(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 August 2021

Company Registration number: 07631213 (England and Wales)



### Contents

| Reference and Administrative Details   | 1 to 2   |
|--|----------|
| Governors' Report  | 3 to 8   |
| Governance Statement   | 9 to 12  |
| Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance  | 13       |
| Statement of Governors' Responsibilities   | 14       |
| Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Highcliffe School                   | 15 to 18 |
| Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity  | 19 to 20 |
| Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021 (including Income and Expenditure Account) | 21 to 22 |
| Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021   | 23       |
| Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021  | 24       |
| Notes to the Financial Statements  | 25 to 48 |

### **Reference and Administrative Details**

Members Mr P D Earnshaw (resigned 27 February 2021)

Mr P A Hilliard

Mr J Allin Mr S Midgley Mr G Moore

Governors Mr P D Ea

Mr P D Earnshaw, \* (Headteacher)

Mr P A Hilliard, \* (Chair of Governors)

Ms J Bascombe (appointed 30 September 2021)

Captain M Ellis Ms S E Evans Ms K A Pichlmann Ms E-K A Rickard Mr S Sesodia, \*

Mr J Smith (appointed 1 September 2021)

Mr N Sykes, \*
Mr S J Welch
Mr G West, \*

Mr M Fretten (resigned 17 September 2020)
Ms S Hogg (resigned 16 September 2021)
Mr M Sedgley, \* (resigned 30 April 2021)

<sup>\*</sup> Members of the Resources Committee.

### Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

**Principal** 

Mr P D Earnshaw

Company

07631213

**Registration Number** 

Independent **Auditors** 

**PKF Francis Clark** Statutory Auditor Hitchcock House Hilltop Park **Devizes Road** Salisbury Wiltshire **SP3 4UF** 

Team

Senior Management Mr P D Earnshaw, Headteacher

Mr E Davies, Assistant Headteacher

Mr M Downs, Assistant Headteacher

Mr S Fuller, Director of Business and Finance

Ms S Giller, Assistant Headteacher

Mr D Prodomo, Assistant Headteacher - Resigned 31/12/2021

Ms L Swan, Assistant Headteacher

Principal and

**Registered Office** 

Parkside Highcliffe Christchurch Dorset **BH23 4QD** 

**Bankers** 

Lloyds Bank Plc 4 Castle Street Christchurch Dorset **BH23 1DU** 

**Solicitors** 

Blake Lapthorn **New Kings Court** 

Tollgate

**Chandlers Ford** Eastleigh Hampshire SO53 3LG

### Governors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

The Governors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the period from 1st September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Governors' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates an Academy for pupils aged 11 to 19 serving a catchment area in East Dorset and the New Forest. It has a pupil capacity of 1,401 and had a roll of 1,516 in the school census for January 2021.

### 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 of Highcliffe School are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Highcliffe School.

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

### Members' Liability

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

### Governors' Indemnities

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

### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

The number of governors serving at any time shall not be subject to any maximum. The members may appoint up to 9 governors. A maximum of 3 staff governors and 6 parent governors can be appointed. Any contested election of parent governors is held by secret ballot. A parent governor must be a parent of a registered student at the academy at the time of the election. The governors may appoint up to 3 co-opted governors. The term of office of any governor is 4 years.

### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Governors

The induction and training for new governors will be handled either by a mentor or by the Clerk to the Governors. New governors meet with the Chair of Governors before their first meeting. All new governors are encouraged to attend Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council's course for new governors. Specialist training is arranged for specific responsibilities such as child protection. Governors are kept updated with changes in education through subscriptions to National Governor Association, the Schoolbus subscription, and attendance at training courses run by the Association of School and College Leaders.

### Governors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### Organisational Structure

The Full Governing Body is required to meet at least once per term. Specific business areas are delegated to the following committees on which the Headteacher also sits. Although some of the organisation's activities are delegated to the committees listed below, all of the committees remain answerable to the authority of the Full Governing Board. The Director of Business and Finance, and members of the Senior Leadership Team also attend committees as appropriate.

The Resources Committee meets several times a year and oversees financial matters, maintenance of the school site and buildings and health and safety. The Committee also reviews financial controls and risks and agrees relevant programmes of work to implement required improvements. In addition, at least once a year its agenda will review the School's pay policies, the School's Performance Management process and oversee matters relating to staffing, including annual review of the Headteacher's performance.

The School Performance Committee meets at least five times a year and strategically plans and monitors the School's formal and informal curriculum provision. The committee also reviews the school's examination performance. In addition, it oversees the School's admissions policies and procedures, safeguarding and child protection and the transition arrangements for students progressing from primary schools.

All committees conduct an annual review of policies.

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

The school is fully aligned with Dorset County Councils pay and conditions and this covers all staff. Key management personnel sit within that grade structure and that level has been determined by Governor review against other similar schools in the locality and is monitored on a regular basis.

### Trade union facility time

### Relevant union officials

| Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period | Full-time equivalent employee number |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| -  | -                                    |

### Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Highcliffe School leads the Highcliffe Learning Alliance. This network provides a framework for a programme of shared teaching and learning across the age range (primary / secondary). Participating schools value this alliance as part of their school improvement programme.

### Governors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### **Objectives and Activities**

### **Objects and Aims**

Highcliffe recognises that it is a good school however we also always look to continually improve our practices. We believe that the learner should be at the center of all school activities and that a consistent approach to the experiences provided for our learners is a key feature of our school development plan and it is this belief that informs our Vision Statement of:

### 'We believe in the power of education to change lives'

### Objectives, Strategies and Activities

Our Mission

- To provide a safe, nurturing environment that promotes happy confident learners possessing self-discipline, self-motivation and respect for others, who acknowledge their responsibilities toward each other and the wider community.
- Through our teaching to allow students to develop into talented, ambitious young adults equipped with the intellectual and practical skills to enhance their own lives and of those around them.
- To use our resources responsibly to secure maximum achievement in all aspects of our students' education.

The 2020/2021 Academic year was again significantly impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic meaning that the school had to react quickly to move much of the teaching and assessment online. Highcliffe also had to move much of its support services online to reduce the need for staff to be in school and to be able to provide the 'in school' teaching to the most vulnerable students.

### Public Benefit

The Academy provides educational services to all children in the local area. The Governors confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

We aim to ensure secure learning for all our students and ensure that they have a relevant experience which will equip them for the future world.

The governors have complied with their duty to have due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their power and duties.

The school offers considerable public benefit through its role as a local, non-selective provider of education and the links it has developed with the local community. The school has strong links with multi-agencies such as the family partnership zone, police and social services and runs several focus days for students using police, health and other community organisations.

The school maintains strong curriculum links with its seven feeder schools both in Dorset and Hampshire via the Highcliffe Learning Alliance. Outreach work occurred in Mathematics, Modern Foreign Languages, Science, Physical Education, Music and ICT however some of this was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

# Governors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued) Strategic Report

#### **Achievements and Performance**

With the cancellations of examinations for Year 11 and Year 13 students the school undertook a robust process of generating Teacher Assessed Grades (TAG's) in line with Ofqual requirements. This process saw subject areas use a range of evidence to assess students against grade descriptors provided by OfQUAL and the Examination Boards.

No national school performance tables or data is being produced for the 2020/2021 academic year and without this the school feels it improper to use previous year statistics to generate inaccurate progress scores and to publish attainment information based on Teacher Assessed Grades.

The school worked to provide support for students in Year 13 in their university applications and over the acceptance period. This concluded in a large proportion moving to top Russell Group or top performing universities.

The vast majority of students wishing to progress to University did so or received deferred offers to access their University next year. Where students opted to apprenticeships we supported these student fully in their application and any difficulties presented due to the pandemic.

At the end of GCSE we saw a high number of students continue their education in to our Sixth Form with students showing a trust in Highcliffe School to support them in to their Key Stage 5 education. Students were also supported fully by our Careers adviser in moving to alternative providers where this was suitable.

For both Year 11 and Year 13 students the school fully offered the GCSE and A-Level examinations in October and November allowing students an opportunity to sit examinations if they felt their Centre Assessed Grade did not fully reflect their potential.

KS4 Destinations data from 2017 (last data available) showed 97% of students progressing to education or employment at the end of Year 11 exceeding the national figure of 94%. The KS5 progression information from 2016 (last data available) showed that at the end of Year 13 74% of our students progressed to sustained higher education or training against a national figure of 62%. The school has invested heavily over the past years around the suitability of the school's curriculum, subsequent adjustments made for individuals and the CEIG which we believe is now showing an improvement to these destination figures and would expect them to continue to improve further.

### Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Governors has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. This is supported by a robust three year financial plan which has been stress tested for different risks such as changes in pupil numbers, differing funding levels and another Covid outbreak. 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.

# Governors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued) Strategic Report

#### Financial Review

During the year to 31 August 2021, the school generated through improved per pupil income and continuation of cost control strategies that have been implemented over the last few years a surplus of £251,000 (2020 - £54,000) in the restricted general fund after transfers and excluding the pension reserve, which relates mainly to the recurrent general grant from the Education and Skills Funding Agency. The unrestricted balance at 31 August 2021 was £656,000 (2020 - £629,000) this was after careful control of the implications of Covid specifically the enhanced testing and cleaning regimes. The school also managed to continue investing in the infrastructure with the completion of an extension to house additional study space for the sixth form.

### Reserves Policy

The total of reserves held in both restricted and unrestricted revenue funds, excluding the pension fund reserve, amounts to a £284,000 surplus (2020 - £6,000). This includes amounts of funding received by the school prior to conversion to academy status. The Governors intend that Reserves should be retained at an appropriate but not excessive level to balance the continual investment in year with planning for future developments. Longer term initiatives include the review of arrangements to provide places for increased student numbers transferring from local feeder schools and planned new housing developments in the locality.

### Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Over 90% of the School's revenue funding is provided by the Education Funding Agency in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to specific purposes.

The School's approach to strategic planning takes account of potential changes to funding levels being brought about by the application of revised local and national formulae for the allocation of funds between institutions. This aims to ensure that planned levels of expenditure can be accommodated through anticipated levels of funding and reserves.

### **Fundraising**

The academy trust does not use external fund raisers.

All fundraising activities undertaken in the year was monitored by the Governors.

### Impact of Covid

Whilst lockdown started on March 23rd Highcliffe was well prepared to start on that day with both remote learning and providing onsite learning for Vulnerable and Key Worker students. The provision continued very successfully through term time and holidays and after May half term was expanded as Government requested to provide onsite learning for years 10 and 12. The school ensured that it always Covid secure whilst providing these provisions.

The school incurred extra costs around IT support to staff and students, cleaning, hygiene, signage and much more but also saw compensating savings from the subsidised transport, utilities and overall this meant the school was able to cover this period whilst not undermining the improvement plans for our reserves.

# Governors' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued) Strategic Report

### Plans for Future Periods

The Governing Body is committed to maintaining and improving the infrastructure of the School whilst maintaining a balanced budget. It has done this by having a detailed three year financial plan which has been flexed to ensure it is robust enough to survive risks such as fall in pupil numbers, reduced funding or another Covid outbreak.

In addition the School actively bids through the ESFAs Condition Improvement fund and has successfully won £1.8m through this process to replace the Hot Water and Heating systems in the main building. This work will be undertaken through 2021 and 2022.

#### **Auditor**

Insofar as the Governors are aware:

- · there is no 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.

The Governors' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the Governing Body, as the company directors, on 2.1.2.1.2021 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Mr P A Hilliard Governor

### **Governance Statement**

### Scope of responsibility

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

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to Mr P D Earnshaw, \* (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 Highcliffe School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities. The Governing Body has formally met 7 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Governing Body was as follows:

| Trustee                                   | Meetings<br>attended | Out of a possible |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|
| Mr P D Earnshaw, * (Headteacher)          | 6                    | 7                 |
| Captain M Ellis                           | 5                    | 7                 |
| Ms S E Evans                              | 7                    | 7                 |
| Mr M Fretten (resigned 17 September 2020) | 0                    | 2                 |
| Mr P A Hilliard, * (Chair of Governors)   | 7                    | 7                 |
| Ms K A Pichlmann                          | 7                    | 7                 |
| Ms E-K A Rickard                          | • 6                  | 7                 |
| Mr M Sedgley, * (resigned 30 April 2021)  | 5                    | 5                 |
| Mr S Sesodia, *                           | 6                    | 7                 |
| Mr N Sykes, *                             | 7                    | 7                 |
| Mr S J Welch                              | 6                    | 7                 |
| Mr G West, *                              | 7                    | 7                 |

### **Governance Statement (continued)**

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to ensure compliance with relevant statutory and internal regulations; to submit annual revenue and capital budgets to the full governing body for approval; to monitor actual expenditure against these budgets; to annually review the School's internal financial policies and procedures, including the policy for fees and charges and to be responsible for:

- · receiving quotations, tenders and contracts for all services;
- risk management and insurance arrangements;
- the maintenance, refurbishment and safety of buildings.

During the year, this committee also absorbed the functions of the Audit Committee which reviews risks to internal financial control at the Academy Trust. This includes responsibility for:

- · Establishing arrangements for internal audit;
- Informing the Governance Statement in the statutory published accounts;
- · Providing assurance to the external auditors.

Activities of this committee during the academic year 2020/21 included:

- ensuring completion of statutory returns to the Education & Skills Funding Agency
- setting budgets including the new additional 2 year forecast required by the ESFA in accordance with statutory guidelines and monitored activities against the budgets
- Approving the charging policy for 2020/21
- Reviewing Financial Controls Documents
- Reviewing employer discretions under the Local Government Pension Scheme
- Overseeing the enacting of the two year option on the catering contract
- · Reviewing and approving the change in Internal Audit provider

Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

| Trustee         | Meetings<br>attended | Out of a possible |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Mr N Sykes      | 5                    | 5                 |
| Mr S Sesodia    | 5                    | 5                 |
| Mr P A Hilliard | 5                    | 5                 |
| Ms S E Evans    | 3                    | 5                 |
| Mr M Sedgley    | 3                    | 3                 |
| Mr G West       | 4                    | 5                 |

### **Governance Statement (continued)**

### **Review of Value for Money**

As Accounting Officer the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Governors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by deploying existing resources in a manner that has improved performance of the school's students in a number of ways.

Over the coming year, the school intends to review the value for money obtained from services provided or centrally tendered by both the new Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council as well as Dorset Council, and to consider the potential benefit of engaging alternative suppliers.

### 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 priorities the risks to the achievement of the School's 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 Highcliffe School for the year ended 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

### Capacity to Handle Risk

The Governing Body has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Governing Body is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ending 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

### The Risk and Control Framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the finance and facilities committee on behalf of 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
- Clearly defined purchasing guidelines
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- · Identification and management of risks
- Reviewing reports from the internal auditor. This service is provided by Moore South (previously Moore Stephens)

### **Governance Statement (continued)**

During the year, the internal auditors carried out checks on the following areas:

- Management Accounts Preparation
- Budget setting and approvals process
- Bank reconciliations
- Payroll checking and authorisation
- Opening balances
- Top 10 musts and Governance Structures
- Scheme of Delegation
- Census
- Purchase cycle
- Charge cards
- Related Parties and Register of Interests

### **Review of Effectiveness**

As accounting officer, Mr P D Earnshaw, \* (Headteacher) has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- · the work of the internal auditor;
- · the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The 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 Governing Body on 2/12/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr P A Hilliard Governor

### Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of Highcliffe School I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Governing Body and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

Mr P D Earnshaw, \* (Headteacher)

Accounting officer

Date: 7/12/2/

### Statement of Governors' Responsibilities

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

Company law requires the 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 its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards [FRS 102] have been followed, subject to any
  material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The 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 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.

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 Governing Body on  $2\sqrt{12/202}$  and signed on its behalf by

Mr P A Hilliard Governor

# Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Highcliffe School

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Highcliffe School (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy'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, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

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

### 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's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were authorised for issue.

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

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

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Highcliffe School (continued)

### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- · the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- · certain disclosures of Governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- · we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### Responsibilities of Governors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities [set out on page 14], the Governors 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'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 or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

## Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Highcliffe School (continued)

As part of our audit planning we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that is applicable to the entity and the education sector in which it operates to identify the key laws and regulations affecting the entity. The key laws and regulations we identified were compliance with the funding agreement and Academies Financial Handbook 2020 and requirements with regard to safeguarding.

We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements, primarily the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21, Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

We discussed with management how the compliance with these laws and regulations is monitored and discussed the policies and procedures in place. We also identified the individuals who have responsibility for ensuring that the entity complies with laws and regulations and deals with reporting any issues if they arise.

As part of our planning procedures, we assessed the risk of any non-compliance with laws and regulations on the entity's ability to continue operating and the risk of material misstatement to the accounts.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved the following:

- Conducting detailed regularity testing in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts as issued by the ESFA, as reported on separately in our Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report;
- Reviewed Board and Resources Committee minutes for indications of non compliance;
- Reviewed legal and professional costs to identify any possible non compliance or legal costs in respect of non compliance;
- Discussed the procedures in place for ensuring the safeguarding of pupils, and health and safety on site;
- Reviewed the accounts disclosures against those in the Academies Model Accounts 2020 to 2021, published by the ESFA.

# Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Highcliffe School (continued)

As part of our enquiries we discussed with management whether there have been any known instances, allegations or suspicions of fraud of which there were none.

We also evaluated the risk of fraud through management override including that arising from management's incentives. We determined that these risks are low as the academy operates on a charitable, not for profit basis and so there would be no motivation for management to influence performance for individual gain. However, there was considered a risk of the inappropriate allocation of expenditure against restricted funds.

In response to the identified risk, as part of our audit work we:

- Reviewed the material restricted grant income sources, identified the related conditions and reviewed the nature of expenditure set against it for appropriateness, together with sample testing on expenditure;
- Used data analytics to test journal entries throughout the period, for appropriateness;
- Reviewed accounting estimates and judgements made in the accounts for any indication of bias and challenged assumptions used by management in making the estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements. This risk increases the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements as we are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

### Use of our report

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

Paul Giessler FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

PKF Francis Clark, Statutory Auditor

Hitchcock House Hilltop Park Devizes Road Salisbury Wiltshire SP3 4UF

Date: 2 Deanly 2021

# Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Highcliffe School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 13 September 2017 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 Highcliffe School 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 Highcliffe School and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Highcliffe School and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Highcliffe School and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### Respective responsibilities of Highcliffe School's Accounting Officer and the reporting Accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Highcliffe School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 March 2011 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 year from 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 Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- · Inspection and review of documentation providing evidence of governance procedures;
- Evaluation of the system of internal controls for authorisation and approval;
- Performing substantive tests on relevant transactions.

# Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Highcliffe School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

### Conclusion

In the course of our work nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 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.

Paul Giessler FCA

For and on behalf of Francis Clark LLP, Chartered Accountants

Hitchcock House Hilltop Park Devizes Road Salisbury Wiltshire SP3 4UF

Date: 2 Decamber 2021

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

|  | Note | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>General<br>Funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>Fixed Asset<br>Funds<br>£ 000 | 2021<br>Total<br>£ 000 |
|--|------|--------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Income and endowments f  | rom: |                                |   |   |                        |
| Donations and capital grants Other trading activities                                      | 2    | 8<br>145                       | -                                       | 30  | 38<br>145              |
| Charitable activities: Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations              | 3    | 226                            | 8,297                                   |   | 8,523                  |
| •  | 3    |                                |   |   |                        |
| Total  |      | 379                            | 8,297                                   | 30  | 8,706                  |
| Expenditure on:<br>Raising funds   | 5    | 125                            | 2                                       | -   | 127                    |
| Charitable activities: Academy trust educational operations                                | 6    | 227                            | 8,514                                   | 295   | 9,036                  |
| Total  |      | 352                            | 8,516                                   | 295   | 9,163                  |
| Net income/(expenditure)   |      | 27                             | (219)                                   | (265)                                       | (457)                  |
| Transfers between funds  |      | -                              | 22                                      | (22)  | -                      |
| Other recognised gains and losses Actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit pension schemes | 21   |                                | (347)                                   |   | (347)                  |
| Net movement in funds/(deficit)  |      | 27                             | (544)                                   | (287)                                       | (804)                  |
| Reconciliation of funds  |      |                                |   |   |                        |
| Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2020                                  |      | 629                            | (5,178)                                 | 15,628                                      | 11,079                 |
| Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2021                                    |      | 656                            | (5,722)                                 | 15,341                                      | 10,275                 |

# Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2020 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

|  | Note | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>General<br>Funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>Fixed Asset<br>Funds<br>£ 000 | Total<br>2020<br>£ 000 |
|--|------|--------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Income and endowments f  | rom: |                                |   |   |                        |
| Donations and capital grants   | 2    | 18                             | -                                       | 29  | 47                     |
| Charitable activities: Funding for the Academy Trust's educational                         |      |                                |   |   |                        |
| operations   | 3    | 251                            | 7,390                                   | -   | 7,641                  |
| Other trading activities   | 4    | 119                            | <u>-</u>                                |   | 119                    |
| Total  |      | 388                            | 7,390                                   | 29  | 7,807                  |
| Expenditure on:<br>Raising funds   | 5    | 110                            |   | -   | 110                    |
| Charitable activities: Academy trust educational operations                                | 6    | 252                            | 7,718                                   | 302   | 8,272                  |
| Total  |      | 362                            | 7,718                                   | 302   | . 8,382                |
| Net income/(expenditure)   |      | 26                             | (328)                                   | (273)                                       | (575)                  |
| Transfers between funds  |      | -                              | 29                                      | (29)  | -                      |
| Other recognised gains and losses Actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit pension schemes | 21   | <u>-</u>                       | (535)                                   |   | (535)                  |
| Net movement in funds/(deficit)  |      | 26                             | (834)                                   | (302)                                       | (1,110)                |
| Reconciliation of funds  |      |                                |   |   |                        |
| Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2019                                  |      | 603                            | (4,344)                                 | 15,930                                      | 12,189                 |
| Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2020                                    |      | 629                            | (5,178)                                 | 15,628                                      | 11,079                 |

### (Registration number: 07631213) Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

|   | Note | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
|---|------|---------------|---------------|
| Fixed assets  |      |               |               |
| Tangible assets   | 10   | 15,341        | 15,628        |
| Current assets  |      | •             |               |
| Debtors   | 11   | 202           | 229           |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                |      | 731           | 466           |
|   |      | 933           | 695           |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year          | 12   | (640)         | (661)         |
| Net current assets                                      |      | 293           | 34_           |
| Total assets less current liabilities                   |      | 15,634        | 15,662        |
| Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 13   | (9)           | . (28)        |
| Net assets excluding pension liability                  |      | 15,625        | 15,634        |
| Defined benefit pension scheme liability                | 21   | (5,350)       | (4,555)       |
| Total assets  |      | 10,275        | 11,079        |
| Funds of the Academy:                                   |      |               |               |
| Restricted funds  |      |               |               |
| Restricted general fund                                 |      | (372)         | (623)         |
| Restricted fixed asset fund                             |      | 15,341        | 15,628        |
| Restricted pension fund                                 |      | (5,350)       | (4,555)       |
|   |      | 9,619         | 10,450        |
| Unrestricted funds                                      |      |               |               |
| Unrestricted general fund                               |      | 656           | 629           |
| Total funds   |      | 10,275        | 11,079        |

Mr P A Hilliard Governor

### Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021

|   | Note | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
|---|------|---------------|---------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities            |      |               |               |
| Net cash provided by operating activities       | 17   | 243           | 85            |
| Cash flows from investing activities            | . 18 | 22            | 29            |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year |      | 265           | 114           |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September        |      | 466           | 352           |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August          | 19   | 731           | 466           |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

### 1 Accounting policies

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

### **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Highcliffe School meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

See details of the impact of Covid-19 in the Governors' Report on page 7.

### Going concern

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 minimum period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The governing body has taken steps through restructuring the school's staffing in previous years to ensure that there is a reasonable expectation of the academy trust returning to an annual surplus and having 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.

#### Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### Grants

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

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

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

### Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable, where there is certainty of receipt.

### **Donations**

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance-related conditions) where the receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

### Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities and fees to other schools and organisations for services rendered, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

### **Expenditure**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### Expenditure on raising funds

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

### Charitable activities

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

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

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

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

### Asset class

Freehold buildings
Freehold improvements
Furniture & fittings
Computer equipment
Motor vehicles

### Depreciation method and rate

50 years straight line

3 - 20 years straight line3 - 5 years straight line

3 - 5 years straight line

5 years straight line

#### Liabilities

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

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### **Provisions**

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

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

### Leased assets

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

#### **Financial Instruments**

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 11. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 12 and 13. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

### Concessionary loans

Concessionary loans are accounted for at the cash value of the amount received less subsequent repayments, and are not discounted.

### **Taxation**

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### Pension benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy Trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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.

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

### **Fund accounting**

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

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

### Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 1 Accounting policies (continued)

### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 21, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### Critical areas of judgement

A critical area of judgement is the recognition of trip income and costs as either restricted or unrestricted funds.

The school has a long-standing policy that any surplus on an individual trip in excess of a reasonable administration fee per pupil is returned to the parent. The school does not retain any surplus in respect of any this income. It is raised from parents for an explicit purpose, and where a trip is cancelled subsequent to contributions being collected then all of the contributions received are returned to the parents concerned. Therefore, this clearly is not money that is available for the general purposes of the charity and so is classified as restricted.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 2 Donations and capital grants

|                 | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted fixed asset funds £ 000 | 2021<br>Total<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>Total<br>£ 000 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Capital grants  | -                              | 30                                 | 30                     | 29                     |
| Other donations | 8                              | <u>-</u>                           | 8_                     | 18                     |
|                 | 8                              | 30                                 | 38                     | 47                     |

The income from donations and capital grants was £38,096 (2020: £47,889) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £8,058 unrestricted funds (2020: £18,486), £Nil restricted funds (2020: £Nil), £30,038 restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £29,403) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

|  | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Total<br>2021<br>£ 000 | Total<br>2020<br>£ 000 |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| DfE/ESFA revenue grants                |                                |                              |                        |                        |
| General Annual Grant (GAG)             | -                              | 7,767                        | 7,767                  | 7,069                  |
| Other ESFA grants                      | -                              | 29                           | 29                     | 26                     |
| Pupil Premium                          | · -                            | 164                          | 164                    | 187                    |
| FSM                                    |                                | 23                           | 23                     | 6                      |
|  | <u> </u>                       | 7,983                        | 7,983                  | 7,288                  |
| Other government grants                |                                |                              |                        |                        |
| Local Authority grants                 | -                              | 64                           | 64                     | 43                     |
| Non-government grants and other income |                                |                              |                        |                        |
| Catering Income                        | 226                            | , -                          | 226                    | 251                    |
| Trip Income                            | <u> </u>                       | 94                           | 94                     | 59                     |
|  | 226                            | 94                           | 320                    | 310                    |
| Covid-19 additional funding (Dfe/ESFA) | _                              |                              |                        |                        |
| Catch-up premium                       | -                              | 104                          | 104                    | -                      |
| Other DfE/ESFA Covid-19 funding        | <u> </u>                       | 52                           | 52                     | -                      |
|  | -                              | 156                          | 156                    | -                      |
|  | <del></del>                    | <u> </u>                     |                        | -                      |
| Total grants                           | 226                            | 8,297                        | 8,523                  | 7,641                  |

The funding for educational operations was £8,523,150 (2020: £7,640,877) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £227,102 unrestricted funds (2020: £251,904), £8,296,048 restricted funds (2020: £7,388,973), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

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

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 4 Other trading activities

|                               | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ 000 | 2021<br>Total<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>Total<br>£ 000 |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Minibus income                | 76                             | 76                     | 64                     |
| Music income                  | 18                             | 18                     | 13                     |
| Sales of educational services | 12                             | 12                     | 21                     |
| Hire of facilities            | 4                              | 4                      | 2                      |
| Insurance claims              | <u>.</u>                       | -                      | 2                      |
| Sale of educational supplies  | 21                             | 21                     | 12                     |
| Other generating funds income | 14                             | 14                     | 5                      |
|                               | 145                            | 145                    | 119                    |

The income from other trading activities was £145,649 (2020: £119,750) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £145,649 unrestricted funds (2020: £119,750), £Nil restricted funds (2020: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

### 5 Expenditure

|  | Non Pay Expenditure  |                   |                      | 0004                   | 2222                   |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|  | Staff costs<br>£ 000 | Premises<br>£ 000 | Other costs<br>£ 000 | 2021<br>Total<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>Total<br>£ 000 |
| Expenditure on raising funds           |                      |                   |                      |                        |                        |
| Direct costs                           | 79                   | -                 | 48                   | 127                    | 110                    |
| Academy's<br>educational<br>operations |                      |                   |                      |                        |                        |
| Direct costs Allocated support         | 5,940                | 295               | 336                  | 6,571                  | 6,118                  |
| costs                                  | 1,144                | 602               | 719                  | 2,465                  | 2,154                  |
|  | 7,163                | 897               | 1,103                | 9,163                  | 8,382                  |

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 5 Expenditure (continued)

| Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes: |                    |               |               |
|---|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
|   |                    | 2021          | 2020          |
|   |                    | £ 000         | £ 000         |
| Operating leases - other leases                 |                    | 78            | 49            |
| Fees payable to auditor - audit                 |                    | 10            | 9             |
| - other audit services                          | =                  |               | 2             |
| 6 Charitable activities                         |                    |               |               |
|   |                    | Total         | Total         |
|   |                    | 2021          | 2020          |
| Direct costs advectional analyticus             |                    | £ 000         | £ 000         |
| Direct costs - educational operations           |                    | 6,571         | 6,118         |
| Support costs - educational operations          | -                  | 2,465         | 2,154         |
|   | =                  | 9,036         | 8,272         |
|   | <b>Educational</b> | Total         | Total         |
|   | operations         | 2021          | 2020          |
|   | £ 000              | £ 000         | £ 000         |
| Analysis of support costs                       |                    |               |               |
| Support staff costs                             | 1,144              | 1,144         | 1,045         |
| Technology costs                                | 115                | 115           | 75            |
| Premises costs                                  | 602                | 602           | 517           |
| Other support costs                             | 542                | 542           | 493           |
| Governance costs                                | <u>62</u>          | 62            | 24            |
| Total support costs                             | 2,465              | 2,465         | 2,154         |
| 7 Staff   |                    |               |               |
| Staff costs                                     |                    |               |               |
|   |                    | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
| Staff costs during the year were:               |                    |               |               |
| Wages and salaries                              |                    | 5,069         | 4,778         |
| Social security costs                           |                    | 444           | 438           |
| Pension costs                                   |                    | 1,553         | 1,379         |
|   | _                  | 7,066         | 6,595         |
| Supply teacher costs                            |                    | 97            | 25            |
|   | _                  | 7,163         | 6,620         |
|   |                    |               |               |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 7 Staff (continued)

#### Staff numbers

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

|                            | 2021<br>No | 2020<br>No |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Charitable Activities      |            |            |
| Teachers                   | 103        | 96         |
| Administration and support | 83         | 78         |
| Management                 | 8          | 8          |
|                            | 194        | 182        |

### Higher paid staff

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

|                     |   | 2021<br>No | 2020<br>No |
|---------------------|---|------------|------------|
| £60,001 - £70,000   |   | 1          | 1          |
| £70,001 - £80,000   |   | 1          | 1          |
| £80,001 - £90,000   | • | -          | 1          |
| £110,001 - £120,000 |   | 1          | 1          |

#### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Governors, Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher as listed on page 1 & 2. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £257,452 (2020: £384,541).

### 8 Related party transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

#### Mr P D Earnshaw (Headteacher):

Remuneration: £115,000 - £120,000 (2020 - £110,000 - £115,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £25,000 - £30,000 (2020 - £25,000 - £30,000)

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 8 Related party transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses (continued)

Mr M Sedgley (Staff governor):

Remuneration: £40,000 - £45,000 (2020 - £40,000 - £45,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2020 - £5,000 - £10,000)

Ms E-K A Rickard (Staff governor):

Remuneration: £20,000 - £25,000 (2020 - £5,000 - £10,000) Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2020 - £0 - £5,000)

Mr G West (Staff governor):

Remuneration: £30,000 - £35,000 (2020 - £15,000 - £20,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2020 - £0 - £5,000)

Ms K J Dobson (Staff governor):

Remuneration: £Nil (2020 - £10,000 - £15,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2020 - £0 - £5,000)

Mr S Jones (Staff governor):

Remuneration: £Nil (2020 - £10,000 - £15,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2020 - £0 - £5,000)

Other related party transactions involving the Governors are set out in note 22.

#### 9 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £270 (2020 - £263).

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

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

|  | 1 | 0 | Tai | ngible | e fixed | assets |
|--|---|---|-----|--------|---------|--------|
|--|---|---|-----|--------|---------|--------|

| -                                  | Freehold<br>land and<br>buildings<br>£ 000 | Furniture<br>and<br>equipment<br>£ 000 | Computer equipment £ 000 | Motor<br>vehicles<br>£ 000 | Total<br>£ 000 |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Cost                               |  |  |                          |                            |                |
| At 1 September                     | 40.400                                     | 40                                     | 400                      | 20                         |                |
| 2020<br>Additions                  | 18,482<br>8                                | 49                                     | 139                      | 66<br>-                    | 18,736<br>8    |
| At 31 August 2021                  | 18,490                                     | 49                                     | 139                      | <br>66                     | 18,744         |
| •                                  | 10,400                                     | -10                                    |                          |                            | 10,7 11        |
| <b>Depreciation</b> At 1 September |  |  |                          |                            |                |
| 2020                               | 2,854                                      | 49                                     | 139                      | 66                         | 3,108          |
| Charge for the year                | 295  |  |                          |                            | 295            |
| At 31 August 2021                  | 3,149                                      | 49                                     | 139                      | 66                         | 3,403          |
| Net book value                     |  |  |                          |                            |                |
| At 31 August 2021                  | 15,341                                     | <u> </u>                               |                          |                            | 15,341         |
| At 31 August 2020                  | 15,628                                     | -                                      | -                        | _                          | 15,628         |
|                                    |  |  |                          |                            |                |
| 11 Debtors                         |  |  |                          |                            |                |
|                                    |  |  |                          | 2021<br>£ 000              | 2020<br>£ 000  |
| Trade debtors                      |  |  |                          | -                          | 10             |
| Prepayments                        |  |  |                          | 140                        | 189            |
| VAT recoverable                    |  |  |                          | 62                         | 30             |
|                                    |  |  |                          | 202                        | 229            |
| 12 Creditors: amounts              | s falling due wit                          | hin one year                           |                          |                            |                |
| 12 Creditors, amounts              | s lailing due with                         | iiii Olie yeai                         |                          | 2021                       | 2020           |
|                                    |  |  |                          | £ 000                      | £ 000          |
| Trade creditors                    |  |  |                          | 111                        | 68             |
| Other taxation and soci            | al security                                |  |                          | 124                        | 112            |
| Other creditors                    |  |  |                          | 19                         | 161            |
| Pension scheme credite             |  |  |                          | 129                        | 118            |
| Accruals and deferred i            | ncome                                      |  | _                        | 257                        | 202            |
|                                    |  |  |                          | 640                        | 661            |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

|  | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Deferred income                        |               |               |
| Deferred income at 1 September 2020    | 139           | 215           |
| Resources deferred in the period       | 194           | 139           |
| Amounts released from previous periods | (139)         | (215)         |
| Deferred income at 31 August 2021      | 194           | 139           |

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for trips which will take place in the new financial year.

Included in other creditors is a loan of £19,000 (2020 - £19,000) from Salix. The loan is interest free with repayments every six months and a final repayment date of September 2022.

### 13 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

|                 | 2021  | 2020  |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
|                 | £ 000 | £ 000 |
| Other creditors | 9     | 28    |
|                 |       |       |

Included in other creditors is a loan of £9,000 (2020 - £28,000) from Salix. The loan is interest free with repayments every six months and a final repayment date of September 2022.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 14 Funds

| ·                             | Balance at<br>1<br>September<br>2020<br>£ 000 | Income  <br>£ 000 | Expenditure<br>£ 000 | Gains,<br>losses<br>and<br>transfers<br>£ 000 | Balance at<br>31 August<br>2021<br>£ 000 |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------|---|--|
| Restricted general funds      |   |                   |                      |   |  |
| General Annual Grant (GAG)    | (680)   | 7,767             | (7,526)              | 30  | (409)                                    |
| FSM                           | -   | 23                | (23)                 | <b>-</b> ·                                    | -  |
| Pupil Premium                 | 37  | 164               | (183)                | -   | 18                                       |
| Other DfE grants              | 20  | 29                | (31)                 | -   | 18                                       |
| LEA and other grants          | -   | 64                | (56)                 | (8)   | -  |
| Trips                         | -   | 94                | (94)                 | -   | -  |
| Catch-up premium              | -   | 104               | (104)                | -   | -  |
| Other DfE/ESFA Covid-19       |   | 50                | (E4)                 |   | 4  |
| funding                       |   | 52                | (51)                 |   | 1  |
|                               | (623)   | 8,297             | (8,068)              | 22  | (372)                                    |
| Restricted fixed asset funds  |   |                   |                      |   |  |
| Donation from Local Authority | 15,561  | -                 | (280)                | 8   | 15,289                                   |
| DfE capital funding           | 29  | 30                | (9)                  | (30)  | 20                                       |
| Other donations               | 18  | -                 | (3)                  | -   | 15                                       |
| Capital expenditure from GAG  | 20_   |                   | (3)                  |   | 17                                       |
|                               | 15,628  | 30                | (295)                | (22)  | 15,341                                   |
| Restricted pension funds      |   |                   |                      |   |  |
| Pension reserve               | (4,555)                                       | -                 | (448)                | (347)   | (5,350)                                  |
| Total restricted funds        | 10,450  | 8,327             | (8,811)              | (347)   | 9,619                                    |
| Unrestricted funds            |   |                   |                      |   |  |
| Unrestricted general funds    | 629   | 379               | (352)                |   | 656                                      |
| Total funds                   | 11,079  | 8,706             | (9,163)              | (347)   | 10,275                                   |

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 14 Funds (continued)

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

| ·                             | Balance at<br>1<br>September<br>2019<br>£ 000 | Income<br>£ 000 | Expenditure<br>£ 000 | Gains,<br>losses<br>and<br>transfers<br>£ 000 | Balance at<br>31 August<br>2020<br>£ 000 |
|-------------------------------|---|-----------------|----------------------|---|--|
| Restricted general funds      |   |                 |                      |   |  |
| General Annual Grant (GAG)    | (725)   | 7,069           | (7,053)              | 29  | (680)                                    |
| FSM                           | -   | 6               | (6)                  | -   | -  |
| Pupil Premium                 | 31  | 188             | (182)                | -   | 37                                       |
| Other DfE grants              | 17  | 25              | (22)                 | -   | 20                                       |
| LEA and other grants          | -   | 43              | (43)                 | -   | -  |
| Trips                         |   | 59              | (59)                 |   |  |
|                               | (677)   | 7,390           | (7,365)              | 29  | (623)                                    |
| Restricted fixed asset funds  |   |                 |                      |   |  |
| Donation from Local Authority | 15,841  | -               | (280)                | -   | 15,561                                   |
| DfE capital funding           | 38  | 29              | (9)                  | (29)  | 29                                       |
| Other donations               | 24  | -               | (6)                  | -   | 18                                       |
| Capital expenditure from GAG  | 27  | <u>-</u>        | (7)                  |   | 20                                       |
|                               | 15,930  | 29              | (302)                | (29)  | 15,628                                   |
| Restricted pension funds      |   |                 |                      |   |  |
| Pension reserve               | (3,667)                                       | <u> </u>        | (353)                | (535)   | (4,555)                                  |
| Total restricted funds        | 11,586  | 7,419           | (8,020)              | (535)   | 10,450                                   |
| Unrestricted funds            |   |                 |                      |   |  |
| Unrestricted general funds    | 603   | 388             | (362)                |   | 629                                      |
| Total funds                   | 12,189  | 7,807           | (8,382)              | (535)   | 11,079                                   |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### 14 Funds (continued)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

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

General Annual Grant (GAG) - The Academy's principal funding stream received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

A transfer has been made from the fixed asset fund to GAG to cover revenue expenditure that does not meet the capitalisation criteria.

A transfer of the pension costs has been made from GAG to the pension fund.

Pupil premium - DfE funding to address inequalities between children eligible for free school meals and their wealthier peers by ensuring that funding reaches the pupils who need it most.

Other DfE grants - Other specific grants from the DfE including grants for bursary funding.

LEA and other grants - Other grants from the Local Education Authority including for teacher training and skills support.

Pension reserve - The deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme has been recognised against restricted funds in order to match it against GAG as recommended by the Academies Accounts Direction.

Trips - Contributions from students towards trips and events run by the school. Where a surplus above a set limit is generated on a specific trip, this is returned to the students.

Restricted fixed asset funds - Funding for capital items and projects. This also includes an element of capital spend funded from GAG.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

### 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:

|                          | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>general<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted fixed asset funds £ 000 | Total funds<br>£ 000 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets    | -                              | -                                       | 15,341                             | 15,341               |
| Current assets           | 656                            | 277                                     | -                                  | 933                  |
| Current liabilities      | -                              | (640)                                   | -                                  | (640)                |
| Creditors over 1 year    | -                              | (9)                                     | -                                  | (9)                  |
| Pension scheme liability | <u> </u>                       | (5,350)                                 |                                    | (5,350)              |
| Total net assets         | 656                            | (5,722)                                 | 15,341                             | 10,275               |

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

|                          | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted<br>general<br>funds<br>£ 000 | Restricted fixed asset funds £ 000 | Total funds<br>£ 000 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets    | -                              | -                                       | 15,628                             | 15,628               |
| Current assets           | 629                            | 66                                      | -                                  | 695                  |
| Current liabilities      | -                              | (661)                                   | -                                  | (661)                |
| Creditors over 1 year    | -                              | (28)                                    | -                                  | (28)                 |
| Pension scheme liability | -                              | (4,555)                                 | _                                  | (4,555)              |
| Total net assets         | 629                            | (5,178)                                 | 15,628                             | 11,079               |

### 16 Financial commitments

## Operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 16 Financial commitments (continued)

|  | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Amounts due within one year            | 79            | 37            |
| Amounts due between one and five years | 135           | 42            |
|  | 214           | 79            |

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

|  | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Net expenditure  | (457)         | (575)         |
| Depreciation   | 295           | 302           |
| Capital grants from DfE and other capital income               | (30)          | (29)          |
| Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable | 377           | 287           |
| Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost                    | 71            | 66            |
| Decrease/(increase) in debtors                                 | 27            | (56)          |
| (Decrease)/increase in creditors                               | (40)          | 90            |
| Net cash provided by Operating Activities                      | 243           | 85            |

### 18 Cash flows from investing activities

|   | £ 000 | £ 000 |
|---|-------|-------|
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets         | (8)   | -     |
| Capital grants from DfE Group             | 30    | 29    |
| Net cash provided by investing activities | 22    | 29    |

2021

2020

#### 19 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

|                                 | 2021  | 2020  |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|
|                                 | £ 000 | £ 000 |
| Cash in hand and at bank        | 731   | 466   |
| Total cash and cash equivalents | 731   | 466   |

### 20 Members' liability

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

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### 21 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 Dorset County. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £(128,655) (2020 - £(117,913)) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

#### Introduction

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

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

### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £861,282 (2020: £821,289).

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 £317,000 (2020 - £270,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £244,000 (2020 - £205,000) and employees' contributions totalled £73,000 (2020 - £65,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 20 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

### Principal actuarial assumptions

|   | 2021<br>% | 2020<br>% |
|---|-----------|-----------|
|   | 76        | 70        |
| * Rate-of increase in salaries                      | 3.90      | 3.30      |
| *Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation | 2.90      | 2.30      |
| Discount rate for scheme liabilities                | 1.70      | 1.60      |
| Inflation assumptions (CPI)                         | 2.90      | 2.30      |
| RPI increases                                       | 3.90      | 3.30      |
| Commutation of pensions to lump sums                | 50.00     | 50.00     |

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

| •                            | 2021  | 2020  |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Retiring today               |       |       |
| Males retiring today         | 23.10 | 23.30 |
| Females retiring today       | 24.60 | 24.80 |
| Retiring in 20 years         |       |       |
| Males retiring in 20 years   | 24.40 | 24.70 |
| Females retiring in 20 years | 26.10 | 26.20 |

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

| ^    |         |         |    |
|------|---------|---------|----|
| Sens | ITIVITY | analysi | ıs |

|   | At 31 August 2021 | At 31 August 2020 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
|   | £000              | £000              |
| Discount rate +0.1%   | 8,951             | 7,332             |
| Discount rate -0.1%   | 9,395             | 7,696             |
| Mortality assumption – 1 year increase                      | 9,558             | 7,807             |
| Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease                      | 8,798             | 7,229             |
| CPI rate +0.1%  | 9,377             | 7,682             |
| CPI rate -0.1%  | 8,968             | 7,346             |
| Salary rate +0.1%   | 9,184             | 7,525             |
| Salary rate -0.1%   | 9,156             | 7,499             |
| The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme were: |                   |                   |
|   | 2021              | 2020              |
|   | £ 000             | £ 000             |
| Equities  | 2,094             | 1,522             |
| Gilts   | 450               | 356               |
| Other bonds   | 212               | 235               |
| Property  | 335               | 293               |
| Cash and other liquid assets                                | 61                | 31                |
| Other   | 668               | 520               |
| Total market value of assets                                | 3,820             | 2,957             |

The actual return on scheme assets was £653,000 (2020 - (£129,000)).

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

| <b>Amounts</b> | recognised | in   | the  | statement | of | financial activities |
|----------------|------------|------|------|-----------|----|----------------------|
| AIIIVUIII      | ICCOMINGCA | ,,,, | LIIC | Statement | ~  | minumolai activitics |

|  | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Current service cost   | 618           | 490           |
| Interest income  | 49            | (56)          |
| Interest cost  | 120           | 122           |
| Admin expenses   | 3             | 2             |
| Total amount recognised in the SOFA                                | 790           | 558           |
| Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were a | s follows:    |               |
|  | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
| At start of period   | 7,512         | 6,570         |
| Current service cost   | 618           | 490           |
| Interest cost  | 120           | 122           |
| Employee contributions   | 73            | 65            |
| Actuarial (gain)/loss  | 951           | 284           |
| Benefits paid  | (104)         | (19)          |
| At 31 August   | 9,170         | 7,512         |
| Movements in the fair value of Academy Trust's share of scheme a   | ssets         | •             |
|  | 2021<br>£ 000 | 2020<br>£ 000 |
| At start of period   | 2,957         | 2,903         |
| Interest income  | 46            | 54            |
| Actuarial gain/(loss)  | 604           | (251)         |
| Employer contributions   | 244           | 205           |
| Employee contributions   | 73            | 65            |
| Benefits paid  | (104)         | (19)          |
| At 31 August   | 3,820         | 2,957         |

## 22 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 8.

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

## 23 Analysis of changes in net debt

|  | At 1<br>September<br>2020<br>£000 | Cash flows<br>£000 | At 31 August<br>2021<br>£000 |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Cash                                       | 466                               | 265                | 731                          |
| Loans falling due within one year          | (19)                              | -                  | (19)                         |
| Loans falling due after more than one year | (28)                              | 19                 | (9)                          |
|  | (47)                              | 19                 | (28)                         |
| Total                                      | 419                               | 284                | 703                          |