

Company Registration No. 07652792 (England and Wales)

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021



THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

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THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Mr G C Bottle
Mr I J Cubbin
Mr K Harrison
Mr D J Houghton
Cllr A E Jones

Trustees

Dr I J Cubbin (Chair)
Mrs F C Bithell (Parent) (Resigned 18 September 2021)
Mr G Bottle (Resigned 23 March 2021)
Mr J M Bush (Executive Principal and Accounting Officer)
Mrs Z L Callister (Parent)
Mr P Cowden (Chair - Finance) (Resigned 12 October 2021)
Mrs P A Croft (Resigned 12 October 2021)
Miss S J Håggström
Cllr A E Jones (Deputy Chair) (Resigned 23 March 2021)
Mrs J A Kenny (Parent) (Resigned 23 March 2021)
Mr M Liddell (retired 31 August 2020) (Executive Principal) (Resigned 1 September 2020)
Mrs S Murphy (Parent)
Mrs K Prudence (Staff) (Resigned 6 March 2021)
Mrs J Riley (Staff) (Resigned 26 September 2020)
Miss A V Pasquier (Appointed 24 November 2020 and resigned 23 March 2021)
Miss R E Hulse (Appointed 21 October 2021)
Miss S M Pettersen (Appointed 21 October 2021)
Mrs R Hooper-Rhind (Appointed 21 October 2021)

Senior management team

- Executive Principal
- Chief Finance & Operations Officer
- Chief Finance Officer

Mr J Bush
Mr A Bush (from 1 November 2020)
Mr C Walton (retired 31 October 2020)

Company registration number

07652792 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office

Valkyrie Road
Wallasey
Merseyside
CH45 4RJ

Website address:

www.oldershaw.wirral.sch.uk

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent auditor	Mitchell Charlesworth LLP 3rd Floor 5 Temple Square Temple Street Liverpool Merseyside L2 5RH
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Bankers	HSBC Bank plc 2 Liscard Crescent Wallasey Wirral Merseyside CH44 5TR
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Solicitors	Brabners LLP Horton House Exchange Flags Liverpool Merseyside L2 3YL
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THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates a mixed all ability 11-19 school with a planned admission limit of 990 and has 889 pupils on roll as at the autumn 2020 census, a 1% rise from the previous year. The school is nationally recognised for inclusion and has a proud history of successfully working with the community. Wallasey has extremely high levels of disadvantage with many students on free school meals and many families facing significant social disadvantage. In May 2016 OFSTED graded the school as good. The national partial closure of schools in January 2021 as part of a national lockdown due to coronavirus impacted on academic results. The 2021 assigned examination grades results reflect the impact of the systems used to determine grades. Progress in Mathematics and English enabled 58% grade 9 – 4. The progress of Mathematics in line with expected progress nationally. Students gained qualifications that allowed them to make progression.

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 charitable company operates as The Oldershaw School.

Change of Name

Following the approval by written resolution on 21 June 2021, and confirmed by Companies House on 20 September 2021, the name of the trust was changed to The Oldershaw School.

Trustees

The trustees of The Oldershaw School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the school has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on school business. The insurance provides £25m cover on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2021 is included in the overall costs for the academies insurance which was £23,800.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the members may appoint up to 12 trustees under article 50 plus an additional 2 staff under article 50a which may include staff and parent governors. Further and additional trustees are within the remit of the Secretary of State as covered under article 46 subsections b, c, e and f.

All trustees are subject to election and the term is for a period of 4 years. At the end of that period should they wish to remain a trustee and subject to their remaining being appropriate i.e. staff or parent governor then this is subject to a further election. Further information is available under the trustee section of the Articles of Association that may be accessed from the school website.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The training and induction for new trustees depends on their existing experience. Training is provided in identified areas. All new trustees are given a tour of the academy trust and the opportunity to meet with staff and pupils. Policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets and other documents are available to enable trustees to undertake their role. Induction is informal and tailored specifically to the needs of individuals. The school also uses an independent SIP support programme.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees and administrative details of the school are detailed on page 1.

Trust Board meetings are in line with the Academies Financial Handbook 2020 requirements to ensure the school is run in an efficient and professional manner. The board appoints committees to assist with specific governance of important areas including: Curriculum, Finance, Personnel and Buildings. The financial risks faced by the school, principally in relation to its day to day running, is a high priority. Management of cash assets using cash flow forecasting and control of cash is on a daily basis. The principal sources of income are from public sector bodies for which there is a low level of credit risk. Safeguarding is a high priority and all governors and staff are subject to enhanced DBS checks. Visiting staff who work regularly at the school are also subject to these checks and visitors are supervised at all times.

The school benefits from the work of a Responsible Officer, who has instructed Langtons to assist him in this role. This work ensures that operational, financial, risk and management processes are robustly and independently reviewed. The Risk Register is increasingly used as the foundation for the work of the Responsible Officer, in conjunction with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook. The Responsible Officer has access to all departments and reports directly to the Finance Committee.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Trust Board policy is based on The Governance Handbook, published by the DfE, and ESFA guidelines on the statutory responsibilities for governing bodies in setting Principals appraisal criteria. These responsibilities reflect The Education (School Teachers' Appraisal) (England) Regulations 2012.

The Trust Board has a Sub Group for the Principal's Pay Review. This is led by the Chair of the Board and is supplemented by 2 members drawn from the Trust Board and supported by the SIP. The current representatives are felt to have good personnel knowledge and good understanding of the Financial Handbook and the role. This review is in line with the whole school pay policy. The review is of all staff salaries annually, implementing enhancements where appropriate.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period

1

Full-time equivalent employee number

1.00

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time

Number of employees

0%

-

1%-50%

1

51%-99%

-

100%

-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time

£ 500

Total pay bill

£ 5,150,741

Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time

-

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours

-

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The academy trust does not have any associations with other charities or organisations.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The aim of the Oldershaw School is to provide education and educational opportunities for pupils between the ages of 11 and 19. In accordance with the Articles of Association the charitable company has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Government specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting pupils to the school, and that the curriculum should be broad and balanced.

The school aims to promote a culture of success by raising aspirations, engaging all pupils, developing mutual respect and equipping leavers for the future. This includes:

- High quality education for every child through Pride, Kindness and Resilience. In 2016 this was evidenced by an Ofsted visit confirming the school as 'Good with Outstanding features.
- Raising the standard of educational achievement and attainment for all pupils. In 2020-2021 this was evidenced by students achieving 58% standard pass in English and Maths. Progress overall improved as reported by FFT.
- Improving effectiveness through constant self-evaluation and reflection - Trustees have undertaken a re-evaluation of the governing body into a new Trustee and Members Structure as per the latest financial guidelines from ESFA and in addition are seeking more Trustees. The committee structure has been revisited and a greater level of challenge of the school has been present.
- Providing value for money 2020 - 2021 saw a further in-year surplus due to sound financial management and due diligence. The results of this are maintained and demonstrated in the annual accounts.
- A robust asset management process resulted in the school securing £375,000 of CIF funding to support major refurbishment of infrastructure and the school now has a 5-year asset management programme.
- Complying with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements.
- Maintaining close links with business and industry through the vocational courses.

Objectives, strategies and activities

Core Values

- Pride Kindness Resilience

Our Vision

- Excellence together

Our Mission

- Nurturing academic success and student well being.
- High quality teaching and learning which creates confident and successful young people.
- Creativity, international experience, challenge and vocation in the classroom.
- Care, support, inclusion and community spirit.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. Activities in 2020-21 demonstrate in all accepted definitions that the Oldershaw School provides services that are of public benefit through the provision of education and making available the facilities and resources of the school for the community and other charitable purposes. We continue to hold the delivery of public benefit as both central and fundamental to our activities.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The results are in the context of a 42% growth in pupil numbers in less than 3 years. The class of 2021 achieved 58% standard pass Maths and English. There is not a Progress 8 measure for 2020 nationally. The percentage SEN with statements or EHC plan is the highest locally at 6% and SEN is 46%, more than triple the national average. The socio-economic profile of the school shows 64% of pupils are disadvantaged and the IDACI register shows the cohort is in the 5% of most deprived areas nationally. Attendance has been an issue with so many new learners joining following the closure of a local academy. Attendance is currently at 92%. The significant additional students joining was a challenge and the results improved 9.5 % English & Maths demonstrate the work in pathways to progression.

Key performance indicators

Ofsted – In April 2016 the academy was inspected by Ofsted. The school was judged as at least good in all categories.

Exam/Key Stage assigned results: The school achieved 58% standard pass Maths and English. A significant number of students joined the class of 2021 over the last 4 years in addition to the normal year 7 intake. Post 16 results enabled all those who wanted to go to university to access a place as did those seeking apprenticeships and further training.

Attendance: Whilst attendance is still below the National Average, the academy's strategies continue to narrow the gap and the attendance was 92% against the National. The strategies to support attendance particularly with our disadvantaged learners was acknowledged as good practice in the Ofsted report. The attendance was above national reported figures until week 39 and delta variant arrived. The required isolation of bubbles impacted on attendance.

For the 2020 - 2021 financial year the school set a balanced budget that included capital expenditure for both infrastructure and building projects. The continued prudent fiscal management enabled the school to strengthen the balance sheet to £1,953,845 (excluding fixed assets and the pension scheme deficit), an increase of £158,726 on the previous financial year. During this period the amount of free cash generated amounted to £317,859 and the school ended the year with a total amount of cash in the bank totalling £2,002,575.

There is an expected variation in funding over the next three years due to National Funding Formula and year group cohort size. The school has mitigated against these risks and planned accordingly.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Covid-19

Employees

The school was careful at both a Governance and Executive Management level to consider the interests of the organisation's employees during the most stringent phases of lockdown, working hard to ensure robust risk assessments were in place, with trustees and management mindful that changes to operational delivery at this time could have a potentially adverse impact on the wellbeing of our employees.

Suppliers

The trustees were keen that the school during the lockdown period of 2020/21 adhered to DfE guidance to support and not disadvantage both contracted service providers, suppliers, particularly in the case of small local businesses, by negotiating payment in line with pre-existing contracts during lockdown while deferring the delivery of these services until the schools returned in September 2021 as required.

Learners

An example of how trustees considered its impact on the local community has been during the COVID-19 crisis, where a decision was made to supply supermarket vouchers to families normally in receipt of free school meals, ahead of the government introducing a national scheme. The Trust has also worked to ensure the school remained open during holiday periods to support working parents within the local community during the COVID lockdown when other childcare options were not necessarily available. Following the introduction of the national voucher scheme the academy then participated in this programme to ensure the parents of eligible pupils were supported.

Furlough and Exceptional Costs

The trustees can confirm that the school has not furloughed any staff or claimed any additional financial support for staff during 2020/21.

The school has incurred net additional coronavirus support costs of £17,862 after mass testing refunds. The trustees can also confirm that the school was eligible to claim Covid Catch-up premium of £67,600 during 2020/21.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, and through the detailed involvement of the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and the Board of Trustees, there is a more than reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the Board of Trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

Most of the school's income is obtained from the ESFA funded school budget share in the form of recurrent and capital grants, the use of which is restricted for specific educational purposes. The school also received Local Authority and other public grants in the year which were supplemented by other support grants from the ESFA. The school has reported a surplus for the year of £253,146. After accounting for the actuarial surplus on the local government pension scheme the net movement in funds for the year is £281,146. A programme of restructuring has seen the school bring its teaching costs in line with National Guidelines whilst at the same time ensuring a quality educational experience for our students together with exceptional pastoral care. In the 2020 - 2021 academic year the school continued to work on outflow and a review of support staff roles together with a review of TLR's for teaching staff. School staffing levels are in line with current bench marking and monitored closely.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Reserves policy

The Trustees review reserve levels regularly and also formally on an annual basis. This review considers the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The funding receivable for the development of the school and all associated capital works are intended to fully cover the costs, and therefore the level of reserves excluding the pension liability is currently under review. The Trustees will determine an adequate and appropriate level for reserves, which are not invested in tangible assets, and this will be reviewed as part of the process.

Investment policy

The school aims to manage its cash balances to provide for the day-to-day working capital requirements of its operations, whilst protecting the real long-term value of any surplus cash balances against inflation. In addition, the school aims to invest surplus cash funds to optimise returns, but ensuring the investments are such that there is no risk to the loss of these cash funds.

The trustees confirm that they have undertaken the first part of the above paragraph throughout the trading year. No investments were made in the 2020 – 21 academic year.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The school reviews the risks it may face, the steps and controls needed to mitigate the risks and the existing systems and procedures such as school trips and teaching provision. Risk assessment and management is a regular agenda item for Trustees and Senior Leaders and the Risk Register is a working document which is regularly updated.

From a financial perspective the school is vulnerable to decreases in pupil numbers as this affects the income stream and may be caused by falling results or a poor Ofsted or a negative perception of the school in the wider community. Currently, we are pleased to report that none of these are an issue for the school.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The school'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 including:

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with periodic financial reports reviewed and agreed with the Trust Board.
- Regular reviews by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee which adjusts expenditure against forecasts of income.
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- Clearly defined purchasing guidelines.
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- Identification and management of risks.

Fundraising

The school hires out its facilities when not in use directly by the school and its pupils. The school does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year is monitored by the trustees.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Plans for future periods

The school is planning for the future in a number of ways following the restructure of the Trust Board and the rebrand of the school to its former name as The Oldershaw School. The school has been developing plans to celebrate in 2021/22 its delayed centenary celebrations from 2020 with the local Wallasey community.

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is focused on a range of building and refurbishment projects to improve both the infrastructure and teaching and learning environment with the new £350,000 Centenary Building development on the school site commissioned for works to start November 2021.

The Principal to look at local demographics and the likely intake over the next 3-5 years and percentage of SEN and FSM to aid in budget setting and to ensure that we have appropriate and adequate resources available to meet our objectives. Discussions held with Local Authority to explore the increasing demands and the capacity limits at Oldershaw. This is within the context of moving to the National Funding Formula where there is a redistribution of funding. The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is reviewing the fabric of the building to create a template of works to maintain and improve the building and other property to the benefit of students and staff to ensure they have a safe and enriching environment in which to work.

The Senior Leadership Team have worked hard on making the school an attractive option for year 7 students and for transfers in. Oldershaw is full in years 7 to 11. The team are seeking ways in which to expand the 6th form offering within the constraints of funded approved courses.

We are exploring how better to use the resources that are available in the school to create an additional income to further benefit our students but also to provide excellent facilities at reasonable rates to our neighbours in the surrounding community.

Key aims and objectives of the improvement plan 2021-22

Continue to improve progress by:

- Implement redesigned curriculum plans following the lockdown period
- Closely monitoring Years 7 - 13 whilst setting ambitious targets.
- Closing the gap by focusing upon disadvantaged pupils.
- Ensuring learners meet or exceed national expectations.
- Engage learners in remote learning to enable continuity
- Embed the Maths Mastery Project
- Initiate the English Mastery Project
- Focus on subject literacy
- Address key skills gaps in years 7 & 8.
- Share good practice with the continuing weekly Professional Development programme.
- Curriculum review
- Develop external support links to improve attendance and attainment.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Improve teaching and learning by:

- Specific and targeted CPD to improve teaching.
- Continue to improve the quality of presentation.
- Robust monitoring of progress and scrutiny of work from Year 7-13.
- Staff continued professional development to improve outcomes.

Improve leadership by:

- Focus all Leaders on National expectations.
- Review structure and composition of leadership team.
- Continue to seek external help at departmental and whole school level.
- Staff to engage with external training programmes.

Improve behaviour by:

- Building upon engagement and resilience of pupils; and Progress Leaders & Assistant Progress Leaders focus on the progress of all pupils in their cohort.

Improve the tracking of students' SMSC, PHSE and Career Education:

- Ensure all students are eager to learn and have positive attitudes in lessons.
- Social Moral Spiritual and Cultural targeted days using outside agencies and alternative locations to develop SMSC values.
- Develop themed assemblies & structured Personal Social and Health Education to support learning.
- Develop and embed the new careers education programme.

Governance:

- The external review of governance conducted by Hill Dickinson at the request of the school has been implemented and the Trust Board with Members is actively engaged in recruiting new trustees
- The Board continue to review the governance structure, committee grouping and meeting schedule and have been working on areas of future strategy to help support and guide the future development of the organisation.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The school and its trustees do not act as custodian trustees of any other charity.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Employee consultation and disabled employees

Equal opportunities policy

The Trustees recognise that equal opportunities should be an integral part of good practice in the workplace. The school aims to establish equal opportunity in all areas including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued.

Disabled persons

Lifts, ramps and disabled toilets are installed and door widths are adequate to enable wheelchair access to all the main areas of the school. Appropriate car parking provision and access is available. The policy of the school is to support recruitment and retention of students and employees with disabilities. The school does this by adapting the physical environment, by making support resources available and through training and career development.

Serious incidents

The Trustees are conversant with the requirements to report serious incidents to the Charity Commission and will use the appropriate channels to report such incidents as they occur. In relation to this, the school has developed and implemented robust Health and Safety, Financial, and Disaster and Contingency Planning strategies to assist the school in minimising the risk of serious incidents.

Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

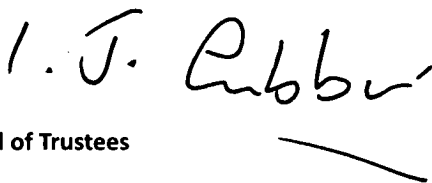
- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

A resolution proposing that Mitchell Charlesworth LLP be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 09 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr I J Cubbin

Chair of Board of Trustees



THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as accounting officer (J Bush), 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 The Oldershaw School and the Secretary of State for Education. He is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Trustees are now appointed on a 4-year term. A Parent Governor will cease to hold office if their child is no longer registered as a pupil at the school unless co-opted as a Trustee. Staff Governors cease to hold office if they are no longer employed by the school and since the March 2021 Trust reconstitution there are no staff Trustees.

Governance

Following the governance review the Trust revised its structure in 2020/21 to that of five Members and seven Trustees. The Board of Trustees has formally met eight times during the year with a number of these meetings focused on the governance changes and major capital works programme. Given the structure of our sub-committees, the governing body believe five meetings are normally sufficient to discharge their duties. There are two main sub committees to the Board: Finance, Audit and Risk and Curriculum and Standards. In addition, there is a subgroup of the main board which reviews all staff salaries annually, implementing enhancements where appropriate for the school. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Dr I J Cubbin (Chair)	8	8
Mrs F C Bithell (Parent) (Resigned 18 September 2021)	6	8
Mr G Bottle (Resigned 23 March 2021)	4	5
Mr J M Bush (Executive Principal and Accounting Officer)	8	8
Mrs Z L Callister (Parent)	6	8
Mr P Cowden (Chair - Finance) (Resigned 12 October 2021)	6	8
Mrs P A Croft (Resigned 12 October 2021)	8	8
Miss S J Håggström	8	8
CLlr A E Jones (Deputy Chair) (Resigned 23 March 2021)	2	5
Mrs J A Kenny (Parent) (Resigned 23 March 2021)	2	5
Mr M Liddell (retired 31 August 2020) (Executive Principal) (Resigned 1 September 2020)	0	0
Mrs S Murphy (Parent)	7	8
Mrs K Prudence (Staff) (Resigned 6 March 2021)	2	4
Mrs J Riley (Staff) (Resigned 26 September 2020)	1	1
Miss A V Pasquier (Appointed 24 November 2020 and resigned 23 March 2021)	3	3
Miss R E Hulse (Appointed 21 October 2021)	0	0
Miss S M Pettersen (Appointed 21 October 2021)	0	0
Mrs R Hooper-Rhind (Appointed 21 October 2021)	0	0

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Members	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Dr I J Cubbin	1	1
Mr K Harrison	1	1
Mr G Bottle	1	1
Cllr A E Jones	1	1
Mr D Houghton	1	1

This has been a particularly challenging year for the staff and trustees of the school. During the course of the year trustees have met regularly with their Link Subject leads and are a regular presence in the school and their interest and support is welcomed by the Senior Leadership Team and teaching staff. Trustees have also completed training modules in order to maintain and improve their operational capabilities particularly in areas such as safeguarding. The Covid pandemic restricted the ability to have an AGM during the summer term and has been rescheduled to December 2021.

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a subcommittee of the main Trust Board. Its purpose is to review budgeting and the financial health of the school and routine monitoring of targets. In addition, this committee monitors audit and risk along with overseeing asset management. The committee is supported by Mr A Bush, Chief Finance and Operations Officer.

Terms of reference:

- To receive and review the proposed budget for the financial year.
- To receive and review the allocation of resources.
- To be responsible for review of the whole school pay policy and key financial policies.
- To review all aspects of risk and asset management
- To meet with the Accountants and monitor the annual budget and accounts.
- Recommend the appointment of Auditors to the Trust Board.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee members	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs F C Bithell (Parent) (Resigned 18 September 2021)	7	9
Mr G Bottle (Resigned 23 March 2021)	2	7
Mr J M Bush (Executive Principal and Accounting Officer)	9	9
Mr P Cowden (Chair - Finance) (Resigned 12 October 2021)	9	9
Mrs P A Croft (Resigned 12 October 2021)	9	9
Miss S J Håggström	3	9
Mrs K Prudence (Staff) (Resigned 6 March 2021)	1	7
Mrs J Riley (Staff) (Resigned 26 September 2020)	1	1

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Curriculum and Standards Committee

The curriculum and standards committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees.

Terms of Reference

- To set priorities of the committee for action in the year, based on the Board's Strategic Plan, monitor and review
- To have oversight and hold to account the curriculum offer and school improvement plans
- To review policies in accordance with its delegated powers.
- To ensure the requirements of children with special needs are met.
- To monitor and evaluate the impact of quality of teaching on rates of pupil progress and standards of achievement
- To monitor and evaluate rates of progress and standards of achievement by pupils, including any underachieving groups.
- To monitor and evaluate the impact of improvement plans.
- To monitor and evaluate pupils' enrichment programmes and preparation for adult life.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Curriculum and Standards Committee members	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs F C Bithell (Parent) (Resigned 18 September 2021)	6	6
Mrs Z L Callister (Parent)	6	6
Mrs P A Croft (Resigned 12 October 2021)	6	6
Mrs S Murphy (Parent)	5	6

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer the Principal has responsibility for ensuring that the school 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 school's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The Accounting Officer for the school has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- **Improving educational outcomes**

Ensuring that the exceptional growth in student numbers is managed effectively. This year resources were focused on student progress for all including the high numbers in the mobility group. This included supporting improvements in Maths, English, Science and Humanities. Additional staffing and intervention strategies were deployed. The school narrowed the gap for some micro-communities but not all.

- **Targeted improvement**

Resources were targeted at EBacc subjects and provision in the core subjects of English, Maths, Science, Languages and Humanities. The staffing structure is annually reviewed by Senior Leadership to focus on academic achievement and proposals are taken to the Trust Board. The intervention strategy driven by the Principal realised some success in improving progress.

- **Focus on individual pupils**

The school funding and in particular: Pupil Premium, SEN and LAC Funding is monitored by a senior member of staff to ensure impact on the progress of pupils. The Learning Centre, 1:1 Tutors, subject intervention work, trips and visits, the enhanced curriculum and inclusion strategies all contribute to ensuring individual pupils achieve their best, improve social cohesion and provide stretch targets. There has been a reduction in NEET pupils as a result of the social inclusion initiative and attendance across the school continues to improve.

- **Collaboration**

The school takes part in some arrangements with other schools and external providers which support improved value for money and the sharing of good practice. This reinforces the verification and validation of curriculum and assessment.

- **New initiatives**

The school embraces good practice and through the improvement plan allocates funding to focus on addressing pupil needs and improving achievement and progress. The school has entered into a partnership with Teach First to improve outcomes. The weekly CPD to improve practice and outcomes for learners continues as there is an impact on student outcomes.

- **Quantify improvements**

The school reviews and monitors data constantly to ensure progress is validated. All pupils are set challenging targets and intervention is targeted via the data analysis. FFT, SISRA and NEA are used to ensure progress is challenging. Sustained improvements are required in English and Science. Maths outcomes are improving and in line with national outcomes.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

- **Financial governance**

The school produces monthly P&L accounts with balance sheet which allows the executive leaders and Trustees to regularly monitor the financial position of the school. The accounts are balanced with the bank statements and are presented to the Accounting Officer for approval. The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee of Trustees meet regularly to check and monitor the accounts, update policies and agree spending proposals. They and the Chief Finance and Operations Officer focus on better purchasing and work tirelessly to achieve value for money including:

Negotiating and reviewing/benchmarking service level agreements and contracts regularly in line with the end of contract date. In the review process the quality of the service as well as the price is considered, three supplier quotes are collated and a clear process for selecting the best value is always followed by executive leadership and Trustees. This year we have reduced the cost of a number of contracts making further savings and benchmarked key catering and cleaning contracts using external review processes.

Additional savings have been made by entering into Joint Service Level Agreements with Wirral Schools including payroll, health and safety, CPD and community patrol. Because these contracts are for up to 100 schools, they provide very good value for money. These are all reviewed annually and best value is always top of the agenda. All of these SLAs are essential to the provision of service and provide value for money and savings in comparison to other providers. They provide economies of scale because they are negotiated on a collective basis.

- **Benchmarking**

The school buys into a national service for benchmarking and also uses DfE and Education provider's websites to benchmark.

- **Options appraisal**

All purchases are made in line with agreed financial procedures as per the Academies Financial Handbook, which include analysis of cost, efficiency and effectiveness. All decisions consider: purchase price v lease and the most effective contract is agreed. Significant savings were made with regards contracts through option appraisal.

- **Economies of scale**

The school draws on the positive relationship it has with Wirral and Merseyside schools regularly to share experiences, suppliers and contractors. Collaborative bids are investigated with other schools and the Local Authority if the opportunity arises.

- **Better income generation**

The school regularly explores new sources of funding and income generation and was successful in securing £375,000 of CIF funding to support buildings refurbishment and £22,000 for student learning via the Turing programme. The hire of school facilities is of significant benefit to the local community.

- **Reviewing controls and managing risks**

The Trust Board and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meetings review controls, manage risks, have internal controls and maximise the assets. Regular reports on the budget monitor balances and utilise income to generate additional funds. Having more than one account signatory minimises the risk and allows flexibility. Accountants are appointed to support the work of the responsible officer and check monthly accounts and report any discrepancies.

The school manages cash and bank balances in a way agreed with the auditors. The school insurance fully covers the risks associated with an educational establishment. The school works closely with an asset management partner and has produced a five-year condition buildings plan, along with compliance management systems. The Site Manager ensures all compliance and health, and safety issues are correctly addressed. Safeguarding is an explicit and well-established feature of the school and fully addresses all statutory regulations.

- **Lessons learned**

The school constantly reviews and appraises its procedures in light of experience and a number of policies and procedures have been improved this year with regards to our insurance, health and safety and financial regulations. We continue to adjust the school Academic Improvement Plan and our planning for pupil progress.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of school 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 The Oldershaw School for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees have considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has appointed an internal auditor (Langtons). The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the school's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included testing income, purchases and payroll systems.

On a termly basis the auditor reports to the Chief Finance and Operations Officer and Accounting Officer through the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities. The auditor delivered their schedule of work as planned in the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

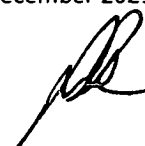
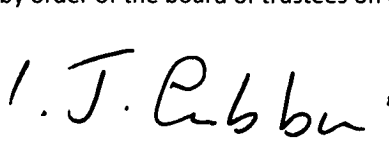
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer the Principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been focused on the following:

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 09 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr I J Cubbin
Chair of Board of Trustees

Mr J M Bush
Executive Principal and Accounting Officer

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

As accounting officer of The Oldershaw School, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding 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's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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



Mr J M Bush
Accounting Officer

09 December 2021

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Oldershaw School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 09 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr I J Cubbin
Chair

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The Oldershaw School for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts 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 accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts 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 accounts 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.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

- 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 accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts 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 accounts.

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.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting, irregularities including fraud

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance;
- the school's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error;
- the results of our enquiries of management and members of the board of governors of their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the school's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas:

(i) The presentation of the school's Statement of Financial Activities, (ii) the academy's accounting policy for revenue recognition (iii) the overstatement of salary and other costs (iv) the assumptions used in the calculation of the valuation of the surplus or deficit on the defined benefit pension scheme and the movements for the year. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act, the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued by the joint SORP making body, along with the Academies Financial Handbook and Accounts Direction 2020-21 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the academy's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. This includes regulations concerning Data Protection and Safeguarding.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Audit response to risks identified

As a result of performing the above, we identified the presentation of the academy's Statement of Financial Activities, revenue recognition and overstatement of wages and other costs as the key audit matters related to the potential risk of fraud. The key audit matters section of our report explains the matters in more detail and also describes the specific procedures we performed in response to those key audit matters.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations described above as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring of management and members of the board concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with relevant authorities where matters identified were significant;

in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls we carried out testing of the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates were indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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5 Temple Square
Temple Street
Liverpool
Merseyside
L2 5RH

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 14 September 2020 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 The Oldershaw 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 The Oldershaw School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the The Oldershaw School and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Oldershaw School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Oldershaw School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Oldershaw School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 April 2019 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the 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:

- Reviewing the activities to ensure they are in keeping with the charitable objectives and framework.
- Reviewing declarations of interest and seeking further representations.
- Reviewing the control environment and considering potential weaknesses.
- Reviewing minutes of various committees, management accounts and holding discussions with key personnel.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Conclusion

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

Mitchell Charlesworth

Reporting Accountant

Mitchell Charlesworth LLP

3rd Floor

5 Temple Square

Temple Street

Liverpool

Merseyside

L2 5RH

Dated: *9 December 2021*

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	133,601	133,601	23,877
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	6,943,800	-	6,943,800	6,260,270
Other trading activities	5	30,708	-	-	30,708	63,747
Total		30,708	6,943,800	133,601	7,108,109	6,347,894
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	-	843	-	843	239
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	-	6,673,408	180,711	6,854,119	6,117,822
Total	6	-	6,674,251	180,711	6,854,962	6,118,061
Net income/(expenditure)		30,708	269,549	(47,110)	253,147	229,833
Transfers between funds	15	-	(394,531)	394,531	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	17	-	28,000	-	28,000	(48,000)
Net movement in funds		30,708	(96,982)	347,421	281,147	181,833
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		(67,950)	(2,100,931)	5,297,407	3,128,526	2,946,693
Total funds carried forward		(37,242)	(2,197,913)	5,644,828	3,409,673	3,128,526

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
Year ended 31 August 2020		funds	General	Fixed asset	2020
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	6,000	-	17,877	23,877
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	6,260,270	-	6,260,270
Other trading activities	5	63,747	-	-	63,747
Total		69,747	6,260,270	17,877	6,347,894
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	-	239	-	239
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	-	5,951,880	165,942	6,117,822
Total	6	-	5,952,119	165,942	6,118,061
Net income/(expenditure)		69,747	308,151	(148,065)	229,833
Transfers between funds	15	-	(149,404)	149,404	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	17	-	(48,000)	-	(48,000)
Net movement in funds		69,747	110,747	1,339	181,833
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		(137,697)	(2,211,678)	5,296,068	2,946,693
Total funds carried forward		(67,950)	(2,100,931)	5,297,407	3,128,526

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		5,644,828		5,297,407
Current assets					
Debtors	12	316,480		366,205	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,002,575		1,684,716	
		<u>2,319,055</u>		<u>2,050,921</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(365,210)		(255,802)	
Net current assets			1,953,845		1,795,119
Net assets excluding pension liability			7,598,673		7,092,526
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	17		(4,189,000)		(3,964,000)
Total net assets			<u>3,409,673</u>		<u>3,128,526</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	15				
- Fixed asset funds			5,644,828		5,297,407
- Restricted income funds			1,991,087		1,863,069
- Pension reserve			(4,189,000)		(3,964,000)
Total restricted funds			<u>3,446,915</u>		<u>3,196,476</u>
Unrestricted income funds	15		(37,242)		(67,950)
Total funds			<u>3,409,673</u>		<u>3,128,526</u>

The accounts on pages 29 to 50 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 09 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

I. J. Cubbin

Dr I J Cubbin
Chair of Board of Trustees

Company Number 07652792

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	18		712,390		446,738
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		133,601		17,877	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(528,132)		(167,281)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(394,531)		(149,404)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			317,859		297,334
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			1,684,716		1,387,382
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			2,002,575		1,684,716

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

The Oldershaw School is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts 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.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated goods, facilities and services

The value of donated goods, facilities and services provided to the academy trust are recognised at their fair value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the academy trust can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind is a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's policies.

1.4 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 are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

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.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Long leasehold land and buildings	2% straight line
Computer equipment	33% straight line
Furniture and equipment	25% straight line

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.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 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.

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 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. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.9 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.

1.10 Pensions 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 and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The 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 are recognised in the period to which they relate.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income or expenditure are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 17, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 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.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Capital grants	-	133,601	133,601	17,877
Other donations	-	-	-	6,000
	-	133,601	133,601	23,877

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	5,834,785	5,834,785	5,395,189
Other DfE / ESFA grants:				
Pupil premium	-	408,270	408,270	388,138
Others	-	112,161	112,161	52,926
	-	6,355,216	6,355,216	5,836,253
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	463,417	463,417	369,974
Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ ESFA)				
Catch-up premium	-	67,600	67,600	-
Other DfE/ESFA Covid-19 funding	-	37,250	37,250	-
	-	104,850	104,850	-
Other incoming resources	-	20,317	20,317	54,043
Total funding	-	6,943,800	6,943,800	6,260,270

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Hire of facilities	13,827	-	13,827	47,183
Other income	16,881	-	16,881	16,564
	<u>30,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,708</u>	<u>63,747</u>

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	843	843	239
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	3,609,034	-	279,746	3,888,780	3,412,304
- Allocated support costs	1,620,430	645,191	699,718	2,965,339	2,705,518
	<u>5,229,464</u>	<u>645,191</u>	<u>980,307</u>	<u>6,854,962</u>	<u>6,118,061</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	9,000	12,750
- Other services	3,000	7,390
Operating lease rentals	17,968	17,960
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	180,711	165,942
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	69,000	63,000
	<u></u>	<u></u>

7 Charitable activities

	2021 £	2020 £
All from restricted funds:		
Direct costs		
Educational operations	3,888,780	3,412,304
Support costs		
Educational operations	2,965,339	2,705,518
	<u>6,854,119</u>	<u>6,117,822</u>

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7 Charitable activities (Continued)

	2021	2020
	£	£
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	1,620,430	1,604,440
Depreciation	180,711	165,942
Technology costs	11,266	12,374
Premises costs	464,480	349,315
Legal costs	3,955	157,868
Other support costs	640,485	402,611
Governance costs	44,012	12,968
	<u>2,965,339</u>	<u>2,705,518</u>

8 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,727,586	3,455,955
Social security costs	364,570	307,773
Pension costs	1,058,585	963,044
	<u>5,150,741</u>	<u>4,726,772</u>
Staff costs - employees	5,150,741	4,726,772
Agency staff costs	78,723	24,081
	<u>5,229,464</u>	<u>4,750,853</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	24,728	20,049
	<u>5,254,192</u>	<u>4,770,902</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2021	2020
	Number	Number
Teachers	63	62
Administration and support	63	57
Management	2	3
	<u>128</u>	<u>122</u>

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Staff

(Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	-	2
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

One of the above participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme and one in the Local Government Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31 August 2021, pension contributions for the above amounted to £63,009 (2020 £60,165).

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £292,732 (2020: £368,781).

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

J Riley (staff governor and trustee):

Remuneration - £55,000-£60,000 (2020: £55,000 - £60,000)

Employers' pension contributions paid - £20,000 - £25,000 (2020: £10,000 - £15,000)

K Cooper (staff governor and trustee):

Remuneration - £15,000-£20,000 (2020: £15,000 - £20,000).

Employers' pension contributions paid - £Nil - £5,000 (2020: £Nil - £5,000)

J Bush (Executive Principal and trustee):

Remuneration - £100,000-£105,000 (2020: £95,000-£100,000).

Employers' pension contributions paid - £35,000 - £40,000 (2020: £20,000 - £25,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2021 travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil were reimbursed or paid directly to the governors (2020 £Nil).

Other related party transactions are set out in note 20.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides £25M cover on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2021 is included in the overall cost of the academy's insurance and is not made separately available to the Academy.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Long leasehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Furniture and equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 September 2020	5,952,678	414,731	174,006	6,541,415
Additions	440,015	53,936	34,181	528,132
At 31 August 2021	6,392,693	468,667	208,187	7,069,547
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2020	817,240	317,018	109,750	1,244,008
Charge for the year	105,656	34,914	40,141	180,711
At 31 August 2021	922,896	351,932	149,891	1,424,719
Net book value				
At 31 August 2021	5,469,797	116,735	58,296	5,644,828
At 31 August 2020	5,135,438	97,713	64,256	5,297,407

In respect of land and buildings transferred upon conversion to the academy from the LEA, a valuation was provided at 31 August 2013 of £5,196,499 (Land £669,858 and buildings £4,526,641).

12 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	1,595	-
VAT recoverable	32,128	7,196
Other debtors	-	61
Prepayments and accrued income	282,757	358,948
	316,480	366,205

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	44,367	-
Other taxation and social security	93,217	83,165
Other creditors	92,851	85,900
Accruals and deferred income	134,775	86,737
	<u>365,210</u>	<u>255,802</u>

14 Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	<u>11,868</u>	<u>32,098</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	32,098	38,187
Released from previous years	(32,098)	(38,187)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>11,868</u>	<u>32,098</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u>11,868</u>	<u>32,098</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance in relation to parental contributions paid towards school trips, miscellaneous sums received for services provided to other academy schools and other school activities.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,863,069	5,834,785	(5,453,619)	(394,531)	1,849,704
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	112,161	(20,516)	-	91,645
Other government grants	-	463,417	(463,417)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	408,270	(408,270)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	67,600	(17,862)	-	49,738
Other DfE/ESFA Covid-19 funding	-	37,250	(37,250)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	20,317	(20,317)	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,964,000)	-	(253,000)	28,000	(4,189,000)
	<u>(2,100,931)</u>	<u>6,943,800</u>	<u>(6,674,251)</u>	<u>(366,531)</u>	<u>(2,197,913)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	4,472,236	-	(90,532)	-	4,381,704
DfE group capital grants	49,780	133,601	(14,462)	566,576	735,495
Capital expenditure from GAG	775,391	-	(75,717)	(172,045)	527,629
	<u>5,297,407</u>	<u>133,601</u>	<u>(180,711)</u>	<u>394,531</u>	<u>5,644,828</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,196,476</u>	<u>7,077,401</u>	<u>(6,854,962)</u>	<u>28,000</u>	<u>3,446,915</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>(67,950)</u>	<u>30,708</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(37,242)</u>
Total funds	<u>3,128,526</u>	<u>7,108,109</u>	<u>(6,854,962)</u>	<u>28,000</u>	<u>3,409,673</u>

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the academy.

Other DfE Group Grants - these have been received for specific purposes throughout the year and include looked after children (LAC) income, all of which was fully spent in the year.

Local Authority Grants consist of various support grants received from Wirral Borough Council. All of this income has been spent.

Other Grants have been received from a number of educational and similar supporting bodies.

The Pension Reserve represents the pension fund determined in accordance with FRS102 as detailed in note 23.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

15 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,451,322	5,395,189	(4,834,038)	(149,404)	1,863,069
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	441,064	(441,064)	-	-
Other government grants	-	369,974	(369,974)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	54,043	(54,043)	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,663,000)	-	(253,000)	(48,000)	(3,964,000)
	<u>(2,211,678)</u>	<u>6,260,270</u>	<u>(5,952,119)</u>	<u>(197,404)</u>	<u>(2,100,931)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	4,562,769	-	(90,533)	-	4,472,236
DfE group capital grants	31,903	17,877	-	-	49,780
Capital expenditure from GAG	701,396	-	(75,409)	149,404	775,391
	<u>5,296,068</u>	<u>17,877</u>	<u>(165,942)</u>	<u>149,404</u>	<u>5,297,407</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,084,390</u>	<u>6,278,147</u>	<u>(6,118,061)</u>	<u>(48,000)</u>	<u>3,196,476</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>(137,697)</u>	<u>69,747</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(67,950)</u>
Total funds	<u>2,946,693</u>	<u>6,347,894</u>	<u>(6,118,061)</u>	<u>(48,000)</u>	<u>3,128,526</u>

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	General £	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	5,644,828	5,644,828
Current assets	-	2,319,055	-	2,319,055
Creditors falling due within one year	(37,242)	(327,968)	-	(365,210)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(4,189,000)	-	(4,189,000)
Total net assets	(37,242)	(2,197,913)	5,644,828	3,409,673

	Unrestricted Funds £	General £	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	5,297,407	5,297,407
Current assets	-	2,050,921	-	2,050,921
Creditors falling due within one year	(67,950)	(187,852)	-	(255,802)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(3,964,000)	-	(3,964,000)
Total net assets	(67,950)	(2,100,931)	5,297,407	3,128,526

17 Pension and similar obligations

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £92,851 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020: £85,900) and are included within creditors.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found by following the link to [the Teachers' Pension Scheme website](#).

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £311,847 (2020: £289,561).

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.

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The employer contribution rate was 14.8% as at 1 September 2018 which increased to 15.5% on 1 April 2019. The employee contribution rates start at 5.5% increasing to 12.5% depending on earnings.

As the scheme is in deficit the academy trust has entered into an agreement with the scheme trustees to make additional contributions of £70,400 per year in addition to normal funding levels. These additional contributions are expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

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

Total contributions made	2021 £	2020 £
Employer's contributions	314,000	244,000
Employees' contributions	76,000	65,000
Total contributions	390,000	309,000

Principal actuarial assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.2	3.9
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.8	2.5
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.8
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7	2.4

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.0	20.9
- Females	24.1	24.0
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.6	22.5
- Females	26.0	25.9

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	-141	-122
Discount rate - 0.1%	144	124
Mortality assumption + 1 year	242	192
Mortality assumption - 1 year	-234	-186
CPI rate + 0.1%	143	125
CPI rate - 0.1%	-140	-123
Rate of increase in salaries	12	13

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2021 Fair value £	2020 Fair value £
Equities	1,684,000	1,233,000
Government bonds	46,000	63,000
Other bonds	386,000	349,000
Cash/liquidity	59,000	137,000
Property	311,000	228,000
Other assets	789,000	522,000
Total market value of assets	3,275,000	2,532,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £497,000 (2020: £(235,000)).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	492,000	429,000
Interest income	(48,000)	(49,000)
Interest cost	117,000	112,000
Total operating charge	<u>561,000</u>	<u>492,000</u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021 £
At 1 September 2020	6,496,000
Current service cost	492,000
Interest cost	117,000
Employee contributions	76,000
Actuarial loss/(gain)	421,000
Benefits paid	(138,000)
At 31 August 2021	<u>7,464,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2021 £
At 1 September 2020	2,532,000
Interest income	48,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	449,000
Employer contributions	314,000
Employee contributions	76,000
Benefits paid	(138,000)
Administrative expenses	(6,000)
At 31 August 2021	<u>3,275,000</u>

THE OLDERSHAW SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	253,147	229,833
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(133,601)	(17,877)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	184,000	190,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	69,000	63,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	180,711	165,942
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	49,725	(239,539)
Increase in creditors	109,408	55,379
Net cash provided by operating activities	712,390	446,738

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2020 £	Cash flows 31 August 2021 £	£
Cash	1,684,716	317,859	2,002,575

20 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the requirements of the AFH and which the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

There were no significant related party relationships during the period.

21 Members' liability

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