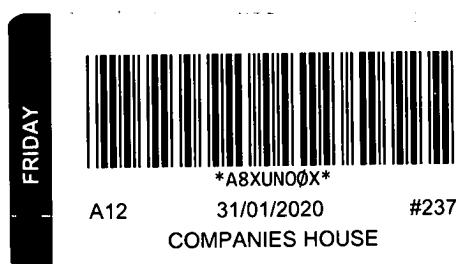


**LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**



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**LOWROOK ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**Members**

Dominique Du Pre  
Christine Rogers  
Paul Harrison

**Trustees / Governors**

Dominique Du Pre	Chair and Member
Paul Harrison	Member
Dave Rooney	Principal and Accounting Officer
Mary Gallop	Staff Trustee
James Spiteri	Trustee
Guy van der Knaap	Trustee
Bianca Iasi	Staff Trustee
Christine Sherwood-Phelps	Trustee
Stuart Muir	Trustee (appointed 1 December 2019)
Heather Miller	Trustee (appointed 19 October 2018, resigned 4 January 2019)

**Company Secretary**

Kate Bailey

**Senior Management Team**

Dave Rooney	Principal
Bianca Iasi	Head of School
Martin Gosling	Joint Deputy Head
Laura Denham	KS 2 Leader
Paula West/Kay Redjeb	HLTA Representative
Pauline Reid	Business Manager
Frances Garland	SENCO
Kate Bailey	Clerk

**Company Name**

Lowbrook Academy Trust

**Principal and Registered Office**

Lowbrook Academy Trust, The Fairway, Cox Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 3AR

**Company Registered Number**

07533254 (England & Wales)

**Independent Auditor**

MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Abbey Place, 24 - 28 Easton Street, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP11 1NT

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**Bankers**

Natwest Bank Plc, 66 High Street, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 1QA

**Solicitors**

Brethertons LLP, The Robbins Building, 25 Albert Street, Rugby, Warwickshire CV21 2SD

**TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in Maidenhead. It has a pupil capacity of 300 and had a roll of 330 in the school census on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019:

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Constitution**

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

The trustees of Lowbrook Academy Trust Limited are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Lowbrook Trading Company Limited.

Details of the trustees who served throughout the year 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**

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust. The cost of this insurance in the year was £720.00.

**Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees**

The members may appoint up to 3 Trustees. The Members may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine, Parent Trustees shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when she/he is elected. The community Trustee may be appointed by the Governing Body provided that the person who is appointed as a Community Trustee, lives and or works in the community.

**Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees**

The training and induction provided for new Governors will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary induction will provide training on charity and educational, legal and financial matters. All new Governors will be given a tour of the Academy and the chance to meet with staff and students. All governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as governors. As there are not normally many new governors a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**Organisational Structure**

The organisational structure consists of two levels: the Governing Body and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The Senior Leadership Team includes the Principal, Head of School, Business Manager, Office Manager/Clerk and HLTA representative. This team is responsible for the day to day operation of the Academy, in particular organising the teaching staff, facilities and students.

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

The Senior Leadership team have their remuneration determined by recommendations given by the Principal to the Pay Committee based on their performance management. The guideline for these awards are listed in the Academy's Pay Policy, which is reflective of National and Local Authority pay tables.

**Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations**

Whilst there is no legal agreement between ourselves and Holt Trinity C of E Primary School we have forged a close connection during the period that Mr Rooney has been Executive Principal over both schools. Standards at Holy Trinity have dramatically risen by the efforts of all staff. This has resulted in an OFSTED rating of 'Outstanding'. Moving from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Outstanding' is not only an amazing and rapid transformation but it would not have been possible without the huge amount of support from all at Lowbrook Academy. The successful partnership with Lowbrook was also highlighted in Holy Trinity's recent SIAMs inspection report that also graded the school to be 'Outstanding' in all areas. This is an excellent example of the Academy model working very well to support another school. We are continuing on our joint leadership model across both schools.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objects and Aims**

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of Lowbrook Academy to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4 and 11.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

- To imbed the new joint Deputy Head Teacher across both schools and
- To continue to exploit the Cambridge review curriculum by ensuring reviewing our progression matrices in line with National and Global research and innovation
- To prioritise the attainment of boys reading is on parity with girls in several classes in KS2
- To raise attainment and improve pupil achievements for in year transfer children
- To ensure that 75% of teaching is Outstanding;
- To obtain best value in purchasing of resources and services;
- To ensure that financial resources are maximised so that educational resources are available to raise standards of pupil achievement;
- To maintain 3 year budget planning with the aims of incorporating all priorities identified within the school's development plan;
- To continue a rolling programme of improvement to the internal and external decoration of the school without detriment to the wider aims of raising pupils' attainments.

**Public Benefit**

The Governors of the Academy Trust have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on Public Benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties. The activities undertaken to further the Academy Trust's purpose for the Public Benefit include all statutory obligations outlined within the school's funding agreement.

**STRATEGIC REPORT**

**Achievements and Performance**

Lowbrook Academy had a successful year in 2018/19: Some of the main highlights were:

- We were the highest performing school for Key Stage 2 results in the local borough yet again. 97% of children attained the expected standard in all areas as compared to 65% nationally.
- Key Stage 1 children continue to achieve well above national average. Lowbrook children at greater depth were Reading: 53%, Writing: 50%, Maths: 52%, National Average was Reading: 26%, Writing: 16%, Maths: 22%
- 100% of children passed the Year 1 Phonic Screening Test compared to 82% nationally.
- 93% of the 30 children in Early Years Foundation Stage have achieved GLD (Good Level of Development), compared to 71.5% nationally.
- Lowbrook competed in competition in many sports including Rugby, Football, Netball, Golf and Cricket
- Lowbrook has a high participation in sports and clubs with 94% of children in KS1 and KS2 participating in at least one club.
- Sports week was another great success with 100% of the pupils participating in more than 30 different activities
- Attendance at school was very high at 98% attendance
- A barrier has been installed to improve the safety and security of the car park and a kiss and drop system has been implemented which has improved the vehicle congestion at the start of the school day

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**Key Performance Indicators**

The Academy has achieved a Good rating from the DfE for the FMGE (Financial Management and Governance Evaluation)

The staffing costs as a percentage of the GAG for the financial year 2018-2019 were 81% due to some unforeseen additional costs. However, moving forwards we anticipate that staffing costs will revert back to 84% of the GAG for the next financial year.

**Going Concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees 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.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The academy met all its academic targets whilst being fully staffed and within budget. Resource management is successfully managed within the budget and the learning environment within the academy is outstanding.

Income for the year ended 31 August 2019 was £1,586,031 and expenditure after depreciation of £92,791 and FRS 102 pension adjustments of £68,000 was £1,592,403. The surplus for the year before depreciation and pension adjustments was £154,419.

Lowbrook undertook expansion of one classroom in 2016/17 that was supposed to be part of a larger project to move to a two-form entry school. The funds for the other classrooms were not agreed in the year and so Lowbrook recorded an increase in Net Fixed Assets of £340,306

**Reserves Policy**

The governors review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The governors wish to maintain unrestricted funds at year end towards future projects.

At 31 August 2019 the total funds comprised:

Unrestricted		400,903
Restricted:	Fixed asset funds	3,702,681
	Pension reserve	(535,000)
	Other	26,714
		<hr/>
		£3,595,298
		<hr/>



**TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**Investment Policy**

The Academy's Financial Procedures states that steps should be taken to invest surplus funds in the Academy's bank account.

**Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Academy Trust practices through its Board, namely the Governing Body and the constituted subcommittees, risk management principles. Any major risks highlighted at any sub-committee are brought to the main Board with proposed mitigating actions and they continue to be reported until the risk is adequately mitigated.

The Governing Body accepts managed risk as an inevitable part of its operations but maintains an objective not to run unacceptable levels of risk in any area. The subjective nature of this process requires major risks to be resolved by the Governing Body collectively, whilst more minor risks are dealt with by senior executive officers.

**PLANS FOR FUTURE**

Lowbrook Academy aims to maintain its high standards both in the classroom and outside. We will attempt to raise attainment and achievement in Writing at the great depth standard. There will be an added focus on In-Year Transfer children and disadvantaged children to improve pupil achievement.

We have found that the results of the monitoring such as the Learning Walks and the Lesson Observations have helped us to improve and these will be continued and focussed on.

This year, Lowbrook will return the area that was created last year as a temporary classroom into an Interactive Learning Environment including artificial grass and a boardroom style table for teachers and pupils alike.

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF**

Neither the Academy Trust nor its governors are acting as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

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**AUDITOR**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10 December 2019 and signed on the board's behalf by:

  
.....  
**D Du Pre**  
Trustee

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY**

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Lowbrook Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. He is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**GOVERNANCE**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 3 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee		Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dominique Du Pre	Chair	6	6
Paul Harrison	Vice Chair	4	7
Dave Rooney	(Principal/Accounting Officer)	10	11
Mary Gallop	(Staff trustee)	5	6
Bianca Iasi	(Staff trustee)	8	9
Christine Sherwood-Phelps	(Community trustee)	7	9
James Spiteri	(Parent trustee)	3	3
Guy van der Knaap	(Parent trustee)	7	7

- The board is entrusted with the task of adopting policies that set clear expectations and standards for pupil's achievements and promote student wellbeing. This includes, allocating resources, planning and goal setting, establishing a vision for the school and recruiting and reviewing the performance of the chief executive.
- At Lowbrook Academy there is a multitude of information that the board can use to assist it in helping guide the school in the right direction. This includes academic results, surveys of pupils, parents and staff. Funding decisions for pupil premium and sports premium

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**GOVERNANCE(continued)**

The Finance, Sites and Buildings Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

- In consultation with the Principal, to draft the first formal budget plan of the financial year
- To establish and maintain an up to date 3 year financial plan
- To consider a budget position statement including virement decisions at least termly and to report significant anomalies from the anticipated position to the Governing Body
- To ensure that the school operates within the Financial Regulations of the new Academies Handbook
- To monitor expenditure of all voluntary funds kept on behalf of the Governing Body
- To annually review charges and remissions policies and expenses policies.
- To make decisions in respect of service agreements
- To make decisions on expenditure following recommendations from other committees
- To prepare financial statements for inclusion in the governing body report to parents
- To ensure, as far as is practical, that Health and Safety issues are appropriately prioritised
- To determine whether sufficient funds are available for pay increments as recommended by the Principal
- In the light of the Principal's Performance Management Group's recommendations, to determine whether sufficient funds are available for increments
- To monitor the progress and development of the school development plan and report back to the governing body
- To monitor the school self-evaluation cycle and to report findings back to the governing body
- To monitor the progress of development and review of policies
- Collect evidence from monitoring visits by governors
- To monitor the progress, development and review of policies
- To ensure that Auditors are in place
- To monitor and review Single Central Record
- Monitor the use of Pupil Premium and Sports Premium

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**GOVERNANCE (continued)**

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
C Sherwood-Phelps	3	3
P Harrison	2	3
D Rooney	3	3
G van der Knaap	3	3
B Iasi	3	3

**REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY**

I accept that as accounting officer of Lowbrook Academy I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. I am aware of the guide to academy value for money statements published by the Education Funding Agency and understand that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

I set out below how I have ensured that the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

The Governing Body is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in our School Development Plans (SDP). Governors need to secure the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in our achievements and services.

The Academy strives to obtain best value for money from all purchases. A large proportion of purchases will be paid for by public funds, therefore the Academy needs to maintain the integrity of these funds.

The allocation of funding each year is decided by the Governing Body in close consultation with the Principal. If during the year, it becomes necessary to increase or decrease the allocation, then the matter must first be discussed with the Governors, who will either make a decision or, if the matter falls outside their delegated authority, make a recommendation to the full Governing Body. Virements will only be made in accordance with the Academy's Virements Policy.

We use the principles of Best Value as they apply to securing continuous improvement in the school and will:-

- Regularly review the functions of the school, challenging how and why services are provided and setting targets and performance indicators for improvement.
- Monitor outcomes and compare performance with similar schools and within the school.
- Consult appropriate stakeholders before major decisions are made.
- Promote fair competition through quotations and tenders to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economic, efficient and effective way.

The Governors and Senior Leadership Team apply these principles of best value when making decisions about:

- Staffing - Teaching - Learning - Use of Premise - Use of Resources - Purchasing
- Income Generated - Student Welfare - Health & Safety.
- Monitoring of Best Value

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Lowbrook Academy Trust for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

**CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK**

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

**THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK**

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees
- regular reviews by the finance and general purposes committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- identification and management of risks

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- to maintain Guy van der Knaap as internal auditor
- management accounts will be reviewed by him
- monthly meeting with the school business manager
- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of control account/ bank reconciliations

On a quarterly basis, the finance governor will report to the board of trustees, through the Sites and Finance Committee Meetings on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS**

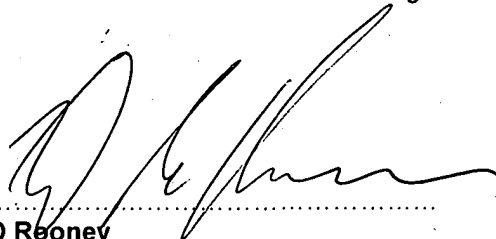
As accounting officer, Dave Rooney has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 10 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



**D Du Pre**  
Chair of Trustees



**D Rooney**  
Accounting Officer

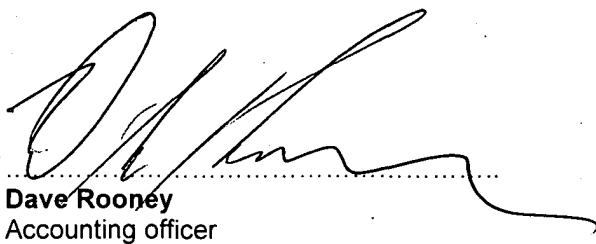
**STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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As accounting officer of Lowbrook Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust board of trustees and the Education Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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



**Dave Rooney**  
Accounting officer

10 December 2019

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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 & 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 Group and the charitable company and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group and the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group and 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 Group and 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 their conduct and operation the Group and the charitable company apply 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.

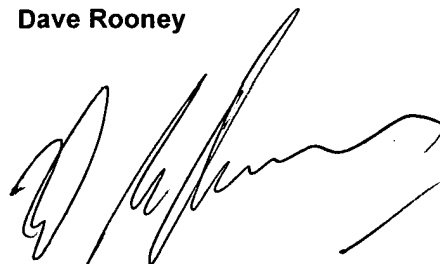
The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Group's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 10 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

**D Du Pre**  
Chair of trustees



**Dave Rooney**





**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Lowbrook Academy Trust (the 'parent Academy Trust') and its subsidiaries (the 'Group') for the year ended 31 August 2019 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Academy Trust Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2019 and of the Group's 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 the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Group's or the parent Academy Trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

**Other information**

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. Other information includes the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report, the Governance Statement, the Statement of Regularity, Proprietary and Compliance and the Trustees Responsibilities Statement. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**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 Trustees' Report (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' 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 Group and the parent Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

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

- the parent Academy Trust has not kept adequate accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent Academy Trust 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Group's and the parent Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Group or the parent Academy Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.


**Auditors' 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 Auditors' 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.

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

**Use of our report**

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

  
BIANCA SILVA BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of  
**MHA MacIntyre Hudson**  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors

Abbey Place  
24-28 Easton Street  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire  
HP11 1NT

Date: 12 December 2019

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 13th July 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Lowbrook Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Lowbrook Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Lowbrook Academy Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Lowbrook Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Lowbrook Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Lowbrook Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 March 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

**Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- reviewing the Minutes of the meetings of the Governing Body and other evidence made available to us, relevant to our consideration of regularity;
- a review of the objectives and activities of the Academy, with reference to the income streams and other information available to us as auditors of the Academy;
- testing of a sample of payroll payments to staff;
- testing of a sample of payments to suppliers and other third parties;
- consideration of governance issues; and
- evaluating the internal control procedures and reporting lines, testing as appropriate and making appropriate enquires of the Accounting Officer.

**Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

*MHA MacIntyre Hudson*

**Reporting Accountant**

**MHA MacIntyre Hudson**

Abbey Place  
24-28 Easton Street  
High Wycombe  
Buckinghamshire  
HP11 1NT

Date: *12 December 2019*

**LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Endowment funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £	Total funds 2018 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	9,978	-	33,370	43,348	55,762
Charitable activities		-	1,303,811	-	1,303,811	1,316,974
Other trading activities		238,866	-	-	238,866	231,497
Investments	6	6	-	-	6	-
<b>Total income and endowments</b>		<b>248,850</b>	<b>1,303,811</b>	<b>33,370</b>	<b>1,586,031</b>	<b>1,604,233</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		31,711	-	-	31,711	33,976
Charitable activities		96,565	1,371,336	92,791	1,560,692	1,601,696
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>128,276</b>	<b>1,371,336</b>	<b>92,791</b>	<b>1,592,403</b>	<b>1,635,672</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>		<b>120,574</b>	<b>(67,525)</b>	<b>(59,421)</b>	<b>(6,372)</b>	<b>(31,439)</b>
Transfers between funds	17	(10,431)	-	10,431	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	22	(102,000)	-	-	(102,000)	111,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>8,143</b>	<b>(67,525)</b>	<b>(48,990)</b>	<b>(108,372)</b>	<b>79,561</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		290,760	(338,761)	3,751,671	3,703,670	3,624,109
Net movement in funds		8,143	(67,525)	(48,990)	(108,372)	79,561
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>298,903</b>	<b>(406,286)</b>	<b>3,702,681</b>	<b>3,595,298</b>	<b>3,703,670</b>

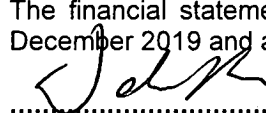
The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 24 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019**

	Note	2019 £	2019 £	2018 £	2018 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		3,702,681		3,751,671
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	68,753		59,128	
Cash at bank and in hand		459,044		387,708	
		<u>527,797</u>		<u>446,836</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(100,180)		(129,837)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			427,617		316,999
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>4,130,298</u>		<u>4,068,670</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(535,000)		(365,000)	
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><u>3,595,298</u></u>		<u><u>3,703,670</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Academy Trust</b>					
Restricted fixed asset fund	17		3,702,681		3,751,671
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Restricted income funds	17	26,714		26,239	
Pension reserve	17	(535,000)		(365,000)	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	17	(508,286)		(338,761)	
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	17		400,903		290,760
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><u>3,595,298</u></u>		<u><u>3,703,670</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 51 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 10 December 2019 and are signed on their behalf, by:

  
.....  
**Dominique Du Pre**  
Chair of Trustees

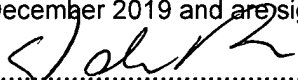
  
.....  
**Dave Rooney**  
Accounting officer

The notes on pages 24 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

**ACADEMY TRUST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019**

	Note	2019 £	2019 £	2018 £	2018 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		<b>3,702,681</b>		3,751,671
Investments	14		<b>100</b>		100
			<b>3,702,781</b>		<b>3,751,771</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	15	<b>144,623</b>		126,377	
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>377,938</b>		313,828	
		<b>522,561</b>		440,205	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	<b>(95,044)</b>		(123,306)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>427,517</b>		316,899
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>4,130,298</b>		4,068,670
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22		<b>(535,000)</b>		(365,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<b>3,595,298</b>		<b>3,703,670</b>
<b>Funds of the Academy Trust</b>					
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Fixed asset funds	17	<b>3,702,681</b>		3,751,671	
Restricted income funds	17	<b>37,074</b>		26,239	
Pension reserve	17	<b>(535,000)</b>		(365,000)	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	17		<b>3,204,755</b>		3,412,910
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	17		<b>390,543</b>		290,760
<b>Total funds</b>			<b>3,595,298</b>		<b>3,703,670</b>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 51 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 10 December 2019 and are signed on their behalf, by:

  
.....  
**Dominique Du Pre**  
Chair of Trustees

  
.....  
**Dave Rooney**  
Accounting Officer

The notes on pages 24 to 51 form part of these financial statements.



**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	19	<b>81,767</b>	35,226
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	20	<b>(10,431)</b>	15,397
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>71,336</b>	50,623
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<b>387,708</b>	337,085
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	21	<b>459,044</b>	387,708

The notes on pages 24 to 51 form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**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.

**1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

**1.2 Basis for consolidation**

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of Lowbrook Academy Trust and all of its subsidiary undertakings ('subsidiaries').

The Academy Trust has taken advantage of the exemption contained within section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 not to present its own Statement of Financial Activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

The statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account for the year dealt with in the accounts of the Academy Trust was a deficit of £108,373 (2018 - £132,310 surplus).

**1.3 Fund accounting**

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the 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.

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.4 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 Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

• **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 year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

**1.5 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.

• **Expenditure on raising funds**

Expenditure on raising funds 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**

Expenditure on charitable activities 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 2019**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.6 Going concern**

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

**1.7 Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing more than £500 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 Consolidated 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 Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than leasehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% per annum on cost (on buildings only)
Fixtures and fittings	- 20 - 33% per annum on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% per annum on cost

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 Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities.

**1.8 Investments**

The Academy's shareholding in the wholly owned subsidiary, Lowbrook Trading Company Limited, is included in the Balance Sheet at the cost of the share capital owned less any impairment. There is no readily available market value and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived.

**1.9 Operating leases**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.10 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 Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**1.11 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

**1.12 Cash at bank and in hand**

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

**1.13 Liabilities and provisions**

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 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.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.14 Financial instruments**

The Group only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Group and their measurement bases 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 16. 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 notes 18 and 19. 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.

**1.15 Pensions**

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 so as 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 on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 22, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded 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 operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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 judgements that have had a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements are those concerning the choice of depreciation policies and asset lives.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**3. Income from donations and capital grants**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>
Donations	9,978	12,000	<b>21,978</b>
Devolved formula capital	-	21,370	<b>21,370</b>
Capital grants from local authority	-	-	-
	<u>9,978</u>	<u>33,370</u>	<u><b>43,348</b></u>

Comparatives for 2018:

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2018 £</b>	<b>Endowment funds 2018 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2018 £</b>
Donations	13,176	-	13,176
Capital Grants	-	7,735	7,735
Grants	-	34,851	34,851
	<u>13,176</u>	<u>42,586</u>	<u>55,762</u>



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations**

	<b>Restricted funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2018 £</b>
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,132,384	<b>1,132,384</b>	1,142,180
Pupil premium	26,418	<b>26,418</b>	22,622
Other DfE/ESFA grants	85,758	<b>85,758</b>	77,144
	<u>1,244,560</u>	<u><b>1,244,560</b></u>	<u>1,241,946</u>
<b>Other government grants</b>			
SEN funding	12,044	<b>12,044</b>	37,295
	<u>12,044</u>	<u><b>12,044</b></u>	<u>37,295</u>
<b>Other funding</b>			
SEN funding	47,207	<b>47,207</b>	37,733
	<u>47,207</u>	<u><b>47,207</b></u>	<u>37,733</u>
	<u><u>1,303,811</u></u>	<u><u><b>1,303,811</b></u></u>	<u><u>1,316,974</u></u>

All 2018 income was in restricted funds.

There are no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies attached to the government grants above.

**5. Income from other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2018 £</b>
Trading subsidiary operations	73,274	<b>73,274</b>	74,537
School clubs	95,536	<b>95,536</b>	91,940
Consultancy	60,551	<b>60,551</b>	61,136
Other income	9,505	<b>9,505</b>	3,884
	<u>238,866</u>	<u><b>238,866</b></u>	<u>231,497</u>

All 2018 income was in unrestricted funds.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**6. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Bank interest received	6	6

There was no investment income in 2018.

**7. Expenditure**

	Staff Costs 2019 £	Premises 2019 £	Other 2019 £	Total 2019 £
Expenditure on raising voluntary income	14,187	-	17,524	31,711
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	908,038	54,704	194,514	1,157,256
Support costs	163,506	89,719	150,211	403,436
	<u>1,085,731</u>	<u>144,423</u>	<u>362,249</u>	<u>1,592,403</u>

Comparatives for 2018:

	Staff Costs 2018 £	Premises 2018 £	Other 2018 £	Total 2018 £
Expenditure on raising voluntary income	10,124	-	23,852	33,976
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	946,436	54,873	189,979	1,191,288
Support costs	155,855	97,690	156,863	410,408
	<u>1,112,415</u>	<u>152,563</u>	<u>370,694</u>	<u>1,635,672</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**8. Charitable activities**

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2019 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>
Academy trust's educational operations	<u>1,157,256</u>	<u>403,436</u>	<u>1,560,692</u>

Comparatives for 2018:

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2018 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2018 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2018 £</b>
Academy trust's educational operations	<u>1,191,288</u>	<u>410,408</u>	<u>1,601,696</u>

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2018 £</b>
Teaching and educational support staff costs	<b>908,038</b>	946,436
Depreciation	<b>92,791</b>	92,834
School trip expenditure	<b>47,371</b>	36,902
Educational supplies	<b>74,229</b>	76,405
Educational consultancy	<b>875</b>	63
Other staff costs	<b>13,582</b>	12,195
Other direct costs	<b>20,370</b>	26,453
	<u><b>1,157,256</b></u>	<u>1,191,288</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**8. Charitable activities (continued)**

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Total funds 2019 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2018 £</b>
Pension finance cost	9,000	9,000
Staff costs	163,506	155,855
Maintenance of premises and equipment	32,502	35,680
Cleaning	22,123	21,208
Energy	24,086	18,858
Rates	4,273	9,228
Catering supplies	37,643	50,728
Legal and professional	10,605	13,623
Non staff related insurance	7,801	10,269
Technology costs	27,639	32,292
Other support costs	49,078	37,124
Bank charges	2,330	2,588
Governance costs	12,850	13,955
	<b>403,436</b>	<b>410,408</b>

**9. Net income/(expenditure)**

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	<b>2019 £</b>	<b>2018 £</b>
Operating lease rentals	7,880	3,851
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned by the charitable group	92,791	92,834
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	6,250	8,050
- other services	6,600	5,905

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**10. Staff costs**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2019 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2018 £</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>815,435</b>	828,053	<b>815,435</b>	828,053
Social security costs	<b>63,912</b>	74,648	<b>63,912</b>	74,648
Pension costs	<b>196,269</b>	197,388	<b>196,269</b>	197,388
	<b>1,075,616</b>	1,100,089	<b>1,075,616</b>	1,100,089
Agency staff costs	<b>10,115</b>	12,326	<b>10,115</b>	12,326
	<b>1,085,731</b>	1,112,415	<b>1,085,731</b>	1,112,415

**b. Staff numbers**

The average number of persons employed by the Group and the Academy Trust during the year was as follows:

	<b>Group 2019 No.</b>	<b>Group 2018 No.</b>
Teachers	<b>16</b>	14
Administration and support	<b>25</b>	28
Management	<b>1</b>	1
	<b>42</b>	43

**c. Higher paid staff**

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

	<b>Group 2019 No.</b>	<b>Group 2018 No.</b>
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	<b>1</b>	1

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**10. Staff costs (continued)**

**d. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprises 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 £474,123 (2018: £427,023).

**11. Related Party Transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Dave Rooney, Principal	Remuneration	<b>90,000 - 95,000</b>	90,000 - 95,000
	Pension contributions paid	<b>15,000 - 20,000</b>	15,000 - 20,000
Mary Gallop, Staff Trustee	Remuneration	<b>40,000 - 45,000</b>	40,000 - 45,000
	Pension contributions paid	<b>5,000 - 10,000</b>	5,000 - 10,000
Bianca Iasi, Staff Governor	Remuneration	<b>45,000 - 50,000</b>	45,000 - 50,000
	Pension contributions paid	<b>5,000 - 10,000</b>	5,000 - 10,000

During the year ended 31 August 2019, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2018 - £NIL).

**12. Trustees' and officers' insurance**

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Group has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2019 was £720 (2018 - £495). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**13. Tangible fixed assets**

**Group and Academy Trust**

	Long-term leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 September 2018	3,884,197	304,762	189,831	4,378,790
Additions	24,000	6,462	13,339	43,801
At 31 August 2019	3,908,197	311,224	203,170	4,422,591
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2018	238,956	213,229	174,934	627,119
Charge for the year	44,010	31,712	17,069	92,791
At 31 August 2019	282,966	244,941	192,003	719,910
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2019	3,625,231	66,283	11,167	3,702,681
At 31 August 2018	3,645,241	91,533	14,897	3,751,671

Included within long leasehold property is land at value of £1,711,984 (2018: £1,711,984) which is not depreciated.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**14. Fixed asset investments**

	<b>Shares in group undertaking £</b>
<b>Academy Trust</b>	
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 September 2018	<b>100</b>
	<hr/>
<b>At 31 August 2019</b>	<b>100</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>	
<b>At 31 August 2019</b>	<b>100</b>
	<hr/>
<i>At 31 August 2018</i>	<i>100</i>
	<hr/> <hr/>

Investments at cost comprise the wholly owned subsidiary, Lowbrook Trading Company Limited. All the fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

**15. Debtors**

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2019 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2018 £</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>				
Trade debtors	<b>13,557</b>	21,751	<b>11,635</b>	21,158
Amounts owed by group undertakings	<b>-</b>	-	<b>87,289</b>	77,203
Other debtors	<b>9,497</b>	183	-	-
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>31,983</b>	25,977	<b>31,983</b>	16,799
Tax recoverable	<b>13,716</b>	11,217	<b>13,716</b>	11,217
	<hr/> <b>68,753</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 59,128 <hr/>	<hr/> <b>144,623</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 126,377 <hr/>



**LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2019 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2018 £</b>
Trade creditors	<b>46,182</b>	50,237	<b>43,046</b>	45,706
Other creditors	<b>14,901</b>	23,357	<b>14,901</b>	23,357
Accruals and deferred income	<b>39,097</b>	56,243	<b>37,097</b>	54,243
	<b>100,180</b>	129,837	<b>95,044</b>	123,306

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2019 £</b>	<b>Academy Trust 2018 £</b>
Deferred income at 1 September 2018	<b>32,758</b>	39,130	<b>32,758</b>	39,130
Resources deferred during the year	<b>25,747</b>	32,758	<b>25,747</b>	32,758
Amounts released from previous periods	<b>(32,758)</b>	(39,130)	<b>(32,758)</b>	(39,130)
	<b>25,747</b>	32,758	<b>25,747</b>	32,758

At the Balance Sheet date, the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for universal infant free school meals provision for September 2019 onwards.

**LOWBROOK ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**17. Statement of funds - Group**

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Funds	290,760	175,576	(117,083)	51,650	-	400,903
Lowbrook trading company	-	73,274	(11,193)	(62,081)	-	-
	<u>290,760</u>	<u>248,850</u>	<u>(128,276)</u>	<u>(10,431)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>400,903</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Fixed asset fund	3,751,671	-	(92,791)	43,801	-	3,702,681
Devolved formula capital	-	21,370	-	(21,370)	-	-
Donations	-	12,000	-	(12,000)	-	-
	<u>3,751,671</u>	<u>33,370</u>	<u>(92,791)</u>	<u>10,431</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,702,681</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General annual grant	-	1,132,384	(1,131,909)	26,239	-	26,714
Predecessor school	26,239	-	-	(26,239)	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA income	-	112,176	(112,176)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	47,207	(47,207)	-	-	-
LA income	-	12,044	(12,044)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(365,000)	-	(68,000)	-	(102,000)	(535,000)
	<u>(338,761)</u>	<u>1,303,811</u>	<u>(1,371,336)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(102,000)</u>	<u>(508,286)</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>3,703,670</u>	<u>1,586,031</u>	<u>(1,592,403)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(102,000)</u>	<u>3,595,298</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

All general funds are held for the purposes of education in line with the Academy's objectives.

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the school that has been provided to the academy via the Education & Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education. The GAG fund has been set up because the GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

The other DfE/ESFA restricted fund represents other funding received from the government which does not form part of GAG but is received in relation to specific purposes.

The pension reserve fund has been created to separately identify the pension deficit inherited from the local authority upon conversion to Academy status, and through which all the pension scheme movements are recognised.

The restricted fixed assets fund has been set up to recognise the tangible assets transferred to the Academy on conversion and purchased by the Academy following conversion.

Transfers reflect amounts capitalised or spent to fund revenue expenditure during the period.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2019.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Funds	184,554	170,136	(105,075)	41,145	-	290,760
Lowbrook trading company	-	74,537	(16,292)	(58,245)	-	-
	<u>184,554</u>	<u>244,673</u>	<u>(121,367)</u>	<u>(17,100)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>290,760</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Fixed asset fund	3,817,316	-	(92,834)	27,189	-	3,751,671
Devolved formula capital	-	7,735	-	(7,735)	-	-
Other capital grants	-	34,851	-	(34,851)	-	-
	<u>3,817,316</u>	<u>42,586</u>	<u>(92,834)</u>	<u>(15,397)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,751,671</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General annual grant	-	1,142,180	(1,174,677)	32,497	-	-
Predecessor school	26,239	-	-	-	-	26,239
Other DFE/ESFA income	-	99,766	(99,766)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	37,733	(37,733)	-	-	-
LA income	-	37,295	(37,295)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(404,000)	-	(72,000)	-	111,000	(365,000)
	<u>(377,761)</u>	<u>1,316,974</u>	<u>(1,421,471)</u>	<u>32,497</u>	<u>111,000</u>	<u>(338,761)</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>3,624,109</u>	<u>1,604,233</u>	<u>(1,635,672)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>111,000</u>	<u>3,703,670</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**18. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year - Group**

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,702,681	<b>3,702,681</b>
Current assets	400,903	126,894	-	<b>527,797</b>
Creditors due within one year	-	(100,180)	-	<b>(100,180)</b>
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(535,000)	-	<b>(535,000)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>400,903</b>	<b>(508,286)</b>	<b>3,702,681</b>	<b>3,595,298</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year - Group**

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,751,671	<b>3,751,671</b>
Current assets	290,760	156,076	-	<b>446,836</b>
Creditors due within one year	-	(129,837)	-	<b>(129,837)</b>
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(365,000)	-	<b>(365,000)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>290,760</b>	<b>(338,761)</b>	<b>3,751,671</b>	<b>3,703,670</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**19. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities**

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<b>(6,372)</b>	<b>(31,439)</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	<b>92,791</b>	92,834
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	<b>(33,370)</b>	(42,586)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	<b>(9,625)</b>	70,588
Decrease in creditors	<b>(29,657)</b>	(126,171)
Pension adjustment	<b>68,000</b>	72,000
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>81,767</b>	<b>35,226</b>

**20. Cash flows from investing activities**

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<b>(43,801)</b>	(27,189)
Capital grants from DfE Group	<b>21,370</b>	7,735
Capital donation	<b>12,000</b>	34,851
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(10,431)</b>	<b>15,397</b>

**21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>Group 2019 £</b>	<b>Group 2018 £</b>
Cash in hand	<b>459,044</b>	387,708

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**22. Pension commitments**

The Group's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. 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 2016.

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

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

**Introduction**

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS or scheme) is a statutory, unfunded, defined benefit occupational scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended), and the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales that are maintained by local authorities. In addition, teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools and teachers and lecturers in some establishments of further and higher education may be eligible for membership. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic too for teachers and lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

**The Teachers Pension budgeting and valuation account**

Although members may be employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits are set out in regulations made under the Superannuation Act (1972) and Public Service Pensions Act (2013) and are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – contributions from members, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Acts.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**22. Pension commitments (continued)**

The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pension increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

**Valuation of Teachers Pension Scheme**

The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has now taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers will pay an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.8%). The timing of the implementation is to align its introduction with employers' budget planning cycles. Until then, employers will pay the current rate of 16.48%.

**Scheme changes**

The arrangements for a reformed Teachers' Pension Scheme, in line with the recommendations made by Lord Hutton, in particular the introduction of a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, were implemented from 1 April 2015.

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in the reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, gave rise to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. The Supreme Court, in a decision made in June 2019, have rejected the Government's application for permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling. The case will now be referred to an Employment Tribunal for a decision regarding the remedy which will need to be offered to those members of the two schemes who were subject of the age discrimination.

HM Treasury are clear that the ruling has implications for the other public service schemes, including the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Those implications are currently being considered and any impact on scheme costs is expected to be looked at within the next scheme valuation, which is currently scheduled to be based on April 2020 data and implemented in April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £96,820 (2018 - £93,384).

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 Group has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Group has set out above the information available on the scheme.

**Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2019 was £60,000 (2018 - £54,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £46,000 (2018 - £41,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 14,000 (2018 - £13,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.6% per cent for employers and 12.5% per cent for employees.

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



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**22. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Principal actuarial assumptions**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>%</b>	<b>%</b>
Rate of increase in salaries	<b>3.65%</b>	3.80%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	<b>2.15%</b>	2.30%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<b>1.90%</b>	2.70%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	<b>2.15%</b>	2.30%
RPI increases	<b>3.15%</b>	3.30%

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

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>Years</b>	<b>Years</b>
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	<b>22.1</b>	23.1
Females	<b>24.0</b>	25.2
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	<b>23.7</b>	25.3
Females	<b>25.8</b>	27.5

**Sensitivity analysis**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Discount rate +0.1%	<b>876</b>	635
Discount rate -0.1%	<b>931</b>	674
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	<b>933</b>	675
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	<b>874</b>	634
CPI rate +0.1%	<b>929</b>	673
CPI rate -0.1%	<b>878</b>	636

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**22. Pension commitments (continued)**

The Group's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31 August 2019 £	At 31 August 2018 £
Equities	205,000	136,000
Bonds	53,000	43,000
Property	46,000	40,000
Cash and other liquid assets	29,000	43,000
Alternative assets	35,000	27,000
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>368,000</b>	<b>289,000</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £20,000 (2018 - £11,000).

The amounts recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Current service cost	(93,000)	(104,000)
Past service cost	(12,000)	-
Interest cost	(9,000)	(9,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(114,000)</b>	<b>(113,000)</b>

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

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Opening defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>654,000</b>	<b>628,000</b>
Current service cost	93,000	104,000
Interest cost	18,000	16,000
Employee contributions	14,000	13,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	113,000	(107,000)
Benefits paid	(1,000)	-
Past service costs	12,000	-
<b>Closing defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>903,000</b>	<b>654,000</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**22. Pension commitments (continued)**

Changes in the fair value of the Group's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Opening fair value of scheme assets</b>	<b>289,000</b>	<b>224,000</b>
Interest on plan assets	9,000	7,000
Actuarial losses	11,000	4,000
Employee contributions	14,000	13,000
Benefits paid	(1,000)	-
Employer contributions	46,000	41,000
<b>Closing fair value of scheme assets</b>	<b>368,000</b>	<b>289,000</b>

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>The amount shown in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities is:</b>		
Changes in financial assumptions	(113,000)	107,000
Return on plan assets	11,000	4,000
<b>Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension scheme</b>	<b>(102,000)</b>	<b>111,000</b>

	2019 £	2018 £
<b>The amount shown in the Balance Sheet is:</b>		
Present value of defined benefit obligation	(903,000)	(654,000)
Fair value of scheme assets	368,000	289,000
<b>Defined benefit pension scheme liability</b>	<b>(535,000)</b>	<b>(365,000)</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

**23. Operating lease commitments**

At 31 August 2019 the Group and the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	<b>Group</b>	<b>Group</b>	<b>Academy</b>	<b>Academy</b>
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>Trust</b>	<b>Trust</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Not later than 1 year	<b>7,880</b>	2,384	<b>7,880</b>	2,384
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	<b>4,080</b>	3,576	<b>4,080</b>	3,576
	<b>11,960</b>	5,960	<b>11,960</b>	5,960

**24. Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust's operations 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 a Trustees has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the AFH including notifying the 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 related to connected and related party transactions.

£40 was paid for supplies to a company in which a Trustee, P Harrison, is a director (2018: £Nil).

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already discussed in note 11.

**25. Principal subsidiaries**

The following was a subsidiary undertaking of the Academy Trust:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company number</b>	<b>Principal activity</b>	<b>Holding</b>	<b>Included in consolidation</b>
Lowbrook Trading Company Limited	07773819	Premises letting and fundraising	100%	Yes

The financial results of the subsidiary for the year were:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>Net assets</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Lowbrook Trading Company Limited	<b>73,274</b>	<b>11,193</b>	<b>62,081</b>	<b>62,181</b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019**

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**26. Members' liability**

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

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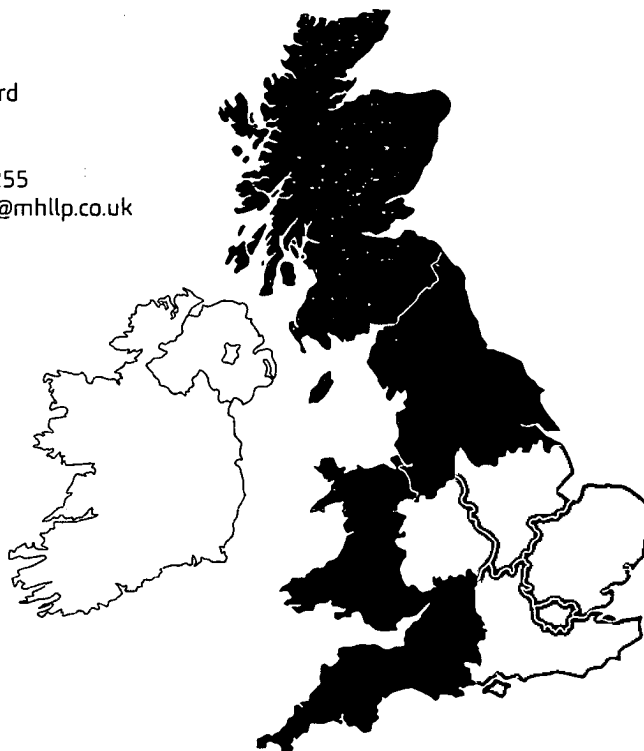
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