22 £ | 2022/21 £ |
| Direct costs - educational operations | | 1,139,715 | 1,240,683 |
| Support costs - educational operations | | 413,913 | 504,851 |
| | | 1,553,628 | 1,745,534 |
| | Educational | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
| | operations | Total | Total |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Analysis of support costs | | | |
| Support staff costs | 186,648 | 186,648 | 295,400 |
| Depreciation | 16,151 | 16,151 | 20,705 |
| Technology costs | 2,466 | 2,466 | 2,066 |
| Premises costs | 88,618 | 88,618 | 77,202 |
| Other support costs | 111,730 | 111,730 | 102,553 |
| Governance costs | 8,300 | 8,300 | 6,925 |
| Total support costs | 413,913 | 413,913 | 504,851 |
| 8 Staff | | | |
| Staff costs | | | |
| | | 2023/22 £ | 2022/21 £ |
| Staff costs during the year were: | | | |
| Wages and salaries | | 949,236 | 976,181 |
| Social security costs | | 77,112 | 79,916 |
| Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes | | 238,665 | 355,380 |
| | | 1,265,013 | 1,411,477 |
| Supply staff costs | | 1,524 | 20,612 |
| | | 1,266,537 | 1,432,089 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

Staff numbers

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

| | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| | No | No |
| Teachers | 15 | 15 |
| Administration and support | 27 | 36 |
| Management | 4 | 2 |
| | 46 | 53 |

Higher paid staff

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

| | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|
| | No | No |
| £60,001 - £70,000 | 1 | 1 |

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £171,673 (2022: £170,206).

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:

D Brown (Headteacher) (Headteacher and Trustee):

Remuneration: £65,000 - £70,000 (2022 - £60,000 - £65,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £15,000 - £20,000 (2022 - £10,000 - £15,000)

M Sudera (Deputy Head and Trustee):

Remuneration: £15,000 - £20,000 (2022 - £50,000 - £55,000)

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

R Saxton (Assistant Headteacher and Trustee):

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

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

During the year ended 31 August 2023, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil (2022 - £Nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to trustees (2022 - 0).

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 2023 was £17 (2022 - £16).

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 2023 were £1,767 (2022 - £1,494). The charity's gross income for the year to 31 August 2023 was £2,234 (2022 - £nil), its expenditure was £1,961 (2022 - £589) and its surplus in the year was £273 (2022 - deficit £589).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

12 Tangible fixed assets

| | Leasehold improvements | Furniture and equipment £ | Computer equipment £ | 2023/22 Total £ |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Cost | | | | |
| At 1 September 2022 | 501,247 | 364,660 | 118,428 | 984,335 |
| Additions | 23,518 | 4,630 | | 28,148 |
| At 31 August 2023 | 524,765 | 369,290 | 118,428 | 1,012,483 |
| Depreciation | | | | |
| At 1 September 2022 | 27,571 | 302,754 | 107,457 | 437,782 |
| Charge for the year | 25,487 | 21,723 | 6,623 | 53,833 |
| At 31 August 2023 | 53,058 | 324,477 | 114,080 | 491,615 |
| Net book value | | | | |
| At 31 August 2023 | 471,707 | 44,813 | 4,348 | 520,868 |
| At 31 August 2022 | 473,676 | 61,906 | 10,971 | 546,553 |
| 13 Debtors | | | 2023 | 2022 |
| | | | 2025 £ | £ 2022 |
| Trade debtors | | | 159 | - |
| VAT recoverable | | | 2,288 | 56,824 |
| Prepayments | | | 23,997 | 25,104 |
| Accrued grant and other income | | | 16,183 | 64,866 |
| | | | 42,627 | 146,794 |
| 14 Creditors: amounts falling due wit | hin one year | | | |
| | | | 2023 | 2022 |
| Trade creditors | | | £ | £ |
| Other taxation and social security | | | 21,075 | 192,708 17,849 |
| Loans | | | 6,619 | 6,619 |
| Other creditors | | | 28,841 | 31,510 |
| Accruals | | | 56,723 | 35,872 |
| Deferred income | | | 5,167 | 15,499 |
| | | | 118,425 | 300,057 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Deferred income | | |
| Deferred income at 1 September 2022 | 15,499 | 10,246 |
| Resources deferred in the period | 5,167 | 15,499 |
| Amounts released from previous periods | (15,499) | (10,246) |
| Deferred income at 31 August 2023 | 5,167 | 15,499 |

Deferred income relates to school trip monies received in advance of the 2023/24 academic year.

15 Creditors: amounts falling due in greater than one year

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|-------|-------|--------|
| | £ | £ |
| Loans | 6,619 | 13,238 |

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Funds

| | Balance at 1 September 2022 £ | Incoming resources | Resources expended £ | Gains, losses and transfers | Balance at 31 August 2023 £ |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant | 286,743 | 1,297,892 | (1,252,296) | (3,583) | 328,756 |
| Pupil Premium | - | 85,535 | (85,535) | - | - |
| Sports funding | - | 18,980 | (16,097) | - | 2,883 |
| Other government grants | 1,200 | 79,769 | (80,969) | - | - |
| Other income | 100 | 23,690 | (18,390) | - | 5,400 |
| Local Authority grants | - | 21,509 | (21,509) | - | - |
| Restricted fixed asset funds | | | | | |
| Net book value of assets | 526,696 | - | (53,835) | 34,769 | 507,630 |
| Dfe/ESFA Capital grant | 6,807 | 23,892 | - | (24,669) | 6,030 |
| Decarbonisation grant | - | 10,852 | - | (6,517) | 4,335 |
| Pension reserve funds | | | | | |
| Pension reserve | (197,000) | | (25,000) | 222,000 | |
| Total restricted funds | 624,546 | 1,562,119 | (1,553,631) | 222,000 | 855,034 |
| Unrestricted general funds | | | | | |
| General funds | 81,453 | 8,737 | | | 90,190 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 81,453 | 8,737 | - | - | 90,190 |
| Total endowment funds | | | <u>-</u> | | |
| Total funds | 705,999 | 1,570,856 | (1,553,631) | 222,000 | 945,224 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

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

| | Balance at 1 September 2021 £ | Incoming resources | Resources expended £ | Gains, losses and transfers | Balance at 31 August 2022 £ |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Restricted funds | | | | | |
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant | 268,803 | 1,383,580 | (1,363,823) | (1,817) | 286,743 |
| Pupil Premium | - | 86,030 | (86,030) | - | - |
| Sports funding | 2,729 | 19,260 | (21,989) | - | - |
| Other government grants | - | 27,647 | (26,447) | - | 1,200 |
| Other income | - | 8,815 | (8,715) | - | 100 |
| Local Authority grants | - | 26,514 | (26,514) | - | - |
| Catch-up premium | 1,000 | - | (1,000) | - | - |
| 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) | - |
| Pension reserve funds | | | | | |
| Pension reserve | (1,029,000) | | (142,000) | 974,000 | (197,000) |
| Total restricted funds | (477,709) | 1,873,789 | (1,745,534) | 974,000 | 624,546 |
| Unrestricted general funds | | | | | |
| General funds | 75,901 | 5,552 | | | 81,453 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 75,901 | 5,552 | - | - | 81,453 |
| Total endowment funds | | | | | |
| Total funds | (401,808) | 1,879,341 | (1,745,534) | 974,000 | 705,999 |

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

Fund balances for each academy at 31 August 2023 and 31 August 2022 were zero, hence a breakdown by academy is not included in these accounts.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted General Funds £ | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £ | Total Funds |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | - | - | 520,868 | 520,868 |
| Current assets | 90,190 | 448,846 | 10,365 | 549,401 |
| Current liabilities | - | (111,806) | (6,619) | (118,425) |
| Creditors over 1 year | <u> </u> | | (6,619) | (6,619) |
| Total net assets | 90,190 | 337,040 | 517,995 | 945,225 |

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 | - | - | 546,553 | 546,553 |
| Current assets | 81,453 | 388,773 | 199,515 | 669,741 |
| Current liabilities | - | (100,730) | (199,327) | (300,057) |
| Creditors over 1 year | - | - | (13,238) | (13,238) |
| Pension scheme liability | <u> </u> | (197,000) | | (197,000) |
| Total net assets | 81,453 | 91,043 | 533,503 | 705,999 |

18 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Amounts due within one year | 1,262 | 3,824 |
| Amounts due between one and five years | | 1,262 |
| | 1,262 | 5,086 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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

| | 2022/23 £ | 2021/22 £ |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Net income | 17,228 | 133,807 |
| Depreciation | 53,833 | 69,017 |
| Capital grants from DfE and other capital income | (34,744) | (321,943) |
| Interest receivable | (3,716) | (29) |
| Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited | 16,000 | 124,000 |
| Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable | (57,000) | (21,000) |
| Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost | 66,000 | 39,000 |
| Decrease/(increase) in debtors | 104,167 | (101,618) |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors | (181,636) | 230,254 |
| Net cash (used in)/provided by Operating Activities | (19,868) | 151,488 |
| 20 Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
| Repayments of borrowing | (6,618) | (6,618) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (6,618) | (6,618) |
| 21 Cash flows from investing activities | | |
| | 2022/23 £ | 2021/22 £ |
| Dividends, interest and rents from investments | 3,716 | 29 |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets | (28,148) | (325,868) |
| Capital funding received from sponsors and others | 34,744 | 321,943 |
| Investments | (88,677) | (170,000) |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (78,365) | (173,896) |
| 22 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents | | |
| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
| Cash in hand and at bank | 248,096 | 352,947 |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 248,096 | 352,947 |

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Analysis of changes in net debt

| | At 1 September 2022 £ | Cash flows | At 31 August 2023 |
|--|--------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Cash | 352,947 | (104,851) | 248,096 |
| Loans falling due within one year | (6,619) | - | (6,619) |
| Loans falling due after more than one year | (13,238) | 6,619 | (6,619) |
| | (19,857) | 6,619 | (13,238) |
| Total | 333,090 | (98,232) | 234,858 |

24 Member 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 . 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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 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 £138,624 (2022: £133,337). 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 schemes Leicestershire County Council Pension Fund

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 2023 was £106,000 (2022 - £116,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £86,000 (2022 - £94,000) and employees' contributions totalled £20,000 (2022 - £22,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.6 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees. The scheme is managed by Leicestershire County Council.

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 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

The actuarial valuation calculated the fair value of plan assets to be in excess of the defined benefit obligation giving a plan surplus as at 31 August 2023 of £58,000. FRS102 28.22 states that a plan surplus shall be recognised only to the extent that the entity is able to recover the surplus through either reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The trustees believe there to be insufficient certainty over the ability to meet these conditions and therefore the plan surplus has not been recognised.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

| Princinal | actuarial | assumptions |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 i iiicipai | actuariai | assumptions |

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|-------|-------|
| | % | % |
| Rate of increase in salaries | 3.50 | 3.70 |
| Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation | 3.00 | 3.20 |
| Discount rate for scheme liabilities | 5.20 | 4.30 |
| Inflation assumptions (CPI) | 3.00 | 3.20 |
| Commutation of pensions to lump sums | 55.00 | 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:

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Retiring today | | |
| Males retiring today | 18.40 | 21.50 |
| Females retiring today | 23.90 | 24.00 |
| Retiring in 20 years | | |
| Males retiring in 20 years | 20.80 | 22.40 |
| Females retiring in 20 years | 25.30 | 25.70 |
| | | |

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

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Equities | 824,000 | 795,000 |
| Corporate bonds | 492,000 | 365,000 |
| Property | 101,000 | 117,000 |
| Cash and other liquid assets | 29,000 | 26,000 |
| Total market value of assets | 1,446,000 | 1,303,000 |

The actual return on scheme assets was (£2,000) (2022 - (£1,000)).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

| Amounts recognised in the statement of final | ncial activities |
|--|------------------|
|--|------------------|

| Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities | 2023/22 £ | 2022/21 £ |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Current service cost | 102,000 | 218,000 |
| Interest income | (57,000) | (21,000) |
| Interest cost | 66,000 | 39,000 |
| Total amount recognized in the SOFA | 111,000 | 236,000 |
| Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows | : | |
| | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
| | £ | £ |
| At start of period | 1,500,000 | 2,244,000 |
| Current service cost | 102,000 | 218,000 |
| Interest cost | 66,000 | 39,000 |
| Employee contributions | 20,000 | 22,000 |
| Actuarial (gain)/loss | (272,000) | (996,000) |
| Benefits paid | (28,000) | (27,000) |
| At 31 August | 1,388,000 | 1,500,000 |
| Changes in the fair value of academy's share of scheme assets: | | |
| | 2023/22 | 2022/21 |
| | £ | £ |
| At start of period | 1,303,000 | 1,215,000 |
| Interest income | 57,000 | 21,000 |
| Actuarial gain/(loss) | 8,000 | (22,000) |
| Employer contributions | 86,000 | 94,000 |
| Employee contributions | 20,000 | 22,000 |
| Benefits paid | (28,000) | (27,000) |
| At 31 August | 1,446,000 | 1,303,000 |

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.