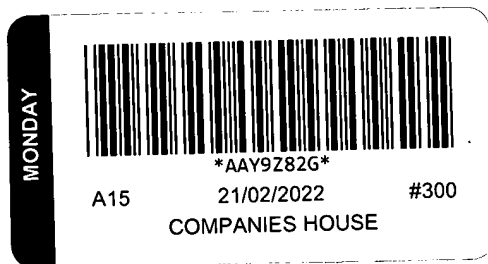


Report of the Governors and
Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021
for
Ashperton Primary Academy Trust



Thorne Widgey Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
2 Wyevale Business Park
Kings Acre
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 7BS

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for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

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Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

MEMBERS: Mrs J A Dodds
Mrs R Nolan
A Freeman (resigned 18.3.21)
Mrs E James (resigned 15.11.20)
J A Taylor (Chairman)
C Bandfield (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)

GOVERNORS J A Taylor *
C Bandfield Headteacher and Accounting Officer *
A Freeman (resigned 18.3.21) *
Mrs E James (resigned 15.11.20) *
Mrs R Nolan
Mrs J A Dodds (Chair)
Mrs C Bullock
Miss K Bishop
Miss C Bushnell
P Hagger (resigned 16.9.21)
J Nicklin
P Mess (appointed 1.9.20)
G Jenkins Vice Chair (appointed 1.9.20)
Ms S Snowball (appointed 1.9.20)

* members of the finance and general purpose committee

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM: Mr C Bandfield (Headteacher)
Mrs C Bullock (Deputy Headteacher)
Mrs E Marriage
Mrs R Hassan

COMPANY NAME Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

COMPANY SECRETARY Wrigleys Solicitors LLP

REGISTERED OFFICE Ashperton Primary Academy Trust
Ashperton
Ledbury
Herefordshire
HR8 2SE

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 07551088 (England and Wales)

SENIOR STATUTORY AUDITOR K M Tong FCCA, ACA

AUDITORS Thorne Widgery Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
2 Wyevale Business Park
Kings Acre
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 7BS

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

SOLICITORS

Wrigleys Solicitors LLP
19 Crookbridge Street
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS2 3AG

BANKERS

Barclays Bank PLC
1-3 Broad Street
Hereford
HR4 9BA

Report of the Governors
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

The governors who are also directors of the academy trust for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the academy trust for the year ended 31 August 2021. The governors have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The Academy Trust's principal activities are, for the public benefit to:

- advance and promote education by, in particular but not limited to, the provision of facilities or property for any education institution;
- advance any other purposes which are exclusively charitable within the laws of England and Wales as may be determined by the Trustees.

In addition the aims of the Academy (as set down in Section 1(6) of the Academies Act 2010) are that:

- the school has a balanced and broadly based curriculum;
- the school provides education for pupils of different abilities;
- the school provides education for pupils who are wholly or mainly drawn from the area in which the school is situated.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

To achieve our objects and aims the Academy is governed, led and managed in a way which facilitates self-critical review, ambitious but realistic strategic planning, prudent budgeting and effective development planning. It is also outward-looking since it involves analysis of aspects of a changing world and other political, social and economic factors which may affect the nature and relevance of our provision and the demand for the education we offer. Good communication is vital so that pupils, parents and staff feel engaged and clear about the Academy's values, purpose and direction.

The long term aims, objectives and strategies are reviewed annually during a development planning process. The Headteacher reports on progress in implementing the development plan to Governors on a termly basis. Each Autumn, the Leadership Team reviews, with Governors, the Academy's effectiveness using a number of agreed performance indicators, including statistical data relating to academic performance. The Academy also has a well-established programme of staff performance, appraisal and target-setting.

Medium to long term objectives include:

- Provide the best possible outcomes for children through working to achieve the highest standards in teaching and learning, pastoral care and the extra-curricular programme so that each child thrives at the Academy.
- Maintain and further develop our buildings and resources to provide facilities fit for the 21st Century.
- Recruit and retain highly effective staff. To provide continuous professional development for our staff so that they are able to respond effectively to the changing demands of their roles.
- Utilise the latest developments in information technology to improve outcomes in teaching and learning, communication and information management.
- Remain financially stable, with strong control on expenditure and obtaining best value in financial decision-making.
- Foster good relations with all our stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

The Governors confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Academy's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the Governors consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

All the activities undertaken by the Academy Trust are for the education of its pupils and the good of the wider local community. As such the primary objective of the Academy Trust is to support those objectives and there is no financial return to any shareholders.

The Academy has a defined catchment area and is still a local community school providing education for the local population with pupils admitted in Reception and via in-year transfers through the Local Authority admissions department. These admissions arrangements are available to all regardless of whether they are in catchment or are currently living in the local area (i.e. moving into the area from another part of the country).

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance School Performance Data

KS2

% pupil attaining the expected standard or better

	Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	Ashperton 2020 Teacher Assessment (28 Pupils)	NCER National 2021	NCER LA 2021	Ashperton 2021 Teacher Assessment (26 pupils)
Reading	87	83	82	70	82	82
Writing	80	90	82	70	70	78
Maths	90	86	82	67	77	85
GP&S	83	93	100	NA	NA	NA
R,W & M	77	76	80	58	67	78

% pupils attaining the higher standard

	Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	Ashperton 2020 Teacher Assessment (28 pupils)	NCER National 2021	NCER LA 2021	Ashperton 2021 Teacher Assessment (26 pupils)
Reading	33	28	29	28	36	48
Writing	17	21	11	15	20	33
Maths	30	42	29	21	23	30
GP&S	33	55	14	NA	NA	NA
R,W & M	7	7	13	10	13	22

KS1

% pupil attaining the expected standard or better

	Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	Ashperton 2020 Teacher Assessment (28 pupils)	NCER National 2021	NCER LA 2021	Ashperton 2021 Teacher Assessment (26 pupils)
Reading	77	83	82	67	77	72
Writing	70	76	82	59	71	72
Maths	87	86	82	67	75	76
Science	90	90	100	NA	NA	NA
R,W & M	67	76	79	54	66	68

% pupils attaining greater depth

	Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	Ashperton 2020 Teacher Assessment (28 pupils)	NCER National 2021	NCER LA 2021	Ashperton 2021 Teacher Assessment (26 pupils)
Reading	33	28	29	19	26	28
Writing	23	21	11	10	15	12
Maths	23	28	29	15	19	20
R,W & M	13	21	7	7	11	12

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Report of the Governors for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Phonics Screening Check - Year 1

% pupils attaining the expected standard

National 2019	Herefordshire 2019	Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	Ashperton 2020 Year 2 (covid)	Ashperton 2021 Year 1
82	82	86	97	88	88

Early Years Foundation Stage

% pupils achieving a Good level of development

Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	NCER National 2021	NCER LA 2021	Ashperton 2021 (30 pupils)
79	72	58	70	60

Average Total Points Score

Ashperton 2018	Ashperton 2019	NCER National 2021	NCER LA 2021	Ashperton 2021 (30 pupils)
38	36	32	34	35

We are proud of our staff who have worked exceptionally well for our pupils. They have attended throughout lockdown to support the children of critical workers and identified vulnerable pupils, despite some staff being vulnerable and having concerns for their own families. They have provided highly effective remote learning via the Seesaw app, live Zoom lessons and twice daily attendance registers.

Staff have set work and fed back to pupils on a daily basis, being available, live, to all pupils until lunchtime each day. Periodic phone calls were made to all families to assess wellbeing and to get feedback on remote learning. Devices were provided to families that needed them. Safeguarding concerns were co-ordinated using My Concern and other agencies involved as appropriate. Safeguarding phone calls were made weekly or more often to families of vulnerable children. Effective communication between all stakeholders was maintained and co-ordinated by the school admin officer.

Our number on roll continues to look healthy into the new financial year.

The Governing Body uses a variety of documents to help assess performance and achievement of targets across a range of areas. These documents include: Inspection Data Summary Report, Fischer Family Trust, Perspective Lite, School Improvement Plan, ScholarPack pupil progress data and attendance data, parent questionnaire results, Governor visit reports, School Council interviews, Headteacher's report to Governors, Health and Safety Reports, Safeguarding Reports and Equality Reports. These form the basis of discussion and analysis at Governor meetings throughout the year.

Governors are proactive in scrutinising the above and require the Head to provide evidence to support the data. This process enables Governors to measure the progress of the School in relation to the aims and objectives that have been set by OFSTED and through the heads performance management process.

Report of the Governors
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Covid Catch Up Funding

Ashperton Primary Academy received Covid Catch Up Funding during 2020-21. This was spent on:

- Employing an additional Teacher in Year 2
- Employing an additional Teacher to support children in EYFS to support phonics, reading and writing.

Charitable activities

Our class organisation is as follows;

Red - Reception - Mrs Marriage and Mrs Ellis
Purple - Year 1 - Miss Young and Miss Wood
Orange - Year 2 - Mrs Bushnell and Mrs Spink
Green - Year 3 - Mrs Hassan, Mrs Edmunds, Mrs Donnelly and Mr Rowley
Blue - Year 4 - Miss Taylor and Mrs DaSilva
Yellow - Year 5 - Mrs Margetts and Miss Bishop
Turquoise - Year 6 - Mrs Bullock, Mrs Handley and Mrs Shelley

Sport

Covid impacted sport provision dramatically but the following events took place:

Sports Day, rounders matches, Herefordshire Cricket Tournament for Yrs 4 - 6, Forest School took place for Red, Green and Turquoise, a tennis coach worked with Y3,4,5 & 6, rambling club, rounders club and dance club.

Pupils from Y5 & 6 took part in an outdoor and adventurous residential at Mill on the Brue, Somerset.

Swimming Outcomes - Y6 - 92% were able to swim 25m (96% in 2019-20), 96% were able to use a range of strokes (96% in 2019-20), 92% were able to complete a safe rescue (93% in 2019-20).

Fundraising activities

December 2020 - Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

December 2020 - St Michael's Hospice Reindeer Run

Key financial performance indicators

Key financial performance indicators are considered throughout this report.

Financial review

Financial position

During the year ended 31 August 2021, total expenditure of £723,620 (2020: £694,339) was covered by recurrent grant funding from the DfES. The net resources expended before transfers and revaluations for the year was £46,334 deficit (2020: £1,763 surplus).

The Academy held fund balances at 31 August 2021 totalling £2,088,857 (2020: £2,169,191), including £313,484 (2020: £344,976) of restricted funds, a pension reserve deficit of £455,000 (2020: £392,000) and £73,877 (2020: £66,438) of unrestricted general funds.

It is the policy of the Academy to agree terms of payment with their suppliers when the order for goods and services is placed and to adhere to these arrangements when making payment.

At 31 August 2021 the net book value of fixed assets was £2,156,493 (2020: £2,149,776) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in the fixed asset note to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Principal funding sources

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the DfE in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds (non-fixed assets) in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2019), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed assets fund is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

Investment policy

The school will invest any surplus funds on deposit to ensure it maximises its return.

Reserves policy

The Academy's "free" reserves are its funds after excluding restricted funds. "Reserves" are therefore the resources the Academy has or can make available to spend for any or all of the Academy's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. More specifically "free reserves" represent income to the Academy which is to be spent at the governors discretion in furtherance of any of the Academy's objects but which is not yet spent, committed or designated.

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 Academy's current level of unrestricted reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £73,877 (2020: £66,438) all of which is free reserves. The level of general restricted reserves (less pension and fixed asset funds) is £313,484 (2020: £344,976).

The governors have planned a level of reserves that is appropriate.

The reasons for holding the current level of reserves include the procurement of a new extension and storage facilities, a contingency for replacing the MUGA carpet, resurfacing of playground and car parking spaces, a contingency for unforeseen capital works and to cover at least three months salaries.

Going concern

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

The Academy's non-teaching staff are entitled to membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme and under Accounting Standard FRS17, it is necessary to charge projected deficits on the Local Government Pension Scheme that is provided to support staff, to the restricted fund. The Academy's share of the Scheme's assets is currently assessed to be less than its liabilities in the Scheme and consequently the Academy balance sheet shows a net liability of £455,000 (2020: £392,000). The employer contributions are currently being assessed and it is expected that they will increase to bring a reduction in this pension deficit in the future, although this may not be achieved until stock market investment values start to recover.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Principal risks and uncertainties

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust recognises the responsibility it has under the Companies Act 2006 S417 (3b) to disclose the principal risks and uncertainties that it faces. The Academy acknowledges that its ability to provide for students the continuing advancement of education is reliant upon the agreed public funding levels, distributed to the school in the form of the GAG and LACSEG and it pays due regard to the known future reduction in that funding which is proposed (MFG -1.5%). The Academy acknowledges that its planned level of expenditure must not exceed the Academy's known income now and the future forecast income. In doing so, it pays due regard to the high proportion of costs based on wages and any forces influencing rising wage costs. It prepares detailed budget plans for the current year and there is robust internal financial monitoring. Time is spent looking at the likely out-turn for the current financial year and any significant factors contributing to a surplus (or future deficit). Ashperton Primary Academy Trust does have a defined pension deficit of £455,000 (2020: £392,000).

The principal risks and uncertainties are around adequate insurance, future pupil numbers and future government funding which are key areas in the Academy's risk register and ongoing risk management process.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Academy has full and robust financial and risk policies. They detail all the major risks to the Academy across numerous areas and how the risk is to be contained. Risk is an agenda item on all full Governor meetings and Resources Committee meetings.

Future plans

The Governors, Headteacher and SLT are working to ensure that the Academy maintains its outstanding status under the new Ofsted framework and most importantly, to provide outstanding outcomes for our pupils.

The Governors and SLT will continue to work to maintain the current upward trend in pupil attainment, pupil achievement, attendance and numbers on roll.

Strategic plans for the future include developing our use of Baggard's Field to enhance curriculum opportunities for pupils and to begin building work to create an extra room for music lessons and small group work, toilets and bespoke storage facilities to replace outdated sheds etc.

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 Governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as Ashperton Primary Academy.

Details of the Governors who served throughout the year except as noted are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1 and 2.

Impact of Covid on governance arrangements.

Meetings of trustees and governors took place via Zoom to reduce risk of Covid transmission and potential impact on personal safety and leadership and management of the academy.

Governor visits into school were impacted but some took place via Zoom and governors were able to attend pupils' remote learning sessions during lockdown.

Members' liability

Each member of the academy trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the 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 £[insert amount as stated in academy trust's funding agreement/memorandum and articles of association] for the debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a member.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governors' Indemnities

Governors benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the Academy Trust's expense to cover the liability of the governors 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, provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the governors knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the governors in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the governors in their capacity as directors of the Academy Trust.

The liability insurance is provided by Zurich.

Principal activities

This is defined in the Articles of Association.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Governors

The members may appoint Governors as per the Memorandum and Articles. The members may appoint Staff Governors provided that the total number of Staff Governors (including the Headteacher) does not exceed one-third of the total number of Governors. The LA at the request of the Members may appoint the LA governor. Parent Governors shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy by secret ballot and a Parent Governor must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when he is elected. The Governors may appoint up to 3 co-opted Governors. Additional Governors may, if deemed necessary, be appointed by the Secretary of State.

Organisational structure

On a day-to-day basis the operational running of the Academy has been delegated to the headteacher. The headteacher is able to delegate the day to day running of the school to the deputy headteacher. The headteacher acts as the Accounting Officer. The headteacher has 3 additional members of staff on the Senior Leadership Team. In addition, there are a further 6 members of teaching staff, 2 finance/administrative staff and 9 support staff in TA roles.

Policies and Procedures adopted for the Induction and training of Governors

All Governors are subject to an induction period with training and information given. Ongoing training is given to Governors and is provided by the Local Authority or through the School's membership of the Activate group.

Key management remuneration

The academy runs a rigorous system of performance management and appraisal which is linked to performance-related pay progression and is reviewed by the personnel and pay committee.

The headteacher reports to governors on the whole school appraisal cycle and on decisions relating to performance-related pay progression.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Ashperton Foundation own the "oldest" part of the building (front section of the School).

Related Party Relationships have been recorded on a Register of Director's Declarations of Interest and any additional declarations noted at the start of each Board of Directors Meeting.

Report of the Governors
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The Governors are responsible for the management of risks faced by the Academy. The Governors are assisted in this task by the Resources Committee, which comprises members of the Governing Body and the Senior Leadership Team.

Health and Safety (incorporating Risk Management) features as a termly standing item on the agenda for full Governors and Resources meetings. Continuity between these bodies is maintained through the Chair of the Resources Committee.

The key controls used by the Academy include:

- Formal agendas for all Committee and Governors' meetings;
- Detailed terms of reference for all Committees;
- Comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting;
- Established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- Formal written policies;
- Clear authorisation and approval levels; and
- Setting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

Through the risk management processes established for the Academy, the Governing Body are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary. It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.


AUDITORS

In so far as the Governors are aware:

- there is not relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and the Governors 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.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The Governors Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by the board of governors, as the company directors on 17th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mrs J A Dodds - Governor

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Governance Statement

for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Scope of Responsibility

As governors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Ashperton Primary 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 Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

The Governors consider that the Board and its Committees combined, meet adequately and regularly over the course of the year in order to discharge their responsibilities and have robust and effective management arrangements.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Governors and in the Governors' Responsibilities Statement. The board of governors has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of governors was as follows:

Governor		Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Chris Bandfield	Staff Governor (Headteacher)	4	4
John Taylor	Governor	3	4
Eleanor James	Governor	1	1
Tony Freeman	Governor	0	3
Ruth Nolan	Parent Governor	2	4
Jaqueline Dodds	Governor	4	4
Jon Nicklin	Governor	4	4
Caroline Bullock	Staff Governor	4	4
Catherine Bushnell	Staff Governor	4	4
Kate Bishop	Staff Governor	3	4
Phil Hagger	Parent Governor	4	4
Geraint Jenkins	Governor (Vice Chair)	3	3
Paul Mess	Parent Governor	1	1
Sue Snowball	Governor	0	1

Governance Review

The Academy reviews the skills set of the Governors to ensure a broad range of knowledge/expertise is represented.

A governance review is completed periodically and outcomes actioned as soon as possible.

The Finance, Resources and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to, amongst others, scrutinise and monitor the budget and all financial risks to the Academy; oversee performance management and staff pay; monitor capital expenditure and the current New Build project; monitor all control systems and allocate resources. Any further details are to be found on the Terms of Reference for this committee.

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

Governor		Meetings attended	Out of a Possible
C Bandfield	Headteacher & Accounting Officer	3	3
J Dodds		2	3
J Taylor	Chair of Resources	3	3
C Bullock		2	3
T Freeman		1	3
G Jenkins		3	3
P Mess		1	3

Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Review of Value for Money

The accounting officer, Christopher Bandfield, accepts that he is responsible and accountable for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. He is aware of the guide to academy value for money statements published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency and understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

He has set out below how he has ensured that the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

Principals

- Management and governors are given regular management accounts to track, and hold to account, the finances of the Academy. These reports are used to make informed decisions about the best use of the Academy funds. A schedule of delegation is reviewed and ratified each academic year by the Full Governing Body as is the risk register.
- The Academy use the principals of best value: challenge, compare consult, compete and apply them when making a decision about the allocation, targeting and use of resources to promote the aims and values of the school, improve standards and quality of provision and best support the various educational needs of all pupils.
- External Auditors review the schools financial procedures and audit the accounts, on an annual basis, reporting back to the Governors Resources Committee.
- Strong internal controls are in place to ensure that all orders and payments are signed by an authorised signature.
- A prudent budget is maintained, to improve the learning and teaching environment and to improve outcomes for all our pupils. Resources are shared where appropriate.
- When significant expenditure is due to take place, for example on a new IT system, different options are appraised and competitive quotations (usually 3) sought to ensure that the best value for money is obtained and that the investment will generate the best possible results for the Academy.
- Configuration and deployment of staff is reviewed annually at the Governing Body Resources Committee meeting, to ensure best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning and staff-pupil ratio.

Specific Examples

- We sought and obtained additional excellent value for money for all our service level agreements, whilst ensuring best quality and effectiveness continued.
- We obtain equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and learning.
- We have an ongoing cycle of monitoring the quality of our provision to provide pupils with the best possible outcomes.
- A thorough process was implemented to source the best value product for playground carpet areas.

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 Ashperton Primary Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of governors 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 governors 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 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of governors.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body;
- regular reviews by the Resources 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 Governing Body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, a peer review will be undertaken by Rachael Lovell, Academy Business Manager for Stretton Sugwas Academy


Review of Effectiveness

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

- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self assessment process;
- the work of the Governors within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 17th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs J A Dodds - Governor


.....
C Bandfield - Governor

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

As accounting officer of Ashperton Primary Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy board of governors and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy, under the funding agreement in place between the academy 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 2020.

I confirm that I and the academy board of governors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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 governors and ESFA.



C Bandfield - Accounting Officer

Date:17th December 2021.....

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Governors' Responsibility Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

The governors (who act as trustees of Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Governors and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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


In so far as the governors are aware:

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

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on17th.....December.....2021 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mrs J A Dodds - Governor

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Ashperton Primary Academy Trust**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ashperton Primary Academy Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

However, not all future events or conditions can be predicted. The COVID-19 viral pandemic is one of the most significant economic events for the UK with unprecedented levels of uncertainty of outcomes. It is therefore difficult to evaluate all of the potential implications on the entity's activities, funders, suppliers and wider economy. The Trustees' view on the impact of COVID-19 is disclosed in the Trustees' Report and the Accounting Policies.

Other information

The governors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Report of the Governors for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Governors has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Governors.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the governors were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Governors.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Governors' Responsibilities Statement, the governors (who are also the directors of the charitable company 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 governors 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 governors are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the governors either intend to liquidate the academy trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to both the Academy itself and the sector in which it operates. We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our sector experience and through discussion with the trustees and other management. The most significant were identified as the Department for Education, the Education and Schools Funding Agency, the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, the Academies Accounts Direction 2021, Companies Act legislation and Charities Act and FRS102 SORP legislation.

We considered the extent of compliance with those laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statements. Our audit procedures included:

- Making enquiries of management as to where they consider there to be a susceptibility to fraud and whether they have any knowledge or suspicion of fraud;
- Obtaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Assessing the design effectiveness of the controls in place to prevent and detect fraud;
- Assessing the risk of management override including identifying and testing journal entries;
- Challenging the assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates.

Whilst our audit did not identify any significant matters relating to the detection of irregularities including fraud, and despite the audit being planned and conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK), there remains an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected owing to inherent limitations of the audit, and that by their very nature, any such instances of fraud or irregularity would likely involve collusion, forgery, intentional misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.

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. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Use of our report

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



K M Tong FCCA, ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Thorne Widgery Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
2 Wyevale Business Park
Kings Acre
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 7BS

Date: ...20th December 2021...

Note:

The maintenance and integrity of the Ashperton Primary Academy Trust website is the responsibility of the governors; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to
Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Ashperton Primary Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Ashperton Primary 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 Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Ashperton Primary Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Ashperton Primary Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the 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 charitable company's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusions includes:

- detailed testing of a sample of items of income and expenditure to ensure appropriately applied for the purpose intended.
- specific testing, on a sample basis, of system controls relevant to the above
- a general review of correspondence with the appropriate authorities regarding Academy governance matters during the year
- a general review and discussion of the Academy's internal control procedures for establishing and maintaining systems of control and documentation regarding these matters.

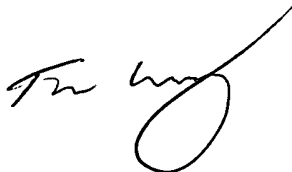
This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements to the extent evidence from the conduct of that audit supports the regularity conclusion.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to
Ashperton Primary Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

Thorne Widgey Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Reporting Accountant
2 Wyevale Business Park
Kings Acre
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 7BS



Date: 20th December 2021

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

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

					31.8.21	31.8.20
	Notes	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Restricted General Fund £	Total funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and capital grants	2	14,223	6,471	24,177	44,871	32,824
Charitable activities						
Funding for the academy's educational operations	3	-	-	898,123	898,123	891,194
Other trading activities	4	-	-	8,182	8,182	6,590
Investment income	5	46	-	-	46	190
Total		14,269	6,471	930,482	951,222	930,798
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities						
Academy's educational operations	3	6,830	67,899	922,827	997,556	929,055
Total	6	6,830	67,899	922,827	997,556	929,055
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		7,439	(61,428)	7,655	(46,334)	1,743
Transfers between funds	16	-	68,147	(68,147)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes		-	-	(34,000)	(34,000)	3,000
Net movement in funds		7,439	6,719	(94,492)	(80,334)	4,743
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		66,438	2,149,777	(47,024)	2,169,191	2,164,448
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		73,877	2,156,496	(141,516)	2,088,857	2,169,191


The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 August 2021

	Notes	31.8.21 £	31.8.20 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	12	2,156,493	2,149,776
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	45,339	33,674
Cash at bank and in hand		397,448	444,348
		<u>442,787</u>	<u>478,022</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(55,423)	(66,607)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>387,364</u>	<u>411,415</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,543,857	2,561,191
PENSION LIABILITY	17	(455,000)	(392,000)
NET ASSETS		<u>2,088,857</u>	<u>2,169,191</u>
FUNDS	16		
Restricted funds:			
General Annual Grant		240,822	274,966
Restricted Pension Fund		(455,000)	(392,000)
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants		930,677	949,617
Other Restricted		59,399	55,626
Predecessor School Surplus		160,832	164,762
Donations - Capital		773,659	786,988
Capital expenditure from GAG		291,328	248,410
Other DFE/ESFA - Sports Premium		13,263	14,384
		<u>2,014,980</u>	<u>2,102,753</u>
Unrestricted funds:			
Unrestricted Fund		73,877	66,438
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>2,088,857</u>	<u>2,169,191</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Governors and authorised for issue on 17th December 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
J A Dodds - Governor

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

	Notes	31.8.21 £	31.8.20 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	20,390	67,775
Net cash provided by operating activities		20,390	67,775
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(73,507)	(9,442)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA		6,171	6,216
Interest received		46	190
Net cash used in investing activities		(67,290)	(3,036)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(46,900)	64,739
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		444,348	379,609
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		397,448	444,348

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.8.21 £	31.8.20 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(46,334)	1,743
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	66,788	67,639
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(6,171)	(6,216)
Interest received	(46)	(190)
Increase in debtors	(11,663)	(4,785)
Decrease in creditors	(11,184)	(16,413)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	29,000	25,997
Net cash provided by operations	<u>20,390</u>	<u>67,775</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.9.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>444,348</u>	<u>(46,900)</u>	<u>397,448</u>
	<u>444,348</u>	<u>(46,900)</u>	<u>397,448</u>
Total	<u>444,348</u>	<u>(46,900)</u>	<u>397,448</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Ashperton Primary Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern & covid-19

The governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern. The Governors make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. The governors 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.

The trustees have considered the impact of the current COVID-19 pandemic on the future finances of the academy.

The Trustees are currently reviewing the financial position of the Academy to ensure it has a surplus on free reserves in the medium to long term, and the Trustees assume that the Academy will be able to continue as a going concern.

The Trustee's assessment that is appropriate to use the going concern assumption is based on the following:

- a) the Academy has adequate cash to fund its working capital requirements during this period;
- b) there is no significant unbudgeted expenditure or capital expenditure, unless supported by additional funding, during this period; and
- c) income is received in line with the forecast

On this basis the Trustees have concluded that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants

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

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the academy trust to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities are 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.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Long leasehold buildings	- 2% on cost
Improvements to property	- 10% on cost and 2% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% on cost and 10% on cost
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost and 20% on cost

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

Long leasehold land and buildings are subject to a 125 year lease with the local authority. Land and buildings were valued by the ESFA on conversion to academy status. Depreciation on the buildings element is included within expenditure in the SOFA in accordance with the above policies.

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

Liabilities

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

Provisions

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

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

Leased Assets

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

Financial instruments

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

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

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy Trust are provided by the Teacher's 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. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to 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 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.

The annual valuation at 31 August 2021 has taken into account the effects of the McCloud judgement.

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

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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in the notes to the accounts, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at the year end. 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

2. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.8.21 Total funds £	31.8.20 Total funds £
Grants	-	6,171	6,171	6,216
School funds	12,681	21,189	33,870	20,989
Other donations	1,542	3,288	4,830	5,619
	<u>14,223</u>	<u>30,648</u>	<u>44,871</u>	<u>32,824</u>

£23,347 included in the comparatives related to restricted funds and £9,477 related to unrestricted funds.

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.8.21 £	31.8.20 £
Capital Grant	<u>6,171</u>	<u>6,216</u>

3. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.8.21 Total funds £	31.8.20 Total funds £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant(GAG)	-	745,247	745,247	761,974
Other DfE/EFSA grants				
Teachers Pay Grant	-	5,267	5,267	5,513
Teachers Pension Grant	-	29,196	29,196	29,968
Universal Infants Free School Meals Grant	-	25,573	25,573	26,663
Pupil Premium Grant	-	32,468	32,468	29,615
Sports / PE Grant	-	17,700	17,700	17,700
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	3,678	3,678	8,775
	<u>-</u>	<u>859,129</u>	<u>859,129</u>	<u>880,208</u>
Local Authority grant				
Local Authority grants	-	23,714	23,714	10,986
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Covid Catch up Premium	-	15,280	15,280	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>898,123</u>	<u>898,123</u>	<u>891,194</u>

All of the figures included in the comparatives related to restricted funds.

In 2020/21 the academy received £15k of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £15k.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.8.21 Total funds	31.8.20 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Catering income	-	382	382	33
Other income	-	7,800	7,800	6,557
	<u>-</u>	<u>8,182</u>	<u>8,182</u>	<u>6,590</u>

£5,593 included in the comparatives related to restricted funds and £997 related to unrestricted funds.

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.8.21 Total funds	31.8.20 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Short term deposits	46	-	46	190
	<u>46</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>190</u>

All of the figures included in the comparatives related to unrestricted funds.

6. EXPENDITURE

	Non-pay expenditure			31.8.21	31.8.20
	Staff costs	Premises	Other costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	657,565	9,550	145,932	813,047	741,733
Allocated support costs	36,435	77,184	70,890	184,509	187,322
	<u>694,000</u>	<u>86,734</u>	<u>216,822</u>	<u>997,556</u>	<u>929,055</u>

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	8,210	7,715
Other non-audit services	1,536	381
Depreciation - owned assets	66,790	67,636
Operating leases	<u>1,543</u>	<u>1,530</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.8.21 Total funds £	31.8.20 Total funds £
Direct costs	-	813,047	813,047	741,733
Support costs	6,830	177,679	184,509	187,322
	<u>6,830</u>	<u>990,726</u>	<u>997,556</u>	<u>929,055</u>
			31.8.21 Total £	31.8.20 Total £
Analysis of support costs				
Support staff costs			36,435	35,117
Depreciation			8,976	10,293
Administrative supplies			13,823	13,693
Premises costs			77,184	71,827
Other support costs			38,345	48,296
Governance costs			9,746	8,096
Total support costs			<u>184,509</u>	<u>187,322</u>

All of the figures included in the comparatives related to restricted funds.

8. GOVERNORS' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

The Headteacher and staff governors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Headteacher and staff and not in respect of their services as governors. Other governors did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy in respect of their role as governors. The Value of governors' remuneration was as follows:

		2021	2020
C Bandfield Headteacher	Remuneration	£70,000 - £75,000	£65,000 - £70,000
	Er Pension Contributions	£15,000 - £20,000	£15,000 - £20,000
C Bushnell Staff Governor	Remuneration	£30,000 - £35,000	£25,000 - £30,000
	Er Pension Contributions	£5,000 - £10,000	£5,000 - £10,000
K Bishop Staff Governor	Remuneration	£20,000 - £25,000	£15,000 - £20,000
	Er Pension Contributions	£5,000 - £10,000	£0 - £5,000
C Bullock Staff Governor	Remuneration	£45,000 - £50,000	£45,000 - £50,000
	Er Pension Contributions	£10,000 - £15,000	£10,000 - £15,000

The salaries for staff new and departing staff governors in the year are presented as annual amounts.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

8. GOVERNORS' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS - continued

Governors' expenses

During the period ended 31 August 2021, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £nil (2020: £nil) were reimbursed to the governors.

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

9. STAFF COSTS

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	485,657	458,158
Social security costs	45,935	38,917
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	121,099	103,925
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	652,691	601,000
Supply teacher costs	41,309	37,475
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>694,000</u>	<u>638,475</u>

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the academy trust during the year was as follows:

	31.8.21	31.8.20
Teachers	5	5
Administration and support	7	7
Management	4	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>16</u>	<u>16</u>

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

	31.8.21	31.8.20
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £271,319 (2020: £260,962).

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

10. GOVERNORS' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Governors and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the period ended 31 August 2021 is included in the total insurance premium.

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

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Restricted General Fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and capital grants	9,477	6,217	17,130	32,824
Charitable activities				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	-	-	891,194	891,194
Other trading activities	997	-	5,593	6,590
Investment income	190	-	-	190
Total	10,664	6,217	913,917	930,798
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable activities				
Academy's educational operations	4,881	73,855	850,319	929,055
Total	4,881	73,855	850,319	929,055
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	5,783	(67,638)	63,598	1,743
Transfers between funds	-	26,228	(26,228)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	-	-	3,000	3,000
Net movement in funds	5,783	(41,410)	40,370	4,743
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	60,656	2,191,187	(87,395)	2,164,448
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	66,439	2,149,777	(47,025)	2,169,191

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Long leasehold buildings £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 September 2020	775,079	1,718,721	37,294	126,630	2,657,724
Additions	-	64,169	1,208	8,130	73,507
At 31 August 2021	775,079	1,782,890	38,502	134,760	2,731,231
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 September 2020	89,928	270,706	27,814	119,500	507,948
Charge for year	9,550	48,263	3,557	5,420	66,790
At 31 August 2021	99,478	318,969	31,371	124,920	574,738
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 August 2021	675,601	1,463,921	7,131	9,840	2,156,493
At 31 August 2020	685,151	1,448,015	9,480	7,130	2,149,776

The land and buildings are included at a valuation prepared by Education & Skills Funding Agency in 2012. Included within the Long leasehold value of £775,079 is an amount of £297,600 relating to land.

Leasehold land and buildings are subject to a 125 year lease with the local authority and The Trustees of the Ashperton Foundation.

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.8.21 £	31.8.20 £
Other debtors	2,486	3,729
VAT	2,844	4,506
Prepayments and accrued income	40,009	25,439
	<u>45,339</u>	<u>33,674</u>

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.8.21 £	31.8.20 £
Trade creditors	13,157	14,478
Social security and other taxes	24,731	22,380
Accrued expenses	2,849	12,282
Deferred government grants	14,686	17,467
	<u>55,423</u>	<u>66,607</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR - continued

Deferred income	31.8.21 £
Deferred income brought forward	17,467
Resources deferred in the years	14,686
Amounts released from previous years	(17,467)
	<u>14,686</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance in relation to Universal Infant Free School Meal income relating to the 21/22 financial year totalling £14,686 (2020: £15,302).

15. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

		Restricted		31.8.21
	Unrestricted	Fixed	Restricted	Total
	Fund	Asset	General	funds
	£	Funds	Fund	£
Fixed assets	-	2,156,493	-	2,156,493
Current assets	73,877	1	368,909	442,787
Current liabilities	-	2	(55,425)	(55,423)
Pension liability	-	-	(455,000)	(455,000)
	<u>73,877</u>	<u>2,156,496</u>	<u>(141,516)</u>	<u>2,088,857</u>

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

		Restricted		31.8.20
	Unrestricted	Fixed	Restricted	Total
	Fund	Asset	General	funds
	£	Funds	Fund	£
Fixed assets	-	2,149,776	-	2,149,776
Current assets	66,438	1	411,583	478,022
Current liabilities	-	-	(66,607)	(66,607)
Pension liability	-	-	(392,000)	(392,000)
	<u>66,438</u>	<u>2,149,777</u>	<u>(47,024)</u>	<u>2,169,191</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.20 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.21 £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	274,966	34,003	(68,147)	240,822
Restricted Pension Fund	(392,000)	(63,000)	-	(455,000)
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	949,617	(18,940)	-	930,677
Other Restricted	55,626	3,773	-	59,399
Predecessor School Surplus	164,762	(3,930)	-	160,832
Donations - Capital	786,988	(13,329)	-	773,659
Capital expenditure from GAG	248,410	(25,229)	68,147	291,328
Other DFE/ESFA - Sports Premium	14,384	(1,121)	-	13,263
	<u>2,102,753</u>	<u>(87,773)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,014,980</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Fund	66,438	7,439	-	73,877
	<u>2,169,191</u>	<u>(80,334)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,088,857</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	745,248	(711,245)	-	34,003
Restricted Pension Fund	-	(29,000)	(34,000)	(63,000)
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	6,172	(25,112)	-	(18,940)
Other Restricted	56,073	(52,300)	-	3,773
Other DFE/ESFA grants	3,678	(3,678)	-	-
Predecessor School Surplus	-	(3,930)	-	(3,930)
Donations - Capital	299	(13,628)	-	(13,329)
Capital expenditure from GAG	-	(25,229)	-	(25,229)
Other DFE/ESFA - Covid Catch Up Premium	15,280	(15,280)	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA - Pupil Premium ESFA	32,468	(32,468)	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA - Sports Premium	17,699	(18,820)	-	(1,121)
Other DFE/ESFA - Teachers Pay Grant	5,267	(5,267)	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA - Teachers Pension Grant	29,196	(29,196)	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA - UIFSM	25,573	(25,573)	-	-
	<u>936,953</u>	<u>(990,726)</u>	<u>(34,000)</u>	<u>(87,773)</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Fund	14,269	(6,830)	-	7,439
	<u>951,222</u>	<u>(997,556)</u>	<u>(34,000)</u>	<u>(80,334)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.20 £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	229,946	67,634	(22,614)	274,966
Restricted Pension Fund	(369,000)	(23,000)	-	(392,000)
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	973,409	(23,792)	-	949,617
Other Restricted	47,829	7,797	-	55,626
Other DfE/ESFA grants	3,830	(216)	(3,614)	-
Predecessor School Surplus	168,692	(3,930)	-	164,762
Donations - Capital	802,978	(14,638)	(1,352)	786,988
Capital expenditure from GAG	246,108	(25,278)	27,580	248,410
Other DfE/ESFA - Sports Premium	-	14,384	-	14,384
	<u>2,103,792</u>	<u>(1,039)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,102,753</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Fund	60,656	5,782	-	66,438
	<u>60,656</u>	<u>5,782</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,438</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>2,164,448</u></u>	<u><u>4,743</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>2,169,191</u></u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	761,973	(694,339)	-	67,634
Restricted Pension Fund	-	(26,000)	3,000	(23,000)
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	6,216	(30,008)	-	(23,792)
Other Restricted	33,710	(25,913)	-	7,797
Other DfE/ESFA grants	8,775	(8,991)	-	(216)
Predecessor School Surplus	-	(3,930)	-	(3,930)
Donations - Capital	-	(14,638)	-	(14,638)
Capital expenditure from GAG	1	(25,279)	-	(25,278)
Other DfE/ESFA - Pupil Premium ESFA	29,615	(29,615)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA - Sports Premium	17,700	(3,316)	-	14,384
Other DfE/ESFA - Teachers Pay Grant	9,274	(9,274)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA - Teachers Pension Grant	26,207	(26,207)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA - UIFSM	26,663	(26,663)	-	-
	<u>920,134</u>	<u>(924,173)</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>(1,039)</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Fund	10,664	(4,882)	-	5,782
	<u>10,664</u>	<u>(4,882)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,782</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>930,798</u></u>	<u><u>(929,055)</u></u>	<u><u>3,000</u></u>	<u><u>4,743</u></u>

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

16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

- General Annual Grant (GAG): Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at the year end.
- Other DfE/ESFA Grants: are utilised for the purposes intended by the donor.
- Other Restricted General Funds: include payments made towards Academy trips.
- The Pension Fund: is the surplus/(deficit) in the Local Government Pension Scheme.
- Restricted Fixed Asset Funds: include the fixed assets transferred on conversion to Academy, capital grants, additions and depreciation.
- Unrestricted Funds: are all those income and expenses for general use in the Academy.

Transfers between funds

During the year a transfer between funds was made in respect of capital assets purchased which have been funded by the General Annual Grant (GAG).

17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

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

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

Contributions amounting to £13,349 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020 - £11,681) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' pension scheme

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Valuation of the teachers' pension scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £87,950 (2020 - £78,715).

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

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

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £33,874 (2020: £31,723), of which employer's contributions totalled £26,403 (2020: £25,211) and employees' contributions totalled £7,471 (2020: £6,512). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.9% for employers and between 5.5% and 9.9% for employees.

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

As the scheme is in deficit, the academy has entered into an agreement with the governors to make additional contributions in addition to normal funding levels.

The rates payable over a three year period will be the Future Service Rate of 18.9% of payroll plus phased lump sum deficit contributions starting at £6,900 for the year to 31 March 2020, increasing by approximately 3.5% per annum. The rate payable from 1 April 2023 will be further revised following the next valuation of the Pension Fund on the 31 March 2022.

The current estimated recovery period is 22 years.

The annual valuation at 31 August 2021 has taken into account the effects of the McCloud judgement.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(915,000)	(745,000)
Fair value of plan assets	460,000	353,000
	<u>(455,000)</u>	<u>(392,000)</u>
Present value of unfunded obligations	-	-
Deficit	<u>(455,000)</u>	<u>(392,000)</u>
Net liability	<u>(455,000)</u>	<u>(392,000)</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Current service cost	56,000	46,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	6,000	6,000
Past service cost	-	-
	<u>62,000</u>	<u>52,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>68,000</u>	<u>9,000</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Opening defined benefit obligation	745,000	683,000
Current service cost	56,000	46,000
Contributions by scheme participants	8,000	7,000
Interest cost	13,000	12,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	95,000	-
Benefits paid	(2,000)	(3,000)
	<u>915,000</u>	<u>745,000</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Opening fair value of scheme assets	353,000	314,000
Contributions by employer	34,000	26,000
Contributions by scheme participants	8,000	7,000
Expected return	7,000	6,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	61,000	3,000
Benefits paid	(2,000)	(3,000)
Administration expenses	(1,000)	-
	<u>460,000</u>	<u>353,000</u>

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(34,000)	3,000
	<u>(34,000)</u>	<u>3,000</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as amounts of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Equities	383,000	232,000
Government bonds	-	24,000
Bonds - Other	-	19,000
Cash/liquidity	12,000	15,000
Other	45,000	44,000
Property	20,000	19,000
	<u>460,000</u>	<u>353,000</u>

The academy trust's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme and the expected rates of return were:

	Fair value at 31 August 2020	Fair value at 31 August 2019
	£	£
Equities	232,000	222,000
Government Bonds	24,000	24,000
Other bonds	19,000	16,000
Property	19,000	19,000
Cash/liquidity	15,000	9,000
Other	44,000	24,000
	<u>353,000</u>	<u>314,000</u>
Total market value of assets	353,000	314,000

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Present value of scheme liabilities		
- Funded	(745,000)	(683,000)
Surplus/(deficit) in the same scheme	(392,000)	(369,000)

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	31.8.21	31.8.20
Discount rate	1.70%	1.80%
Future salary increases	4.30%	3.80%
Future pension increases	2.90%	2.40%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.80%	2.30%

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

Retiring today		
Males	22.7	22.6
Females	25.1	25
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.4	24.2
Females	27.1	27

Sensitivity analysis	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	(20,000)	(17,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	20,000	17,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	29,000	21,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(28,000)	(20,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	20,000	16,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(20,000)	(16,000)

18. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no significant contingent liabilities that the Governors are aware of.

19. LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS, INCLUDING OPERATING LEASES

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£	£
Within one year	1,212	1,242
Between one and five years	513	1,365
	1,725	2,607

During the year, the trust also began occupying a field for educational purposes. The field is intended to be used for the next three years at an annual cost of £700. However, no formal contract exists, therefore no lease disclosure has been included.

20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

No related party transactions took place in the period of account.