(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Contents

Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 to 10
Governance statement	11 to 15
Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance	16
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	17
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy	18 to 21
Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency	22 to 23
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)	24 to 25
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023	26
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023	27
Notes to the Financial Statements	28 to 47

Members	Diocese of Hallam Trustee
	Rt Rev R Heskett
	Chair of the Governors
Governors and	P J Abel
Trustees (Directors)	J Egan
	H Fern, Staff Governor
	S J Hegarty
	D J McFarlane, Head Teacher
	M Rae
	R Taylor, Parent Governor
	S Wray, Parent Governor
Governors	J Bennett (appointed 15 March 2023)
	A Sear (appointed 15 March 2023)
-	D J McFarlane, Head Teacher
Team	P Harrand, Deputy Headteacher
	C Budd, Office Manager
	S Hampsey, Senior Teacher
	H Fern, SENCO
Principal and Registered Office	St Joseph's Road Sheffield
Registered Office	South Yorkshire S13 9AT
Company	08379788
Registration Number	
Auditors	Marriott Gibbs Rees Wallis Limited Chartered Certified Accountants and Registered Auditors
	Unit 4
	Broadfield Court Sheffield
	S8 0XF
Bankers	Lloyds Banking Group 14 Church Street
	Sheffield
	South Yorkshire S1 1HP
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson
	Mowbray House
	Castle Meadow Road Nottingham
	NG2 1BJ

Reference and administrative details

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 August 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 3 to 11 serving serving a catchment area in South East Sheffield. It has a pupil capacity of 210 and had a roll of 216 in the school census in 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 08379788.

The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

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

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

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

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Diocesan Bishop appoints a minimum of 8 Foundation Governors so as to ensure that at all times the number of Foundation Governors exceeds the total number of other Governors (excluding Foundation Governors) by at least 2. Applications for a vacant Foundation Governor position are forward to the Bishop for appointment.

The arrangements made for the election of a Parent Governor provides for every person who is entitled to vote in the election to have an opportunity to do so by post or, if he prefers, by having his ballot paper returned to the Academy Trust by a registered pupil at the Academy. The parent receiving the highest number of votes shall be appointed.

The arrangements made for the election of a Staff Governor provides for every member of staff who is entitled to vote in the election to have an opportunity to do so. The Staff member receiving the highest number of votes shall be appointed.

Community Governor may be appointed by the Governing Body provided that the person who is appointed as the Community Governor is not an employee of the Academy Trust and lives and works in the community.

If it is deemed necessary an Umbrella governor is appointed by the Governors.

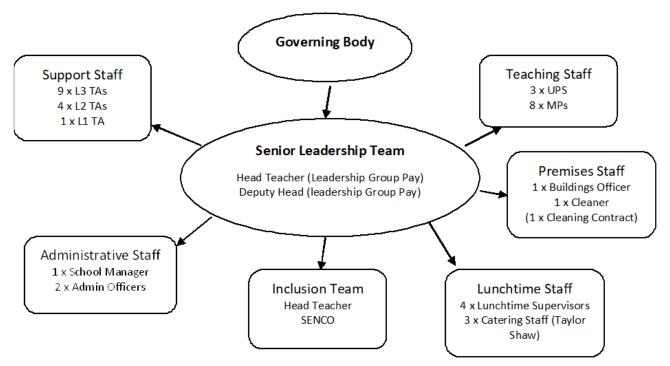
Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The Academy has bought into the Governor training package delivered by Sheffield City Council. This includes the delivery of new Governor induction training courses. All new Governors are offered the opportunity to attend. Governors, particularly Foundation Governors are informed of training by the Diocese of Hallam.

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

Organisational structure

The Staffing Structure will be kept under regular review and may be amended from time to time, as the Governing Body considers appropriate, following consultation and as set out in the school's Redundancy and Re-organisation Policy.



Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

St Joseph's Primary School is part of the Diocese of Hallam Schools' Partnership Agreement. A full list of schools can be found at the Diocese of Hallam website.

The Academy is part of the De La Salle Umbrella Trust for procurement purposes only. However this does not impact on the Academy's operating policies.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Finance committee meet annually to review the recommendations for pay progression of staff by the Head teacher if staff successfully meet their Performance Management objectives in line with the Pay Policy.

Governors on the Head teacher appraisal panel will meet annually with an external advisor to carry out the appraisal of the Head teacher and consider any pay increments if Performance Management objectives are successfully met in line with the Pay Policy.

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

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Academy Trust's object is:

to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a Catholic schools designated as such ("the Academy") which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Catholic Church; and

to promote for the benefit of individuals living in the area served by the Academy and the surrounding area who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said individuals.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The school provides education for nursery to year 6 pupils of different abilities who are mainly drawn from the area in which the school is located.

The school aims to promote:

FAITH

To create an environment where the Gospel values can be clearly seen and felt in all aspects of school life.

This will be achieved by:

- Effective, thorough planning of the "Come & See" syllabus, daily act of collective worship and other liturgies.
- The practice of gospel values by staff, especially the demonstration of tolerance, forgiveness and honesty.
- Showing children they are valued within the Parish Community who are partners in the spiritual and moral development of children.
- Encourage in the sense of responsibility that comes with being a citizen in our school and to realise their part in the global community.
- Regular newsletters and involvement of Parents in school on a daily basis visits, maths, reading and other events.
- Invitations to Parents and Governors to welcome them to attend assemblies and Masses.

CURRICULUM

To achieve the highest academic standards possible for every child.

This will be achieved by:

- Reviewing and monitoring our whole approach to long term curriculum planning, ensuring continuity and progression.
- Reviewing and monitoring our medium term planning
- Policy documents for each area
- Weekly planning showing a variety of teaching styles and differentiation of work.
- Setting up thorough systems of assessment, which will inform future planning.
- Bright, regularly changed interactive, informative displays, including a mixture of two and three-dimensional work

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

- Providing easily accessible and well-labelled resources in all areas of school
- Numerical and curricular targets set for each year
- Providing interesting activities and experiences across the whole curriculum and ensuring that all children have equal access to the curriculum.
- Encouraging and developing parental support and understanding of the curriculum
- Two open evenings per year for reporting on progress and an end of year written report
- Encouragement and praise of good effort, behaviour, learning and progress
- Teachers will endeavour to foster a sense of respect for all individuals and experiences across a variety of cultures.

MORAL

To establish a sense of worth, which will lead to - respect for self and others

This will be achieved by:

- · Behaviour policy which includes, circle and golden time and other positive behaviour incentives
- Continuation of school council to which representatives are elected by their peers, where they can discuss, reflect and value other pupils
- High expectations of standards of behaviour and academic achievement
- Opportunities for older children to support and help younger children e.g. playground friends, sport ambassadors, prefects and school captains.
- Regular reporting of pupils' successes to parents
- Encouragement of collaborative work across the curriculum
- Extra-curricular activities available where children will be encouraged to work as team members
- Inviting school community service groups police, health etc. into school to discuss their work
- Maintaining regular contact with the parish community of St. Joseph's.

Public benefit

The Academy provides educational services to all children in the local area. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 (5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

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

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

Attainment Summary Report:

Good Level of Development	2023
GLD – children who have	53%
achieved expected level of	
development in all prime areas	
of learning and literacy and	
maths.	

Phonics Screening Check	2023
% working at expected standard	in phonics Y1 65%

% working at expected standard in phonics Y2 93%

KS1	2023			
	Reading	Writing	Maths	
Meeting the	67%	57%	70%	
standard				
Working at Greater Depth	10%	0%	20%	

KS2	2023				
	Reading	Writing	Maths		
Meeting	66%	72%	69%		
the					
standard					
Working	17%	10%	10%		
at					
Greater					
Depth					

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

Key financial performance indicators

	2023	2022
Fund balance (excluding fixed assets and pension) (\pounds)	149,938	121,758
Cash in bank (£)	179,052	148,834
Total staff costs (£)	957,684	964,055
Staff costs to ESFA revenue income (%)	85.02	91.77
Staff costs to total income excluding fixed asset funds (%)	72.97	78.39
Staff costs as proportion of total expense (%)	72.17	71.69
Total pupil numbers	216	230
Spend per pupil for non-pay expenditure lines excluding depreciation (\pounds)	1,579	1,529

Key non-financial performance indicators

In September 2018, we had our last inspection by OFSTED and were pleased to receive a judgement of "GOOD."

OFSTED reported that St Joseph's strengths were as follows:

Leaders have accurately identified the areas for improvement in early years. They spotted that children in the early years were not ready for Year 1 and too few were reaching a good level of development. Adults are now more adept at identifying what children need to learn next and current children are making better progress. Routines are in place and children are settled and confident. The provision is exciting and encourages independence, indoors and outdoors. Teaching is strong and expectations are high.

Leaders have accurately identified that progress over time in mathematics has not been good enough. Leaders have ensured that action plans focus on improving pupils' progress. The checks leaders make on the quality of teaching hold teachers to account effectively. The teaching of mathematics across the school is effective and is leading to better progress across all year groups. Assessment is accurate and picks up underachievement quickly. Teachers identify accurately what pupils have learned and what they need to know next. Intervention is swift and bespoke to the needs of individuals, leading to fewer pupils slipping through net. Teaching challenges pupils to explain their thinking, leading to better conceptual understanding. The highly motivated and knowledgeable mathematics leader has engaged the staff, involving them in self-review, not just in the school but with other schools. The leader has engaged in partnership work with outstanding schools to continue to improve practice. The improvements in pupils' outcomes at the end of Year 6 in 2018 reflect the improvements seen for pupils across the age ranges.

Pupils talk about their learning with enthusiasm. They say, 'Teaching is good and adults explain things if we do not understand something.' They believe their teachers work hard to make lessons interesting. Pupils find the trips and visitors help them get a better understanding of what they are learning. Pupils are well mannered and polite; they hold doors open and walk smartly to assembly. Even the younger pupils are confident and clear about the school's expectations.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governing Body has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

In September 2024 the Academy will join the newly formed St Clare Catholic MAT. The Academy is currently working with the Diocese of Hallam to manage the transition to the MAT. No costs have been incurred by the Academy in relation to the MAT in 2022/23.

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

Financial review

The Trust has an in-year surplus of £28,180 (2022 - £57,400 deficit) on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) and unrestricted funds.

The Trust has cash of £179,052 (2022 - £148,834) at the bank, with total net assets of £584,426 (2022 - \pounds 578,029).

At 31 August 2023 the level of free reserves held was £68,363 which shows an increase of £2,731 on the 2022 total of £65,632.

The Trust adopted as its principal financial policies the Academy Trust Handbook published by the DfE, Academy Schools: guidance on regulation as Charities and Internal Controls for Charities published by the Charities Commission together with the Academy's operational Financial Management and Administration procedure.

The Trust is principally funded by the General Annual Grant from the Department of Education which is used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the Trust.

Reserves policy

The Trust has cash of £179,052 at the bank and has agreed to set a reserve limit to keep money aside for when it is needed most and build up reserves for long-term capital projects.

The balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds amounted to £149,938 (2022 - £121,758) and the Trust has an overall balance of £434,488 (2022 - £456,271) on restricted fixed asset funds.

Investment policy

The Trust currently has no financial investments; however should it decide to pursue these in the future the policy is to delegate the management of investments to a financial expert.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk and uncertainty the Trust faces is the continued funding from the Department of Education. To mitigate against this risk the Trust ensures that these funds are used for the purpose they were provided for and only in accordance with guidance laid out the in the DfE Academy Trust Handbook. The Trust ensures proper stewardship of those funds, economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their use, using its discretion reasonably and takes into account any and all relevant guidance on accountability or propriety.

Other financial risks are:

- Protection of the Trust's assets ensuring the estate is safe, well maintained and complies with regulations
- Conflicts of interest, theft, bribery, loss, waste, fraud or mistakes
- Robust financial reporting systems
- Compliance with financial law and regulations

To mitigate against these risks relevant insurance policies are in place. Rigorous internal controls and risk assessments have taken place, in collaboration with the Trusts nominated external reviewer to ensure law and regulations are adhered to. The site manager ensures the Trust is fully compliant across school and all relevant checks are completed and submitted to SLT.

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

Fundraising

The fundraising is split between the academy trust and Friends of St Joseph's, who hold events throughout the school year. As per the Charity Commissions guide to charity fundraising, the trustees look to plan effectively the fundraising undertaken by school and look to supervise, through meetings with the Friends of St Joseph's, their fundraising efforts.

School holds various fundraising events throughout the year. All contributions are voluntary and the school works hard to ensure that parents and carers, especially vulnerable people are not subject to unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches or are put under any pressure to donate.

No complaints or issues were raised about the fundraising undertaken by St Joseph's during this financial year.

All money raised is either used for school resources or distributed to outside charities.

Plans for future periods

This academic year, we have highlighted three core priority areas:

- To develop the MAKER approach to teaching and learning and to encompass learning behaviours with MAKER spirit. This will in turn, help to "future proof," our children. We are one of six schools who are working very closely with Sheffield University and the MAKER team. We have prioritised
- this approach in staff meeting/training time, and we shall hopefully receive our first accreditation early in the New Year. We have also ensured that the physical environment is Suitable and have created a MAKER space in school. All classes also have their own classroom, kit of MAKER resources.
- To support the development of "outstanding" behaviours and attitudes by understanding and addressing barriers, strengthening practice, and refining approaches. As a school, we continue to embed the Trauma Informed approach. We have also invested in a very experienced Learning Mentor. She has had an extremely positive impact on behaviour in school.
- To strengthen and develop the expertise of all staff and leaders, in developing a fully inclusive
 learning environment, so that the school effectively meets the needs of all groups of children in school.
 - Ensuring that all staff are appropriately trained to help them confidently ensure that all can access their learning. We are also embedding our intervention system. As we returned to school in
- September, all Teaching Assistants were given a personalised timetable of pupil interventions. These sessions start before school and also after school. We have also made sure that we have the appropriate resources and environment to carry out intervention effectively.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Reappointment of auditor

The auditors Marriott Gibbs Rees Wallis Limited are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on <u>.19/12/2023</u>... and signed on its behalf by:

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

Debra J McFarlane

D J McFarlane Governor and trustee

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to D J McFarlane, Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body 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 Governing Body has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Governing Body was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
P J Abel	4	4
J Bennett (appointed 15 March 2023)	2	2
J Egan	4	4
H Fern, Staff Governor	3	4
S J Hegarty	4	4
D J McFarlane, Head Teacher	3	4
M Rae	3	4
A Sear (appointed 15 March 2023)	2	2
R Taylor, Parent Governor	4	4
S Wray, Parent Governor	0	4

Conflicts of interest

Upon appointment each trustee must complete a business interest form in order to identify any possible related parties. A new business interest form is also completed annually and trustees are required to state any new business interests at the start of every meeting held. These are then summarised on the register of interests which is kept up-to-date and displayed on the website. Key management personnel also complete the same form to further manage any conflicts of interest.

Effective oversight of funds

Monthly management accounts are reviewed by the Chair of Governors and the Accounting Officer on a monthly basis and discussed with the school business manager. These are then discussed in detail, along with up to date budgets, at the Finance and General Purpose Committee meetings and Full Governing Body meetings. Management accounts are shared with all trustees 6 times a year.

Governance reviews

The Governing body annually audit the skill set of the governors and use this information to allocate governors to specific roles and committees. Governors are encouraged to attend training sessions to fill any particular skillsets. The next self-evaluation of governance will take place at the Autumn term meeting 2023.

Governance statement (continued)

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to

1. receive and consider the school development plan, to monitor the progress of its implementation and to make recommendations to the Governing Body;

2. advise the Governing Body on financial strategy and policy and to undertake any associated work or analysis as requested by the Governing Body;

3. approve the annual budget spending plan, to monitor school budget income and expenditure, and to authorise virement as required;

4. maintain economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of public funds and ensure that all aspects of the school's finances adhere to the statutory and regulatory guidance as prescribed in the Academies Financial Handbook;

5. receive regular reports on the school's private fund and the Governors' building fund, to appoint auditors and to ensure a regular audit of both funds;

6. review the financial supervision and control memoranda and regulations for school income and expenditure and to appoint a Financial Review Officer to present a report to this Committee on a termly basis;

7. receive and approve financial reports on all external funding streams.

Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
P J Abel	3	3
J Egan	3	3
D J McFarlane, Head Teacher	3	3

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the headteacher 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, as well as estates safety and management, 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:

- Implementing an internal cover rota for CPD and sickness, wherever possible, reducing the money
 spent on expensive supply teachers and re recruiting retired staff members as casual staff at a lower rate than supply agencies.
- Arranging joint CPD/Inset day training with other schools to spread the cost.
- Tender exercises are undertaken to ensure that high value contracts are assessed against the marketplace on a regular basis to ensure that long term contracts remain competitive. The Academy does not enter into any contracts longer than 3 years in length.
- For purchases above £5,000, but below the tender limit, 3 written quotes are required.
- Income is generated from small grant applications which help to support the wider curriculum.

Governance statement (continued)

Reviews expenditure within each budget heading annually and make adjustments based on the

- effectiveness of strategies introduced in previous years, curriculum offer and any new strategies identified in the Academy Development Plan.
- Where possible, collaborates with other Trusts to keep procurement costs are kept to a minimum.
- The site manager ensures that we are fully compliant across school and all relevant checks are completed and submitted to SLT. CIF bids, including use of trust reserves, have been used if required to address large capital works to ensure the trust's estate is safe and complies with relevant regulations.

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 St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy 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 Governing Body 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 Governing Body 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 Governing Body.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body;
- regular reviews by the 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 Governing Body has decided:

• to employ Hart Shaw LLP as internal auditor

Governance statement (continued)

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:

• testing of purchasing/procurement systems including ensuring that authorisation and value for money policies are adhered to;

- testing of payroll systems;
- testing of income systems;
- testing of bank control and reconciliation procedures;
- testing of VAT reporting;
- testing of procedures for the recording of financial information and reporting to governors; and
- testing of the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook.

On a termly basis, the auditor reports to the Governing Body, through the audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Governing Body'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.

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

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditor;
- correspondence from ESFA: FNtl/Ntl and 'minded to' letters.

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.

Governance statement (continued)

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on and signed on its behalf by:

PJASA

P J Abel Governor and trustee

Debra J McFarlane

D J McFarlane Accounting officer Governor and trustee

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As accounting officer of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Governing Body 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 Governing Body 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 Governing Body and ESFA.

Debra J McFarlane

D J McFarlane, Governor and trustee Accounting officer

19/12/2023 Date:....

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 and signed on its behalf by:

Debra I McFarlane

D J McFarlane Governor and trustee

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy (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, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) Accounting and Reporting by Charities; Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities SORP 2019) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- 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 of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy 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.

Material uncertainty related to going concern

We draw attention to the going concern disclosures in the accounting policies on page 28 of the financial statements and in the trustees' report on page 8, which state that there is an intention for the Academy to be transferred into a Multi Academy Trust in the near future. However, transfer and novation of the funding agreement has not been approved. The intention to transfer indicates that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the academy's ability to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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. Our evaluation of the trustees' assessment of the entity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting included review of the Academy's plans and budgets, and discussions with the trustees regarding the intention to transfer into a Multi Academy Trust and the progress made up to the date of this report.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors 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.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy (continued)

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other 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 17], 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy (continued)

Based on our understanding of the Academy Trust and its industry, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the funding agreement with the Department of Education, UK tax legislation, pensions legislation, employment regulation and health and safety regulation, anti-bribery, corruption and fraud, money laundering, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements, such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

We evaluated the Trustees' and management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- Discussing with the Trustees and management their policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- Communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit;
- Enquiring with management and trustees concerning any actual or potential litigation or claims;
- · Inspecting correspondence with regulators and legal advisors;
- Reviewing minutes of trustees meetings; and
- Considering the risk of acts by the company which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- Making enquiries of the Trustees and management on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- Discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud;
- Addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by reviewing transactions around the end of the reporting period and by testing the appropriateness of journals and other adjustments;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify unexpected changes or movements to account balances which may be indicative fraud;
- Assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of any potential bias; and
- Evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management. Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, misrepresentations, forgery, intentional omissions, collusion, or the override of internal controls.

The further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

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.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy (continued)

Use of our report

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

T. Dhuhmot

Mrs Tina Dawn Havenhand FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) For and on behalf of Marriott Gibbs Rees Wallis Limited, Chartered Certified Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Unit 4 Broadfield Court Sheffield S8 0XF

19/12/2023 Date:....

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 31 August 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy 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 St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of St Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 26 February 2013 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the 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:

- The assessment and evaluation of relevant control procedures adopted by the Academy Trust
- · Assessing the risk of material irregularity
- Undertaking limited testing of income and expenditure, including identifying and testing funding agreements in place.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St. Joseph's Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy 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.

Mamott allos Roes Waller Limited.

Marriott Gibbs Rees Wallis Limited Chartered Certified Accountants and Reporting Accountants

Unit 4 Broadfield Court Sheffield S8 0XF

19/12/2023 Date:....

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/22 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	35,682	23,369	-	59,051
Other trading activities	4	1,084	1,099	-	2,183
Investments	5	17	-	-	17
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3		1,251,153		1,251,153
Total		36,783	1,275,621		1,312,404
Expenditure on: Raising funds	6	2,915	-	-	2,915
<i>Charitable activities:</i> Academy trust educational operations	7	31,137	1,264,672	28,283	1,324,092
Total		34,052	1,264,672	28,283	1,327,007
Net income/(expenditure)		2,731	10,949	(28,283)	(14,603)
Transfers between funds		-	(6,500)	6,500	-
Other recognised gains and losses Actuarial gains on defined benefit	00		24 000		21 000
pension schemes	22		21,000		21,000
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		2,731	25,449	(21,783)	6,397
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2022		65,632	56,126	456,271	578,029
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		68,363	81,575	434,488	584,426

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 £	2022/21 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	32,991	30,042	-	63,033
Other trading activities	4	1,311	7,111	-	8,422
Investments	5	21	-	-	21
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3		1,158,336		1,158,336
Total		34,323	1,195,489		1,229,812
Expenditure on: Raising funds	6	1,747	-	-	1,747
<i>Charitable activities:</i> Academy trust educational operations	7	33,447	1,280,441	29,140	1,343,028
Total		35,194	1,280,441	29,140	1,344,775
Net expenditure		(871)	(84,952)	(29,140)	(114,963)
Transfers between funds		-	(43,577)	43,577	-
Other recognised gains and losses Actuarial gains on defined benefit					
pension schemes	22		497,000		497,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(871)	368,471	14,437	382,037
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021		66,503	(312,345)	441,834	195,992
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2022		65,632	56,126	456,271	578,029

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

(Registration number: 08379788) Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	434,488	456,271
Current assets			
Debtors	12	71,392	53,723
Cash at bank and in hand		179,052	148,834
		250,444	202,557
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(100,506)	(80,799)
Net current assets		149,938	121,758
Total assets less current liabilities		584,426	578,029
Net assets excluding pension asset		584,426	578,029
Total net assets		584,426	578,029
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	14	81,575	56,126
Restricted fixed asset fund	14	434,488	456,271
		516,063	512,397
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	14	68,363	65,632
Total funds	:	584,426	578,029

The financial statements on pages 24 to 47 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on <u>19/12/2023</u>... and signed on their behalf by:

Debra J McFarlane

D J McFarlane Governor and trustee

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	36,701	(36,693)
Cash flows from investing activities	18	(6,483)	(50,456)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		30,218	(87,149)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		148,834	235,983
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	19	179,052	148,834

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), the Accounting and Reporting Standard Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

The governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The governors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

There is an intention to transfer the academy into St Clare Catholic Multi Academy Trust in September 2024, however at the date of the approval for these accounts novation of the funding agreement and transfer had not been approved.

There are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, with exception to the transfer detailed above. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

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.

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.

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'. 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.

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 £5,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

All of the academy premises consist of land and buildings owned by, or leased by the Diocese of Hallam. The Trustees of the Diocese of Hallam are the providers of the academy on the same basis as when the academy was a maintained school. The academy trust occupies the land and buildings under a mere licence. The continuing permission of the Diocese of Hallam is pursuant to, and subject to, the Diocese's charitable objects, and is part of the Catholic Church's contribution since 1847 to provide state funded education in partnership with the State. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land and buildings to the academy trust company for the time being, but does not vest and rights over the land in the academy trust company. The Diocese of Hallam has given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the academy trust company less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the land and buildings. Having considered the factual matrix under which the academy trust company is occupying the land and buildings, the governors have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the academy trust company should not be recognised on the balance sheet of the company.

An amount based upon the rateable value of these land and buildings has been recognised in these accounts within income and expenditure.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis 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 and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

Asset class

Leasehold land and buildings Furniture and equipment Computer equipment **Depreciation method and rate** Straight line over 25 years 25% straight line 25% straight line

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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.

Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 12. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

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.

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgement

The main school building is held on a licence from the trustees of The Diocese of Hallam. The governors have assessed the risks and rewards of ownership and in their judgement, and after holding discussions with The Diocese of Hallam, these have not been transferred to the academy trust.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Educational trips and visits	-	17,288	17,288	15,733
Other donations	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>41,763</u> 59,051	47,300 63,033

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 capital grants			
Devolved Formula Capital	6,551	6,551	6,450
Additional school capital funding	14,550	14,550	
	21,101	21,101	6,450
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	972,402	972,402	935,262
Pupil premium	44,068	44,068	38,746
Universal Infant Free School Meals	35,946	35,946	34,212
Rates reclaim	3,317	3,317	1,269
PE and sports grant	17,770	17,770	17,720
Teachers pay grant	549	549	1,187
Teachers pension grant	1,550	1,550	3,355
Supplementary grant	39,728	39,728	10,970
Other	11,124	11,124	7,763
	1,126,454	1,126,454	1,050,484
Other government grants			
Free entitlement funding	76,732	76,732	72,042
SEN funding	26,866	26,866	29,360
	103,598	103,598	101,402
Total grants	1,251,153	1,251,153	1,158,336

4 Other trading activities

	Restricted			
	Unrestricted Funds ۴	General Funds f	2023/22 Total f	2022/21 Total ۴
Catering income	-	∼ 1,099	∼ 1,099	2 ,030
Recharges and reimbursements	-	-	-	5,081
Other sales	1,084	<u> </u>	1,084	1,311
	1,084	1,099	2,183	8,422

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

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds	2023/22 Total	2022/21 Total
	£	£	£
Short term deposits	17	17	21

6 Expenditure

		Non Pay E	2022/22	2022/24	
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Expenditure on raising funds			0.045		
Allocated support costs	-	-	2,915	2,915	1,747
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	800,250	-	63,552	863,802	848,204
Allocated support costs	157,434	168,445	134,411	460,290	494,824
	957,684	168,445	200,878	1,327,007	1,344,775
Net income/(expenditure)	for the year incl	udes:			
, i ,	,			2023/22	2022/21
				£	£
Operating leases - other lea	ases			7,064	7,064
Fees payable to auditor - a	udit			4,495	4,240
- other non-audit services				5,525	5,240
Depreciation				28,283	29,140

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

7 Charitable activities

Direct costs - educational operations Support costs - educational operations		2022/23 £ 863,802 460,290 1,324,092	2021/22 £ 848,204 494,824 1,343,028
	Educational operations £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	157,434	157,434	205,712
Depreciation	28,283	28,283	29,140
Technology costs	20,134	20,134	18,340
Premises costs	140,162	140,162	126,267
Other support costs	103,357	103,357	104,085
Governance costs	10,920	10,920	11,280
Total support costs	460,290	460,290	494,824

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2023/22 £	2022/21 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	701,994	680,662
Social security costs	59,942	54,719
Pension costs	174,135	214,131
	936,071	949,512
Supply teacher costs	21,613	14,543
	957,684	964,055

Staff numbers

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

	2023/22 No	2022/21 No
Teachers	9	10
Administration and support	15	18
Management	5	5
	29_	33

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

8 Staff (continued)

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 No	2022/21 No
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £322,884 (2022 - £291,170).

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 J McFarlane (Head Teacher):

Remuneration: £70,000 - £75,000 (2022 - £65,000 - £70,000) Employer's pension contributions: £15,000 - £20,000 (2022 - £15,000 - £20,000)

H Fern (Staff Trustee):

Remuneration: £25,000 - £30,000 (2022 - £15,000 - £20,000) Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2022 - £0 - £5,000)

There were no trustees expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2023 nor for the year ended 31 August 2022.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 23.

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	2023/22 Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2022	524,015	58,398	31,525	613,938
Additions		6,500	<u> </u>	6,500
At 31 August 2023	524,015	64,898	31,525	620,438
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	81,762	57,931	17,974	157,667
Charge for the year	20,961	1,957	5,365	28,283
At 31 August 2023	102,723	59,888	23,339	185,950
Net book value				
At 31 August 2023	421,292	5,010	8,186	434,488
At 31 August 2022	442,253	467	13,551	456,271

12 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Prepayments	22,563	23,192
Accrued grant and other income	7,454	7,267
VAT recoverable	11,611	4,834
Other debtors	29,764	18,430
	71,392	53,723

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	13,580	8,392
Other taxation and social security	13,027	13,337
Other creditors	80	85
Pension scheme creditor	16,657	5,008
Accruals	28,618	27,125
Deferred income	28,544	26,852
	100,506	80,799

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

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	26,852	36,298
Resources deferred in the period	28,544	26,852
Amounts released from previous periods	(26,852)	(36,298)
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	28,544	26,852

Deferred income relates to Devolved Formula Capital and Universal Infant Free School Meals received in relation to the 2023/24 academic year.

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i> General fund(s) Devolved formula capital Additional capital allocation	56,126 - -	1,254,520 6,551 14,550	(1,222,571) (6,551) (14,550)	(6,500) - -	81,575 - -
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i> Donation of assets on conversion DfE/ESFA capital grants Capital expenditure from GAG	75,450 327,657 53,164	- -	(5,987) (16,181) (6,115)	- - 6,500	69,463 311,476 53,549
<i>Pension reserve funds</i> Defined benefit pension liability			(21,000)	21,000	
Total restricted funds	512,397	1,275,621	(1,292,955)	21,000	516,063
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i> Unrestricted funds Total unrestricted funds	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>(34,052)</u> (34,052)		<u> </u>
Total funds	578,029	1,312,404	(1,327,007)	21,000	584,426

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

14 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					
<i>Restricted general funds</i> General fund(s) Devolved formula capital	101,632	1,189,039 6,450	(1,190,968) (6,450)	(43,577) -	56,126 -
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i> Donation of assets on conversion DfE/ESFA capital grants Capital expenditure from GAG	81,384 343,838 16,612	-	(5,934) (16,181) (7,025)	- - 43,577	75,450 327,657 53,164
<i>Pension reserve funds</i> Defined benefit pension liability	(425,000)	-	(72,000)	497,000	-
<i>Other restricted funds</i> Governor's fund	11,023		(11,023)	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total restricted funds	129,489	1,195,489	(1,309,581)	497,000	512,397
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i> Unrestricted funds	66,503	34,323	(35,194)		65,632
Total unrestricted funds	66,503	34,323	(35,194)		65,632
Total funds	195,992	1,229,812	<u>(1,344,775)</u>	497,000	578,029

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

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

14 Funds (continued)

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

Restricted general funds:

General fund(s) - Income receivable from the Education and Skills Funding Agency to fund the educational operations and running costs of the Academy.

Devolved Formula Capital - A grant that can be used for improvements to buildings or other facilities, including ICT, or capital repairs/ refurbishments.

Additional school capital funding - A grant received for the 2022 to 2023 financial year for funding on capital projects, prioritising projects that improve the schools energy efficiency.

Other restricted funds: Governor's fund - Voluntary funds received to help towards the upkeep of the school buildings and grounds.

Restricted pension funds:

Defined benefit pension liability - The deficit on the local government pension scheme has been recognised against restricted funds in order to match it against GAG as recommended by the Accounts Direction published by the ESFA.

Restricted fixed asset funds:

Donation of assets on conversion - Assets donated to the Academy by Local Authority on conversion. The caretaker's house has been sold and at the year end £6,900 from the sales proceeds remains unspent.

DfE/ESFA capital grants - a Condition Improvement Fund given to fund a replacement heating system, electrical rewire and fire alarm system renewal.

Unrestricted funds:

Funds available to spend for the general purposes of the Academy.

Transfers:

£6,500 was transferred to the restricted fixed asset fund from general restricted funds to cover fixed assets purchased from GAG.

15 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	-	-	434,488	434,488
Current assets	68,363	182,081	-	250,444
Current liabilities	-	(100,506)		(100,506)
Total net assets	68,363	81,575	434,488	584,426

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

15 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

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	-	-	456,271	456,271
Current assets	65,632	136,925	-	202,557
Current liabilities	-	(80,799)		(80,799)
Total net assets	65,632	56,126	456,271	578,029

16 Financial commitments

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	5,544	7,064
Amounts due between one and five years	11,089	16,633
	16,633	23,697

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

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Net expenditure	(14,603)	(114,963)
Depreciation	28,283	29,140
Interest receivable	(17)	(21)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	24,000	65,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(3,000)	7,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(17,669)	14,259
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	19,707	(37,108)
Net cash provided by/(used in) Operating Activities	36,701	(36,693)

18 Cash flows from investing activities

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	17	21
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(6,500)	(50,477)
Net cash used in investing activities	(6,483)	(50,456)

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

19 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	179,052	148,834
Total cash and cash equivalents	179,052	148,834

20 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022	Cash flows	At 31 August 2023
Cash	£ 148,834	≭ 30,218	د 179,052
Total	148,834	30,218	179,052

21 Member liability

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

22 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.

Contributions amounting to £16,657 (2022 - £5,008) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The 31 March 2016 TPS actuarial valuation results were implemented from 1 September 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation were:

- 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 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £103,901 (2022 - £99,419).

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

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 $\pounds 65,000$ (2022 - $\pounds 57,000$), of which employer's contributions totalled $\pounds 49,000$ (2022 - $\pounds 43,000$) and employees' contributions totalled $\pounds 16,000$ (2022 - $\pounds 14,000$). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.8% for employers and variable according to salary for employees. The scheme is managed by South Yorkshire Pensions Authority.

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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.60	4.20
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.00	3.20
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20	4.20
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	3.20	3.30

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

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

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

	2023	2022
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.60	22.30
Females retiring today	23.60	25.40
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	21.40	24.10
Females retiring in 20 years	25.00	27.30
Sensitivity analysis		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Discount rate -0.1%	23,000	23,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	52,000	55,000
CPI rate +0.1%	22,000	21,000
The academy's share of the assets in the scheme were:		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	1,034,000	1,004,000
Government bonds	315,000	287,000
Property	135,000	129,000

Cash	15,000	14,000
Total market value of assets	1,499,000	1,434,000

The actual return on scheme assets was (£28,000) (2022 - £24,000).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2023/22 £	2022/21 £
Current service cost	73,000	108,000
Interest income	(62,000)	(25,000)
Interest cost	59,000	32,000
Total amount recognized in the SOFA	70,000	115,000
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follo	ws:	
	2023/22	2022/21
	£	£
	L	L
At start of period	1,370,000	د 1,852,000
At start of period Current service cost	~	~
	1,370,000	1,852,000
Current service cost	1,370,000 73,000	1,852,000 108,000
Current service cost Interest cost	1,370,000 73,000 59,000	1,852,000 108,000 32,000
Current service cost Interest cost Employee contributions	1,370,000 73,000 59,000 16,000	1,852,000 108,000 32,000 14,000

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

22 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2023/22 £	2022/21 £
At start of period	1,434,000	1,427,000
Interest income	62,000	25,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(34,000)	(49,000)
Employer contributions	49,000	43,000
Employee contributions	16,000	14,000
Benefits paid	(28,000)	(26,000)
At 31 August	1,499,000	1,434,000

Pension assets amounting to £194,000 (2022 - £64,000) have not been accounted for in the financial statements as they do not meet the recognition criteria under FRS 102.

23 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. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

During the current and previous year, a close family member of a trustee were employed by the Academy, however, they are paid at an appropriate level based on their role and responsibility within the school and in line with the local government pay scale.

Expenditure related party transactions

During the year the academy made the following related party transactions:

Diocese of Hallam

During the year under review, the Academy had free use of the school premises and land owned by the Diocese of Hallam. The accounts include a notional rent of $\pounds 29,750$ (2022 - $\pounds 29,750$) for the year which is included in premises costs.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Diocese of Hallam has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Diocese of Hallam was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Diocese of Hallam Schools' Partnership

During the year the Diocese of Hallam Schools' Partnership charged the academy £3,198 (2022 - £3,105) for professional services and subscriptions.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Diocese of Hallam Schools' Partnership has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Diocese of Hallam Schools' Partnership was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

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

23 Related party transactions (continued)

Income related party transactions

During the year the academy made the following related party transactions:

Diocese of Hallam

During the year under review, the Academy had free use of the school premises and land owned by the Diocese of Hallam. The accounts include a notional rent of $\pounds 29,750$ (2022 - $\pounds 29,750$) for the year which is included in voluntary income.

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.