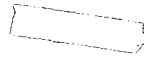


Company registration number: 07724342 (England and Wales)

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023



FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

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FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	P Bell N Foley N Greeves F Grieveson (resigned 13 Sep 2022) D Pearson (appointed 13 Sep 2022) A Harris
Governors	D Mackenzie (Headteacher and Accounting Officer) (resigned 31 Aug 2023) C Adams (Co-opted Governor) (resigned 27 Sep 2022) G Bainbridge (Parent Governor) A Brooks (Staff Governor) M Duckworth (Parent Governor) J Fitzgibbon (Staff Governor) F Grieveson (Community Governor) (resigned 20 Jul 2023) S Jones (Co-opted Governor) P Killen (Community Governor) (appointed 4 Oct 2022) K McDonnell (Community Governor) (resigned 13 Sep 2022) C McNamara (Parent Governor) P Monaghan (Community Governor) (appointed 15 Nov 2022) L O'Donnell (Parent Governor) (elected 13 Oct 2022) D Pearson (Community Governor) L Roberts (Parent Governor) K Smith (Community Governor) J Stuart (Parent Governor) (elected 13 Oct 2022)
Senior Leadership Team	D Mackenzie (resigned 31 Aug 2023) K Blanchard S Cook A Harrison-Forsyth P Slater S Walker (resigned 30 November 2022)
Company Secretary	L Forster
Company Registration	07724342 (England and Wales)
Registered Office	Freshfield Road Formby Liverpool L37 3HW
Independent Auditor	DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited (previously known as Haines Watts) Bridge House Ashley Road Hale Altrincham WA14 2UT
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP 44 Castle Gate Nottingham NG1 7BJ

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Governors present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the School for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The School operates as an academy for students aged 11-18, serving a catchment area in Formby, Hightown, Crosby, Southport and Ainsdale. It has a planned admission number (PAN) of 166 and had 1126 students on roll as at September 2022.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Formby High School (the School) converted to an Academy Trust on 1 September 2011. The School 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 School.

The Academy Trust was incorporated on 1 August 2011 and commenced its activities on transfer from the Local Authority on the conversion date stated above.

The Governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of the School and are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as Formby High School. Details of the Governors who served throughout the year, except as noted, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Governors' indemnities

The School has entered into the ESFA's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) and, through this, indemnity insurance is provided to protect governors and officers from claims arising in connection with School business. The insurance provides cover of up to £10,000,000.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

The Governors are appointed by the following:

Parent Governors	Elected by parents of the students of the School
Staff Governors	Elected by staff of the School
Community Governors	Appointed by the Governing Body
Co-opted Governors	Appointed by the Governing Body

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Governors

All Governors are provided with a copy of the School's Governor Handbook produced alongside the Governance Handbook from the Department for Education. Governors are members of the National Governors Association (NGA) and subscribe to their online guidance. Governors are also subscribed to The Key for School Governors, an online support network for Governors. During the summer term 2021, an external review of governance was completed by a National Leader of Governance from RMA Governance which confirmed procedures around induction and training were robust. Governors are actively enrolled on the NGA Learning Link which enables them to access online training modules on all key areas of governance. All Governors were required upon registration to the Learning Link to complete the Induction and Strategic Governance modules and are asked to complete further modules as their time permits or as directed during the academic year to support meeting the strategic objectives. On-going training is provided through meetings of the Full Governing Body and at the annual Governor Development Day, using expertise from within school and external providers as appropriate. In addition, new Governors are assigned a 'buddy' from amongst the longer serving members of the Governing Body.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Organisational structure

The School is governed by its Governing Body, whose members are directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 and trustees for the purposes of charity legislation. The organisational structure of the School consists of four levels of leadership: the Governing Body, the Headteacher, the Senior Leadership Team and the School's Middle Leaders.

During 2022/23 the following Governor Committees existed: (i) Buildings and Finance, (ii) Curriculum and Staffing, (iii) Strategic Review, (iv) Audit and Risk, (v) Remuneration and Benefits. A panel of three Governors (Chair of Governors, Vice Chair of Governors and appointed Governor) conducted the Headteacher's appraisal, comprising a meeting to review progress against the 2021/22 appraisal objectives, a planning meeting (both in the presence of an external consultant), and one monitoring meeting. In addition, the Student Discipline Committee (ad hoc selection of three members) is convened when student disciplinary matters require. All Parent, Co-opted and Community Governors act as Link Governors for different areas of the School. The Governing Body provides the strategic direction for the School, including setting the annual budget and defining the parameters in which the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team make decisions about the day to day running of the School. The Headteacher is the Accounting Officer who is responsible for all day-to-day financial matters, and is accountable to the Governing Body for ensuring propriety, as well as efficient and effective use of available resources.

The Senior Leadership Team comprises the Headteacher, one Deputy Headteacher, one Senior Assistant Headteacher and two Assistant Headteachers.

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for teaching and support staff. The Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Senior Assistant Headteacher and Assistant Headteachers are collectively responsible for the line management of all middle leaders within the teaching and support staff structures. Subject areas fall under the leadership of Curriculum or Subject Leaders and year groups are overseen by Climate for Learning Leaders or Achievement Leaders. There are a number of Support Managers who lead the different support departments throughout the School, including Head of Finance, ICT Network Manager, Pastoral Support Manager and Examinations & Data Manager.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

In 2022/23 all members of the Senior Leadership Team were paid in accordance with the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document. The Headteacher's salary is set on the Leadership Pay Scale and was initially determined by the Leadership Group to which the School belongs. This is reviewed annually by the panel of Governors who carry out the Headteacher's appraisal and any recommendation for pay progression is approved by the Remuneration & Benefits Committee. The Deputy Headteacher's salary is determined by a five point range on the Leadership Pay Scale. The Senior Assistant Headteacher's and Assistant Headteachers' salaries are also determined by a five point range on the Leadership Pay Scale. No remuneration is provided to the trustees of the School for fulfilling their role as trustees.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

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

3

Full-time equivalent employee number

2.9

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time

Number of employees

0%

-

1%-50%

3

51%-99%

-

100%

-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time

5,202

Total pay bill

5,808,694

Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time

0.09%

Paid trade union activities

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

100%

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There are no connected organisations.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The main objects of the School as set out in its governing document are:

- To advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

In addition, the School aims to:

- Promote, for the benefit of individuals living in Formby, Ainsdale, Southport, Crosby, Hightown and the surrounding areas, who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, or for the public at large, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interest of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of the life of the said individuals.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives for the period (set out as two year objectives for 2022/23 and 2023/24 in the School Improvement and Development Plan) were to:

- Secure commitment to partnership working with other local schools that have a shared vision and submit an application to the Regional Director for the development of a multi academy trust. If approved, undertake formal consultation with relevant stakeholder groups. If not, explore alternative opportunities for partnership working with schools and other education providers.
- In response to the July 2022 student survey on sexual harassment & sexual violence, ensure all members of the school community feel confident and well-equipped to speak out. Furthermore, to challenge existing misconceptions of masculinity amongst our students and offer a more progressive model of masculinity through direct work with targeted male students.
- Strengthen the school's community dimension by creating opportunities to further engage with and support the most vulnerable in the local community and establish effective links with businesses and other local organisations to improve careers provision for students, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Develop and fully embed the new 'five a day' approach to basic expectations, including ensuring form tutors are actively and consistently playing their part.
- Strengthen partnership working with parents, ensuring positive and constructive engagement with the 'contract' set out in the home-school partnership agreement.
- Coordinate a highly focused Raising Achievement Plan that leads to a positive Progress 8 score the current Year 11 cohort (GCSEs in Summer 2023) and a stronger score (+0.20) for the current Year 10 cohort (GCSEs in Summer 2024) with boys and the Pupil Premium groups meeting national expectations for all students for progress in English and Mathematics.
- Develop and fully embed the Key Stage 3 assessment framework to allow for accurate assessment of and reporting on students' acquisition of knowledge ('know more, remember more and can do more') against Curriculum Related Expectations.
- Implement and fully embed the school's Reading Strategy, ensuring progress for, in particular, the school's weakest readers and the development of a broad general and subject specific lexicon that is evident in all students' learning.
- Strengthen High Quality Teaching within mainstream classes for students with SEND to enhance their acquisition of knowledge, behaviour for learning and progress through the curriculum.
- In response to the Ofsted inspection (November 2022), build upon the Embedding Formative Assessment project to ensure that all students' progress within lessons is dynamically assessed and teachers respond accordingly, meaning that students only progress when they are ready to do so.
- Engage with all staff on the development of an FHS Well-Being Charter and finalise, implement and embed a Staff Well-Being and Workload Plan and that will provide the foundations on which staff well-being and workload will be managed.
- Develop and implement a clear plan for re-engaging students who are long-term absentees from school for mental health reasons or emotional based school avoidance (EBSA) and, through a range of support measures, reduce the prevalence of EBSA amongst students in lower year groups.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

- As post-pandemic normalisation takes place, continue to strengthen and embed the school's systems and procedures for managing attendance to bring about improvement in overall attendance and Persistent Absence in comparison with 2021-22 and moving to +95% attendance for Years 7 to 13 by the end of 2023-24.
- Linking to Ofsted's recommendations for improvement (November 2022), the school will consider research, development and implementation of a Character Education programme, providing a framework for excellent personal development, character traits and behaviour, and supporting students as best as possible for life in modern Britain and life beyond school.
- Strengthen middle leadership and succession planning through a planned programme of professional development, engagement and leadership opportunities for teaching and support middle leaders.
- Continue to embed and strengthen the professional growth and development approach to appraisal for teaching staff and implement a similar approach for 2022-23 support staff appraisal, providing necessary training and quality assuring to ensure both are fully embedded by the end of 2023-24.
- Undertake a full and independent review of existing opportunities for student voice and leadership; act on the recommendations of the independent review by formulating and delivering an action plan that will lead to the implementation and embedding of the new approach to student leadership.
- Continue to develop the scholarly culture within Sixth Form and further strengthen outcomes through targeted improvement for under-performing subjects and successfully supporting individual students to develop a work ethic required for success.
- Guide students through to the successful completion of the FHSBacc with focus on academic success as well as broadening their experience through enrichment, leadership and citizenship.
- Develop and embed the new Personal Development Programme, capitalising on the additional 40 hours of funding per student that the school has been awarded in 2022-23.
- Through further review of the post-16 curriculum and the school's approach to recruitment, increase the retention of the 2022-23 and 2023-24 FHS Year 11 cohorts and maintain high levels of recruitment of external students.
- Implement an ICT network development plan in order to future proof and protect the ICT network infrastructure.
- In partnership with the Local Authority, develop an on-site SEND facility, providing a fit for purpose learning environment for the increasing number of students on roll with complex SEND.

Public benefit

The Governors are aware of the Charity Commission Guidance on providing public benefit and have had due regard to this in exercising their duties during the period.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

2022/23 was the School's twelfth year as an Academy, having converted to Academy status on 1 September 2011. The School purchases services from external providers and has set up a number of service level agreements for curriculum and non-curriculum related services. In doing so, the School seeks value for money and a high standard of support. Staffing levels have been monitored closely and the School is appropriately resourced for an organisation of this size. The School carries an unrestricted reserve and general restricted figure of £1,012,000 into 2023/24 which is well in excess of the Reserves Policy of £300,000 and reflects the careful financial management of the school.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

After 11 years in post (appointed September 2012), the Headteacher resigned in order to pursue an opportunity as Headteacher / Executive Leader of a trust based in Wirral. In Spring 2023, Governors engaged in a thorough process to recruit a new Headteacher, resulting in the appointment of a candidate who was at that point the Vice Principal of an academy based in Halton. During the summer term, a planned programme of activities took place to enable the smooth transition from existing to new Headteacher. The structure of the Senior Leadership Team was reviewed in 2021/22 resulting in the appointment of a School Business Manager with overall responsibility for finance, administration, premises and services provided by external contractors (such as catering and cleaning). This post was created to build additional leadership capacity onto the Senior Leadership Team and to ensure representation of the school's support staff. This new structure was implemented in May 2022. However, the School Business Manager resigned from her post in November 2022 and the Senior Leadership Team and Governors took the decision not to replace with an identical role, instead recruiting a Head of Finance who commenced his role in February 2023. This meant that the Senior Leadership has reduced to a team of five as outlined above. The School continues to promote leadership development opportunities for its employees. For example, the Deputy Headteacher and one Assistant Headteacher teacher are completing the National Professional Qualification for Headship programme whilst another has recently completed an apprenticeship programme in Senior Leadership. One further colleague has embarked on the National Professional Qualification for Leading Behaviour & Culture and another has engaged in the National Professional Qualification for Leading Literacy. In addition, new and established middle leaders have benefitted from participating in the SSAT's National Award for Middle Leadership (NAML) which was delivered jointly with a neighbouring high school and the School has become a centre for the delivery of the National Professional Qualification for Leading Teaching. The culture of professional development has also been strengthened with the successful implementation of the Professional Growth and Development model for teachers' appraisal, encouraging the identification of areas for professional development and framing objectives to successfully address them. This new approach to appraisal is now fully embedded for teaching staff and has been successfully introduced for support staff in 2022/23.

The School used £652,800 of the ESFA's Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) to complete two projects during 2022/23, which have brought about improvements to the condition of the school's buildings as well as thermal efficiency. This has included replacing the existing roof on S Building (£526,166) with a liquid applied flat roof membrane and upgrading the heating system and heating infrastructure throughout P Building (£145,232), enabling the removal of air handling units that contained ACMs. Both projects were successfully completed by the end of 2022. Alongside previous projects that have been delivered through CIF funding, the roof and heating system work undertaken in 2022/23, have further enhanced the appearance and performance of the School's buildings by fully eliminated the risk of water ingress and reducing wastage from inefficient heating. It has also considerably improved the appearance of the School's buildings. Both projects were delivered on time and within budget and have contributed significantly to the delivery of the School's site improvement strategy. Further funding has been secured through Condition Improvement Funds to enable additional important maintenance and improvement work to be carried out in 2023/24, specifically by replacing the original hot and cold water distribution pipework in A and P Buildings. In addition to the CIF projects, the School completed phase one of its solar panels installation during 2022/23. Working in partnership with Solar for Schools, a community benefit society, panels have been installed on the roofs of A, C, L and P Buildings. Phase two, which will be delivered in Autumn 2023, will see the installation of panels on S Building roof. In total, over 300 panels will be installed, generation up to one third of the School's electricity at a significantly reduced cost.

Alongside building improvement, considerable work has been undertaken on developing a detailed, costed proposal to upgrade the School's ICT network infrastructure. The scope of the project includes replacing and consolidating existing network cabinets, upgrading all fiberoptic cabling across the site and implementing Wi-Fi throughout all buildings. The work will be procured using the DfE's framework and will be carried out during the 2023/24 school year, ensuring the School's ICT infrastructure is up to date, fit for purpose and has sufficient capacity to support the possible move to Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) in the future. In total, the cost of this project will be in the region of £350,000. In addition to this planned work, the School purchased and installed 270 new desktop computers during summer 2023, allowing the replacement of ageing stock and considerably improving ICT performance in classrooms and other areas of the School. In order to maintain vigilance against the threat of cyber-attack, the ICT Network Manager has developed a robust cyber-incident response plan (which is being incorporated into the Crisis Management Plan) and all staff completed National Cyber Security Centre online refresher training in July 2023.

The Governors took the decision in March 2020 to reduce Published Admission Number (PAN) to 166 as a consequence of not securing funds to build a new eight classroom teaching block. The reduced PAN came into effect on 1 September 2021 and careful medium and long term planning has continued during 2022/23 to ensure the School is well-equipped to deal with the reduced income that will occur as a result of the numbers of students on roll diminishing over the course of the next four years. Governors have, however, taken the decision to temporarily increase the PAN to 172 for September 2023 admission.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Key performance indicators

A robust Raising Achievement Plan (RAP) was in place for the 2022/23 cohort of Year 11 students to support them in working towards challenging GCSE targets. The RAP included the implementation of additional teaching in core subjects, a wide range of intervention and support offered by all Curriculum Areas, targeted 'catch up' support and individual mentoring and monitoring by the Senior Leadership Team of a small group of students. A wide range of resources were provided to students and parents to support their preparation for GCSEs and a parents' information evening was hosted by the Achievement Leader for Year 11. Further activities were also planned and engagement from students and parents was very positive. In preparation for sitting public examinations, students completed two full sets of pre-public examinations in November 2022 and March 2023. This year, examinations returned to pre-pandemic standards. No additional support materials were provided to students (as had been the case in 2022) and students were assessed on all the content of the GCSE specifications. Due to their hard work, and that of their teachers, they went into the examinations well-prepared and having addressed any gaps that may have emerged as a consequence of disruption to their learning caused by Covid-19 related absence and school closures).

This year, grades nationally were pitched in line with results from 2019 when students last sat unadapted examinations. There was an inevitable drop from the 2022 grades which were pitched midway between Teacher Assessed Grades of 2021 and the results from 2022 when students sat adapted GCSE examinations. 74% students gained at least a grade 4 in their English and Mathematics GCSEs with 59% attaining at least a grade 5 in both subjects. The measure for 5+ in English and Mathematics compares with 45% nationally. 61% of all grades awarded were at grade 5+ and 79% were at grade 4+. 27% students entered the Ebacc, with 44% achieving it at 4+ and 17% at 5+. Attainment 8 was 51.7 (well above the national average). The school's Progress 8 score was +0.02 indicating that, overall, students received positive results that were justification for their effort and endeavour throughout the duration of their disrupted GCSE studies. Approximately half of students from last year's Year 11 have opted to continue their post-16 studies at Formby High School in 2022/23 and are joined by approximately 19 students from other schools. Mirroring the situation nationally, in 2023 there was a significant increase in the number of Formby High School students who, for different reasons, did not sit any GCSE examinations and the School ensured they received support to progress to meaningful post-16 pathways despite not gaining qualifications.

Like GCSEs, students performed admirably in their A Levels. There was a 97% pass rate, at an average grade B, and 55% of all A-Level entries were graded A*-B. 12 students completed the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and achieved excellent results with 83% attaining A*/A grades and 92% achieving A*-B. The performance in Vocational and Technical Qualifications (VTQs) such as Level 3 BTEC qualifications was very good with 46% of entries awarded Distinction* or Distinction and 100% of all entries being graded at Pass or above. The results in 2023 represent a notable improvement on 2019 when they were last comparable, with the proportion of student securing the highest grades comparing particularly well.

75 students from the cohort are starting university degree courses this Autumn with 81% securing a place at their first choice university. It is pleasing that students have opted to study at universities across the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, with a high proportion securing a place at a Russell Group or other prestigious universities. This year, six students successfully gained places to study Medicine and one student has progressed to read Russian and Spanish at Oxford University. An emerging trend in terms of post-18 opportunities is the increasing number of students opting for higher apprenticeships or Degree Apprenticeships as a more financially viable and secure route. In 2023, 5 students progressed onto Higher Apprenticeship or Degree Apprenticeship programmes.

In November 2022, the School was inspected by Ofsted for the first time since 2008. Inspected under the new framework, the quality of the curriculum, teaching and learning were closely scrutinised as well as arrangements for safeguarding, standards of behaviour and the quality of pastoral care, personal development and leadership. The school was judged to be good in all areas of the inspection framework and good overall, and received a very positive written report conveying the warmth and inclusive nature of the school community. Two areas for improvement were identified relating to the assessment of students' learning and the personal development curriculum, plans for both of which are being addressed by the School's Senior Leadership Team.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

During 2022/23, the School has been working in partnership with the Local Authority on the development of a SEND Resource Base on site. This ambitious project will see the development of the vacant caretaker's lodge into a purpose designed facility that will accommodate up to 40 students and their teachers / teaching assistants, enabling the delivery of the Reaching High curriculum in a stimulating, nurturing and suitably adapted environment. Planning approval has been granted for the development of the facility and, subject to approval from the Regional Director and the securing of appropriate capital funding from the Local Authority, building work will commence in 2023/24 with opening planned in September 2024/25. Reflecting the School's commitment to supporting students with Special Educational Needs and other vulnerable children, in June 2023 the school was awarded Inclusive School of the Year at the national TES Awards. This prestigious award is recognition of the investment of time, expertise and financial resources during the last five years to develop the School's Reaching High curriculum provision which is considered a model of best practice across the local region.

During 2022/23, the focus of professional development for teachers has been on developing and embedding effective formative assessment and responsive teaching within the classroom. In addition to this, teachers have continued to develop approaches to quality first teaching to ensure children with SEND have equal access to the curriculum being delivered within the classroom. Much CPD is delivered in-house, capitalising on expertise within the teaching staff body. To complement this, the school held its second annual joint INSET day with Range High School in February 2023 which was facilitated by Stephen Tierney who presented on the theme of the quality classroom. In addition, middle leaders and teachers have continued to work on developing the Key Stage 3 assessment framework within their subject areas in order to accurately assess students' progress against Curriculum Related Expectations.

For the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic, the school's extra-curricular and enrichment programme returned to full strength. In sport, the traditional extra-curricular programme was enhanced with FHS-Extra, a diverse range of activities, including boxing and skateboarding, that are delivered by external coaches. Once again, our sports teams competed to a high standard in local, regional and national competitions with the Year 9 boys' football team winning the ESFA National Schools Under 14s Cup. The creative arts offer continues to stand out for its diversity and the quality of performances. Once again, our Musical Theatre group was commended at the Music Theatre International at the Birmingham NEC in April 2023 for its stand out production of Legally Blonde. In addition to this, students had the opportunity to participate in a wide range of trips and educational visits, including a multitude of theatre trips, the Eden Project, Cornwall, Geography fieldwork in Snowdonia National Park and university open day visits to the University of Glasgow and the University of Cambridge. Finally, over 120 students participated in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme at either Bronze, Silver or Gold level.

The Pupil Premium funding in financial year 2022/23 was an additional £985 for each eligible student and £320 for service children. We also received funding for Previously Looked After Children and this resulted in a total grant of £150,348 for the academic year. Funding was directed towards a wide variety of support mechanisms, including additional teaching sessions for English and Mathematics (Years 7 to 11), adapted curriculum provision for our 'Reaching High' cohort of students with SEND and enhanced pastoral support for students across all year groups who have been particularly impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Funding also supported an Attendance and Outreach Worker who supports Pupil Premium students to improve attendance and develop a positive attitude to learning, and the purchase of services from a private counsellor to help students where well-being concerns exist. In addition, study support resources and services were purchased for students and additional independent careers provision was arranged to reduce the likelihood of disadvantaged students becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training). Some Pupil Premium funding was also allocated towards supporting expenses for students to participate in extra-curricular activities and provided individual students with resources to support their learning where appropriate. Pupil Premium funding is used to pay for software subscriptions and licenses which support students' learning and help to engage parents of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Additionally, Pupil Premium funds were utilised to pay for the Liverpool Football Foundation's Onside project which engaged a cohort of students in Year 9, providing them with exciting and meaningful personal development and leadership opportunities.

In addition to Pupil Premium funding, Formby High School received £29,256 funding through the government's Catch Up Premium. Some of this was allocated to tutoring in a range of subjects, including English and Mathematics (supplementing School Led Tutoring funds) as well as providing tutoring in the home to try to re-engage long-term non-attending students. A considerable proportion of these funds was used to recruit an Attendance Officer to support families of students who are persistent absentees.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The school's leaders continue to be ambitious for attendance and has invested significant resources into tackling issues surrounding attendance post-pandemic. In 2022/23, attendance for students in Years 7 to 11 was 91.7% which compares with the national average of 90.7%. Persistent absence has reduced by over 10% in 2022/23 to 21% overall which compares with a national figure of 27%. Schools nationally face a challenge with post-Covid rates of attendance, and strengthening the culture and habits around attendance to ensure it returns to pre-Covid 19 levels will remain a priority in 2023/24.

The School continues to enjoy very low staff turnover, which is a major contributor to the sustained levels of academic achievement and strong reputation of exceptional pastoral care. Despite increasing financial pressures, levels of staffing have been largely maintained to enable the on-going maintenance of generously sized teaching groups in all year groups. The Governors resolved to increase the School's Published Admissions Number (PAN) in September 2017, leading to an increase of 20 additional places per year which created the challenge of accommodating and managing more children in school. Central to the Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team strategy for managing more students was an application for funding to build a new teaching block. The application, and subsequent appeal, was unsuccessful and this led the Governing Body to take the decision in February 2020 to reduce the School's PAN to 166 for September 2021 admission. In 2021 the School admitted its first 166 cohort to Year 7 (alongside Years 8 to 11 which are year groups with numbers derived from the legacy 186 PAN) and year groups of 166 students will continue to replace the bigger year groups over the next few years. In total, 422 children applied for a place at the School for September 2023 (for 166 available places) and the Governing Body took the decision to temporarily increase the PAN to 172. Average class sizes in Year 7 will be 29 students in 2023/24 and the School will seek to preserve this desirable teacher:student ratio in the future as it is considered particularly beneficial to students during the transition from primary school. The impact of the reduced PAN in terms of diminishing student-led funding has a detrimental effect on the school's revenue income in the medium term and this continues to require very careful monitoring of expenditure, regular review of staffing levels and exploitation of additional funding opportunities (including recruiting additional students into the school's Sixth Form) in the future.

Despite limited revenue funding, cost pressures as a consequence of the global fuel crisis, general inflationary forces and the long-term impact of the global pandemic, good progress has been made during 2022/23 in terms of improving the school environment and opportunities for students, developing aspects of teaching and classroom practice, and improving systems and policies. The Governors and Senior Leadership Team are very mindful that, despite additional support in recent years through increased per student revenue funding and additional grants to support with growing pay, pensions and operational costs, significant financial pressures remain as a consequence of squeezed real terms budget allocations, additional costs and the reduced PAN. With this in mind, the school has sought to put itself in a healthy financial position in order to navigate the ongoing uncertainties that future years will bring.

Going concern

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

Financial review

The School's total incoming resources during the period were £8,486,000 (2022: £7,824,000). The majority of the School's income derives from central government funding via the Education and Skills Funding Agency, in the form of current grants. Total funding received for the School's educational operations in the period was £7,658,000 (2022: £7,060,000) and further details are provided in note 4 to the accounts.

Total outgoing resources for the period were £8,009,000 (2022: £7,639,000) the majority of which related to the direct provision of educational operations £7,993,000 (2022: £7,623,000) and further details are provided in note 6 to the accounts.

The in year surplus on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) and unrestricted funds was £244,000 (2022: £142,000).

At the period end the School's total reserves were £11,293,000 (2022: £9,980,000) details of which are included on the table below.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

On conversion in 2011, the School inherited a deficit of £956,000 in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme, which many of the non-teaching staff belong to. This deficit has been valued by the actuaries with a value of £1,002,000 at 31 August 2023, mainly due to changes in actuarial assumptions regarding future returns on investments and the present value of future liabilities. The School is currently paying contributions of £98,400 annually towards the deficit, funded out of GAG. The School does not have an obligation to settle this liability immediately and there are no indications that it will crystallise in the foreseeable future.

In July 2013 a DfE guarantee was put in place to provide an assurance to LGPS pension fund managers that academies should not be treated as 'high-risk' employers. The guarantee ensures that in the event of the closure of an academy trust, any outstanding LGPS liabilities will not revert to the fund. At 31 August 2023, all assets shown in the accounts were used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to students of the School.

Reserves policy

The Governors review the level of free reserves regularly and have agreed that it is appropriate to retain a minimum level of free reserves of 6% of the School's annual budget for GAG income, which equates to approximately £400,000. The School aims to maintain this level of reserve, at the very least, to provide an element of security and ensure sustainability of the School against the uncertainty of future funding and in the event of reductions in pupil numbers, the impact of additional staff on-costs that are likely to be incurred in future years or unexpected increases in expenditure. In addition, it provides a 'rainy day' fund to enable the School to address any unforeseen issues, particularly in relation to buildings maintenance and health and safety as they may arise, and acts as a 'buffer' against potential increasing staffing and energy costs and uncertainty regarding additional funding for schools beyond 2023/24. The reserves held also enable the School to respond to opportunities and implement the longer-term strategic plan.

At 31 August 2023 the School held the following reserves.	2023 £	2022 £
Total reserves	11,293,000	9,980,000
Add back Pension reserve	1,002,000	1,804,000
Less reserves attributable to Fixed assets	(11,283,000)	(11,016,000)
Unrestricted and general restricted funds	1,012,000	768,000
Less restricted general funds	(511,000)	(374,000)
Free reserves	501,000	394,000

As noted on the above table, the unrestricted free reserves available for educational and general purposes of £501,000 take account of the full liability for seven capital loans of £114,000 already transferred to the balance sheet assets. The Trust reviews the level of reserves throughout the year as part of management reporting. The balance of reserves of £501,000 is currently above the minimum reserve (5% of total annual budget) set by the Governors and the School is continually reviewing for cost savings and income opportunities to continue to strengthen reserves.

Investment policy

All investments are agreed by the Governing Body, which has regard to the Charity Commission guidance in relation to charity investment policy. The School does not currently hold any investments other than cash, which is held for its normal operations. The Governing Body has adopted a low risk strategy, occasionally moving surplus funds into a higher interest savings account that are accessible within 30 days. In June 2023 a cash balance of £800,000 was transferred to a 30 day deposit account to benefit from increased interest rates

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Governors have assessed the major risks to which the School is exposed, including those relating to teaching, health and safety, IT and cyber risks, school trips, child protection, site security and finances. These risks are reviewed regularly and policies and procedures are in place to mitigate risk and ensure issues can be quickly identified and responded to. To support this process, the School uses the 'Every' system to maintain the Risk Register that is reviewed regularly by the Governing Body's Audit and Risk Committee. This is supplemented by Internal Scrutiny visits that are carried out by an external consultant in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook, the reports and associated actions for which are reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee. Through this process, checks on financial controls and operational procedures have been performed during the year and recommendations raised have been reported back to the Headteacher, Head of Finance and Governing Body's Audit and Risk Committee for implementation.

The internal financial systems are based on the Academy Trusts Handbook and are documented in the School's Financial Procedures Manual. The systems are based on a framework of segregation of duties and schemes of delegation which include authorisation and approval. Financial management information is provided to the Headteacher on a monthly basis and is provided to the Governors' Buildings and Finance Committee at each meeting during the school year. In addition, this information is posted each month on the Governor drive.

The School's Health & Safety Coordinator has responsible for ensuring the School's estate remains safe and well-maintained and that the School is compliant with current legislation, particularly in relation to the management of asbestos and the risk of legionella. The compliance calendar is monitored by the Headteacher and the Governing Body is provided with regular health & safety updates. In July 2023, an external audit of site security was carried out by the School's Competent Person as part of the Internal Scrutiny framework. In addition, a Site Development Plan has been created, prioritising projects for site maintenance and improvement which is used to inform the allocation of capital and revenue funds.

Fundraising

The School has undertaken two types of fundraising during 2022/23. Firstly, funds have been raised to support local and national charities, including Children in Need, Red Nose Day and the School's Borneo appeal. Traditional approaches to fundraising have been used, including non-uniform days, cake sales, sale of other items and collections. All funds are collected by the School's Finance Department and are paid to the relevant charity via BACS payment.

Secondly, funds have been raised through seeking grant funding opportunities from local and national organisations. For example, a grant of £9,000 was received from the Virtual School to enable the delivery of a project targeting Looked After Children and those with SEND.

All fundraising activities are monitored by the School's Senior Leadership Team and are undertaken in accordance with regulations. The school does not work with professional fundraisers or commercial participants and has received no complaints in relation to fundraising.

Plans for future periods

The School sets out its plans for the future and how they will be achieved in the annual School Improvement and Development Plan (SIDP). The SIDP has been restructured to align with the Governors' Mission, Values and Vision Statement which was reviewed and operates over a two-year period (2022/23 and 2023/24). A summary of the key plans for the future are set out below:

Ethos and community

Strategic Objective: By 2026, FHS will have established its role as a community hub, with strong and reciprocal partnerships with other local schools and organisations, to the benefit of the school, its students and the wider community.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Short term inputs for 2023/24:

- Further develop partnerships with other schools and organisations that support school priorities and evaluate the strategic options available to school regarding membership of a Multi-Academy Trust by 2026.
- Secure the highest standards of behaviour and attitude to learning by all pupils through the consistent implementation of policies, strategies and routines and effective pastoral support.
- Develop and implement a strengthened Personal Development curriculum to ensure all pupils are well-informed about all forms of discrimination and feel confident in speaking out and reporting concerns.
- Create opportunities to engage with the school's community to establish mutually beneficial partnerships with businesses and other local organisations.
- Further strengthen partnerships with parents and carers to ensure positive and constructive engagement with the 'contract' set out in the home-school partnership agreement.

Achievement for all

Strategic Objective: By 2026, founded upon the quality of and passion for teaching, FHS will be identified by its aspirational and inclusive curriculum, offering diverse and clear pathways to allow every student to achieve their full potential within an exceptional learning environment.

Short term inputs for 2023/24:

- Implement the Y11 Raising Achievement Plan leading to positive GCSE outcomes for the Year 11 cohort across all key attainment and progress thresholds.
- Fully embed the Key Stage 3 assessment framework to allow for accurate assessment of and reporting on students' acquisition of against Curriculum Related Expectations.
- Further refine and embed the school's Reading Strategy ensuring progress for the school's weakest readers, in particular.
- Ensure High Quality Teaching within mainstream classes for students with SEND to enhance their acquisition of knowledge, behaviour for learning and progress through the curriculum.
- Secure consistently effective formative assessment in all lessons to ensure that all students' progress within lessons is dynamically assessed and teachers respond accordingly.

Well-being and welfare

Strategic Objective: By 2026, FHS will be celebrated and admired as an exemplar for its happy, supportive and nurturing environment for work and learning. The care for students and staff and their well-being will be a demonstrable priority and personal development will be integrated into all aspects of school life.

Short term inputs for 2023/24:

- Implement and embed a Staff Well-Being and Workload Plan.
- Reduce the prevalence of EBSA amongst students in lower year groups.
- Improve overall attendance and Persistent Absence in comparison with previous years moving to 95%+ attendance for Years 7 to 13 by the end of 2023-24.
- Incorporate character education as part of the new Personal Development curriculum.

Leaders for today and the future

Strategic Objective: By 2026, the nurturing of leadership skills will be fully embedded throughout all levels of the organisation, providing staff and students with rich opportunities to develop the skills and experience that will equip them to take on the challenge of leadership..

Short term inputs for 2023/24:

- Strengthen the consistency and impact of middle leadership through a planned programme of professional development and effective line management.
- Embed the professional growth and development approach to appraisal for teaching and support staff.
- Develop structures and systems to provide exceptional student leadership opportunities.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Sixth form

Strategic Objective: By 2026, FHS will have an oversubscribed and thriving Sixth Form, integrated into the broader life and work of the school. It will be renowned for the quality of teaching and learning, as well as its aspiration for all students, the leadership skills they develop and the diverse destinations to which they progress.

Short term inputs for 2023/24:

- Further strengthen post-16 outcomes so that they compare favourably with local and national averages and show improvement from 2022-23 in all subjects.
- Embed the new Personal Development Programme adding to our FHSBacc curriculum offer.
- Increase the retention of the 2022-23 and 2023-24 FHS Year 11 cohorts and maintain high levels of recruitment of external students.

Environment and infrastructure

Strategic Objective: By 2026, FHS will boast the very best educational facilities, providing a safe, stimulating and exceptionally resourced learning environment enabling the delivery of a rich curriculum and extra-curricular programme.

Short term inputs for 2023/24:

- Implement an ICT network development plan in order to future proof and protect the ICT network infrastructure.
- In partnership with the Local Authority, develop an on-site SEND facility, providing a fit for purpose learning environment for the increasing number of students on roll with complex SEND.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others


There are no funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

Auditor

In so far as the Governors are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Governing Body, being the Board of Trustees and Company Directors, on ..21 November 2023... and signed on its behalf by:


D Pearson
Chair of Trustees

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Scope of responsibility

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

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Formby High School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities. The Governing Body has formally met in full five times during the year.

Although the Governing Body has met in full five times in the year, the School has various sub-committees of the Governing Body that meet throughout the year and inform the Governing Body. As a result of these the Governing Body maintains effective oversight of funds.

Attendance during the year at full meetings of the Governing Body was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
C Adams (Co-opted Governor) (resigned 27 Sep 22)	0	1
G Bainbridge (Parent Governor)	4	5
A Brooks (Staff Governor)	4	5
M Duckworth (Parent Governor)	5	5
J Fitzgibbon (Staff Governor) (elected 9 Nov 21)	4	5
F Grieveson (Chair, Community Governor) (resigned 20 Jul 23)	5	5
S Jones (Co-opted Governor)	0	5
P Killen (Community Governor)	2	4
D Mackenzie (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)	5	5
K McDonnell (Community Governor) (resigned 13 Sep 22)	0	1
C McNamara (Parent Governor)	5	5
P Monaghan (Community Governor) (appointed 15 Nov 22)	2	3
L O'Donnell (Parent Governor) (elected 13 Oct 22)	2	4
D Pearson (Community Governor) (appointed Chair of Governors Sep 22)	5	5
L Roberts (Parent Governor Governor)	5	5
K Smith (Community Governor)	4	5
J Stuart (Parent Governor) (elected 13 Oct 22)	2	4

Structure of governance – no changes were made to the organisational meeting structure of governance during this academic year and the Governing Body continued to be well-organised and informed through an effective structure of Committee meetings as follows:

- Strategic Review (2 meetings)
- Curriculum & Staffing (3 meetings and 1 extraordinary meeting)
- Audit & Risk (3 meetings)
- Buildings & Finance (3 meetings and 2 extraordinary meetings)
- Remuneration & Benefits (2 meetings)

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Following the external review of governance undertaken in July 2021, Forrest Governance completed a monitoring visit in July 2022 to review progress and impact of the findings of the original review. The Progress and Impact Review (July 2022) report was discussed at the first meeting of the Governing Body in the 2022/23 school year. The report concluded:

'The evidence that the reviewer has obtained as part of the progress and impact review process has demonstrated that the trust board has made a significant commitment to the action plan following the initial review and considerable progress against the plan has been made. Given the additional difficulties imposed as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic it is all the more impressive that so much has been achieved. Governors are passionate about their role and are being well led by their chair. The board have rightly taken succession planning seriously and considerable thought has been given to the handover process from the current chair to the incoming one. The headteacher clearly recognises how vital effective governance is as key dimension of leadership and management in the trust. It is very pleasing to see that the trust is supported by a skilled and committed governance professional (clerk).'

It was agreed that the Governor Development Plan which was developed based on the action plan from the external review around the school's strategic priorities would continue in 2022/23.

Governor recruitment and development

Following succession planning undertaken in the previous academic year, a new Chair of Governors was successfully elected in September 2022, having joined the Governing Body in February of 2022. The outgoing Chair of Governors agreed to continue service in her capacity as Community Governor to provide continuity and support for the new Chair in his first year. With a number of Governors reaching the end of their respective term of office at the end of the 2021/22 school year and the start of the 2022/23, succession planning determined areas of need which would ensure that the Governing Body could continue to maintain and attract the outstanding level and scope of experience and skills of its members. This process was supported by a skills audit which is used to inform training and development needs, as well as identify skills gaps to be considered in recruitment decisions. During the 2022/23 school year, the Governing Body welcomed two new Parent Governors and two Community Governors. A new Independent Governor was appointed to support the work of the Audit & Risk Committee.

Based on sector requirements and indeed gaps identified in skills audits, training was undertaken in Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment, Managing Allegations, and Recruiting a Senior Executive Leader. The Governing Body uses the National Governance Association (NGA) Learning Link training provision as well as Governor Hub Knowledge. In addition, the annual Governor Development Day provided Governors with training in assessment, understanding school data and safeguarding.

Ofsted (Section 5 Inspection November 2022)

Governors participated in the inspection visit through members meeting with the Lead Inspector to provide insight into strategic leadership and safeguarding. Following the Ofsted Inspection in November 2022, the report judged the school to be Good across all areas and that safeguarding was effective. The report made specific reference to governance as follows:

'Governors are highly committed to the ethos of the school. They support leaders well and work closely with them to ensure they have clear oversight of all aspects of school life. Staff say that they are proud to work at Formby High School. Staff feel that leaders are considerate of their workload. They appreciate the steps leaders have taken to look after their well-being.'

Headteacher recruitment

Following the resignation of Mr Mackenzie, during the Spring term of 2023, the Governing Body delegated authority to a panel of Governors (Headteacher Recruitment Panel), supported by an External Consultant, the HR Officer and Clerk to Governors, to undertake the development and implementation of the appointment process. Informed by the DfE's *Recruiting a Headteacher* guidance and the NGA *Executive Leader Recruitment Toolkit* and online training, the panel conducted a robust assessment and selection process. Throughout the process, Governors considered the importance of other stakeholder involvement and ensured that both staff and students were involved in the two day selection process.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Multi-Academy Trust development

The Chair/Vice Chair continued to support the Headteacher in ongoing development discussions for a community-focussed MAT along with Chairs/Headteachers from 8 other interested parties. However, following indication from the Regional Director's Office in December 2022 that they would not support the proposal and with the subsequent announcement by government to suspend White Paper pledges, development of the project ceased. Governors remain committed to ensuring strong and reciprocal partnerships with other local schools and organisations, to the benefit of the school, its students and the wider community, and will continue to evaluate strategic options for MAT membership in the future.

Developing the learning environment

Despite the significant and increasing financial challenges faced, Governors remained wholly committed to ensuring that the staff and students within their care have access to the appropriate learning environment to support them in meeting the high aspirations the school instills. The ongoing estates management planning, including proactive competition to secure Conditions Improvement Fund awards, ongoing investment in maintenance and repair of an ageing campus is closely monitored and supported by Governors. In addition, an ambitious programme of ICT infrastructure and hardware upgrade was approved by Governors in summer 2023.

School community and inclusion

Governors play a significant role in the school's drive to ensure that all students can access the very best the school has to offer in education, pastoral support and extra-curricular provision. Supporting ways to ensure the school can meet the ongoing high demand on places wherever possible, including the increasing cohorts of students with additional needs, remains a priority and underpins the strategic and financial planning of the school. Plans to develop a SEND Resource Base at the school began in earnest in 2022/23.

The Buildings and Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Governing Body, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the School's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity. In addition, the Committee provides support and guidance for the Headteacher on all matters relating to the School premises and grounds, security and health and safety.

During the 2022/23 year, the Committee held three scheduled meetings.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:	Meetings attended	Out of possible
D Mackenzie (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)	3	3
A Brooks (Staff Governor)	2	3
Mr M Duckworth (Parent Governor) (Committee Chair)	3	3
F Grieveson (Community Governor)	3	3
P Killen (Community Governor)	2	3
L O'Donnell (Parent Governor)	3	3
D Pearson (Community Governor)	2	3
L Roberts (Parent Governor Governor)	3	3

The Audit and Risk Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to take delegated responsibility on behalf of the Governing Body for examining and reviewing all systems and methods of internal control, both financial and otherwise, including risk analysis and risk management; and for ensuring the School is complying with the overall requirements for internal scrutiny, as specified in the Academy Trust Handbook.

The School uses the 'Every' system to develop, monitor and maintain the Risk Register in line with the Risk Management Policy. The system enables the Audit and Risk Committee to view, interrogate and explore the Risk Register using a dynamic electronic dashboard. The system has proved an invaluable tool for the School in addressing and prioritising the management of risks (all sectors) at the School.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The School has an Independent Committee Member and Chair for the audit committee who attended 3 out of 3 possible meetings. The Governors attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:	Meetings attended	Out of possible
D Mackenzie (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)	3	3
R Smith (Independent Governor)	3	3
P Killen (Community Governor)	3	3
L Roberts (Parent Governor)	3	3
K Smith (Parent Governor)	2	3

Conflicts of interest

The Governing Body maintains a Register of Business Interests which is updated annually (or as necessary if changes are required). In addition, declarations of interest are systematically requested at the start of all governor meetings (in particular identifying any interest relating to published agenda items). Conflicts of interest are addressed accordingly and depending on nature; parties who declare an interest will either abstain from voting on the area involved or to be requested to withdraw from the meeting by the Chair and Clerk.

Review of value for money

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 Governing Body 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 in the following ways:

Quality of education

The students of Formby High School achieved good academic results in GCSE, A Level and VTQs in 2023. Considerable work has been undertaken in 2022/23 to develop the curriculum, ensuring it provides a valuable, broad and deep learning experience for students, preparing them well for the next stage of their lives, and can be delivered cost effectively. For 2022/23, a decision was taken to increase teaching time from 49 to 50 hours per fortnight to ensure compliance with the Government's requirement for schools to be open for 32.5 hours per week. This came into effect in September 2022. The overall educational offer to students is one that represents good value for money, particularly with an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities, school trips that are inclusive and accessible to all families and high-quality pastoral provision that meets the welfare needs of every student in school. The school's Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team routinely reflect on all elements of provision to determine whether they can be improved or delivered in a more cost-effective manner.

Financial governance and oversight

Under its terms of reference, the Governors' Buildings and Finance Committee reviews the School's monthly management accounts. Reporting to the Governing Body is in accordance with ESFA requirements. The school regularly updates its Financial Procedures Manual to ensure compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook. The Governing Body has been responsible for taking important strategic decisions about expenditure to bring about capital and infrastructure improvements throughout the School. For example, the Governing Body is supportive of a plan to upgrade the School's ICT network infrastructure in 2023/24. Financial governance and oversight is a particular strength of the Governing Body and is paramount in the current economic climate and with the School operating with a considerably reduced budget and increased staffing costs.

Estates Safety and Management

Condition Improvement Funds have been effectively utilised in 2022/23 to maintain the School's estate through a substantial roof replacement project for S Building and the upgrading of the heating system in P Building, further addressing historic backlog maintenance issues. The School's annual maintenance budget has been carefully deployed to address smaller scale maintenance matters, including addressing issues with drainage and the safety of paved areas across the site. The School's compliance calendar ensures that statutory checks take place in all relevant areas and the School maintains an up to date Asbestos Register and Legionella Risk Assessment. In 2022/23, the School developed a strategic site improvement and maintenance plan which will inform decision making regarding the allocation of funds for future capital projects.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Purchasing

The School adopts a range of strategies to promote best value when purchasing goods and services. For example, to ensure that competitive prices are acquired for the purchase of goods and services, the School's Financial Procedures Manual determines that multiple quotations are sought above a certain value. In addition, at the point of renewal, the School evaluates the effectiveness of long-term contracts for goods and services, challenges current suppliers' costs and renegotiates / seeks alternative providers if necessary. The School will also look to challenge the norm and look for alternative solutions when appropriate; for example, regarding utility consumption. In response to the current energy and environmental crises, the School took the decision to install solar panels across the site in 2022/23, working in partnership with Solar for Schools. The projected savings as a result of this project are upwards of £15,000 per year and there will be an estimated carbon footprint reduction of 35 tonnes of CO₂ per annum. The School has benefitted financially from entering into the ESFA's Risk Protection Arrangements scheme and has used a DfE approved framework for the purchase of 270 new computers in July 2023. In addition, when negotiating new gas and electricity contracts, the School has actively sought best value and has attempted to mitigate against the volatility and unpredictability of both markets.

Income generation

Income is generated through the hire of facilities to the local community during the evenings and weekends, including the sports hall and dance / drama studios. The School has a considerable portfolio of regular letting customers and actively seeks opportunities to enhance this income stream. In 2022/23 record lettings income of over £55,000 was realised which exceeded the budget set for the year by some distance. The School has worked closely with a building services company to generate bids for Condition Improvement Funding (CIF) and has been successful in securing over £5 million of capital funding over the last five years that has brought about considerable site improvements and efficiency savings. During 2022/23 two projects totalling £652,800 took place to upgrade the heating infrastructure in one building and replace the roof on another building. The School has successfully secured funding for a further CIF project in the coming academic year totalling £227,321 to upgrade the hot and cold water distribution pipework throughout two buildings. In addition, the School has secured a capital grant from the Local Authority to enable the development of the vacant caretaker's property into a SEND Resource Base for 2024/25.

Controls and managing risks

The School has continued to develop its procedures for recording and reporting financial information, including refining the monthly management accounts that are used by the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body to monitor expenditure and manage the budget. In addition, there is a clear system of accountability with a member of the Senior Leadership Team or appropriate middle leaders having responsibility for each budget line. The Governing Body has agreed a reserves policy and the School maintains a reserve in accordance with the policy. The School has a dynamic Risk Register which is reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee three times per year. This ensures the actions of those responsible for managing the identified risks are appropriately monitored and enable real-time, focused reporting to both the Senior Leadership Team and the Governing Body. The Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for defining the scope of Internal Scrutiny reports and all findings are reported to the Governing Body.

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's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The key risks and associated controls are all identified on the Risk Register which is regularly reviewed by the Headteacher and Head of Finance and presented to the Audit and Risk Committee each term. The system of internal control has been in place in Formby High School for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The Governing Body has reviewed the key risks to which the School is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Governing Body is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the School's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The risk and control framework

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. In particular it includes:

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

The Audit and Risk Committee reports to the Governing Body and has oversight of all areas of financial and other compliance. During 2022/23, the Audit and Risk Committee requested that internal scrutiny visits were to be performed by relevant independent organisations. School Business Services were commissioned to undertake two internal scrutiny visits: risk management arrangements and systems and procedures within the Finance department. A further internal scrutiny visit was conducted by Compliance Education during the summer term 2023, focusing on site security. No material control issues were identified and all recommendations for improvements to systems, controls and operational compliance are being addressed.

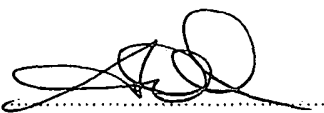
Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the External Auditor;
- internal scrutiny reports produced by the relevant independent organisation;
- regular review of the monthly management accounts by the Building and Finance Committee;
- review of the Department of Education's benchmarking reports by the Building and Finance Committee; and
- the work of the Headteacher and Head of Finance in the School who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Buildings and Finance Committee to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the Governing Body on 21 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



A Wood
Headteacher and Accounting Officer



D Pearson
Chair of Trustees

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

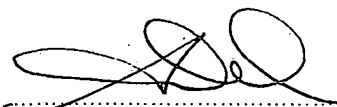
STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

As accounting officer of Formby High 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, including for estates safety and management, 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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



A Wood
Accounting Officer

Date: 21.11.23

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees (who are also the directors of Formby High School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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:

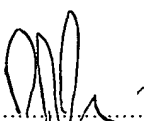
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting 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 ^{21 November 2023} and signed on its behalf by:


D Pearson
Chair of Trustees

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Formby High School for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including 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 2022 to 2023 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 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 2022 to 2023.

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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the 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.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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.

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

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Identify and test journal entries, in particular any journal entries posting with unusual account combinations.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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

Use of our report

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

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Ltd

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

Date: 21/11/2023

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 October 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Formby High School during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Formby High School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Formby High School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 September 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- We have confirmed that the activities conform to the academy trust's framework of authorities. As identified by review of minutes, management accounts, discussion with the accounting officer and other key management personnel.
- We have carried out an analytical review as part of the consideration of whether general activities of the academy trust are within the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- We have considered the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and have evaluated the general control environment of the academy trust and extended the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- We have assessed and tested a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity. In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have considered whether the activity is permissible within the academy trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the academy trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the governing body, and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the governing body and the accounting officer acknowledging their responsibilities including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence is not available.
- In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have reviewed against specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement. We have reviewed the list of suppliers and have considered whether supplies are from related parties and have reviewed minutes for evidence of declaration of interest, and whether or not there was involvement in the decision to order from this supplier.
- We have performed sample testing of other income and tested whether activities are permitted within the academy trust's charitable objects.

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 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.


DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Reporting Accountant

Date: 21/11/2023

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	721	721	620
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	7,658	-	7,658	7,060
Other trading activities	5	107	-	-	107	144
Total		<u>107</u>	<u>7,658</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>8,486</u>	<u>7,824</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	-	16	-	16	16
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	-	7,557	436	7,993	7,623
Total	6	<u>-</u>	<u>7,573</u>	<u>436</u>	<u>8,009</u>	<u>7,639</u>
Net income		107	85	285	477	185
Transfers between funds	16	-	18	(18)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	836	-	836	2,057
Net movement in funds		107	939	267	1,313	2,242
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		394	(1,430)	11,016	9,980	7,738
Total funds carried forward		<u>501</u>	<u>(491)</u>	<u>11,283</u>	<u>11,293</u>	<u>9,980</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2022	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		funds £'000	General	Fixed asset £'000	2022 £'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	13	607	620
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	7,060	-	7,060
Other trading activities	5	144	-	-	144
Total		144	7,073	607	7,824
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	-	16	-	16
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	-	7,209	414	7,623
Total	6	-	7,225	414	7,639
Net income/(expenditure)		144	(152)	193	185
Transfers between funds	16	-	(70)	70	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	2,057	-	2,057
Net movement in funds		144	1,835	263	2,242
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		250	(3,265)	10,753	7,738
Total funds carried forward		394	(1,430)	11,016	9,980

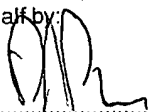
FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023	2022
	Notes	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	10,914	10,529
Current assets			
Debtors	12	834	675
Cash at bank and in hand		1,007	948
		<u>1,841</u>	<u>1,623</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(367)	(281)
Net current assets		<u>1,474</u>	<u>1,342</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>12,388</u>	<u>11,871</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(93)	(87)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>12,295</u>	<u>11,784</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	18	(1,002)	(1,804)
Total net assets		<u>11,293</u>	<u>9,980</u>
Funds of the academy trust:			
Restricted funds	16		
- Fixed asset funds		11,283	11,016
- Restricted income funds		511	374
- Pension reserve		(1,002)	(1,804)
Total restricted funds		<u>10,792</u>	<u>9,586</u>
Unrestricted income funds	16	<u>501</u>	<u>394</u>
Total funds		<u>11,293</u>	<u>9,980</u>

The accounts were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 21 November 2023 and are signed on their behalf by


D Pearson
Chair of Trustees

Company registration number: 07724342 (England and Wales)

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	£'000	2022 £'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	19		(334)		922
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		1,208		120	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(821)		(995)	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			387		(875)
Cash flows from financing activities					
New loan		26		69	
Repayment of loans		(20)		(17)	
Net cash provided by financing activities			6		52
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			59		99
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			948		849
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>1,007</u>		<u>948</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

Formby High School is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations is 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 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate in preparing the financial statements, 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 financial statements.

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.

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

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.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

Donated fixed assets are measured at fair value unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor is used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

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.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

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.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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:

Land and buildings	2% - 10%
Assets under construction	Nil until brought into use
Computer equipment	14.3% - 33.3%
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5% - 20%
Motor vehicles	20%

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

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.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 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.

1.12 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds for the ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The academy trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 25.

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.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 18, will impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Capital grants	-	721	721	607
Other donations	-	-	-	13
	<u>-</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>620</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	6,343	6,343	6,135
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	153	153	146
- Supplementary grant	-	232	232	-
- Others	-	107	107	174
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,835</u>	<u>6,835</u>	<u>6,455</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	631	631	405
	<u>-</u>	<u>631</u>	<u>631</u>	<u>405</u>
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	20
Non-DfE/ESFA				
Other COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	12
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32</u>
Other incoming resources	-	192	192	168
	<u>-</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>168</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>7,658</u>	<u>7,658</u>	<u>7,060</u>

The academy trust received £631,000 (2022: £405,000) from the local authority in year, being £555,000 for SEN, £22,000 for pupil premium, £8,000 for LAC, £10,000 for free school meals, £35,000 for Pupils from Ukraine and £1,000 for uniform.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies in respect of government grant funding.

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Hire of facilities	57	-	57	52
Other income	50	-	50	92
	<u>107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>144</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure Premises £'000	Other £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	16	16	16
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	4,504	-	763	5,267	5,141
- Allocated support costs	1,450	925	351	2,726	2,557
	<u>5,954</u>	<u>925</u>	<u>1,130</u>	<u>8,009</u>	<u>7,714</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	7	7
- Other services	2	1
Operating lease rentals	18	26
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	436	414
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	71	59
	<u>7</u>	<u>59</u>

7 Charitable activities

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
All from restricted funds:		
Direct costs		
Educational operations	5,267	5,141
Support costs		
Educational operations	2,726	2,557
	<u>7,993</u>	<u>7,698</u>

Analysis of costs

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	4,506	4,409
Staff development	10	6
Technology costs	134	-
Educational supplies and services	293	261
Examination fees	131	116
Other direct costs	193	166
	<u>5,267</u>	<u>4,958</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

7 Charitable activities

(Continued)

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Support costs		
Support staff costs	1,450	1,493
Depreciation	436	414
Maintenance of premises and equipment	91	95
Cleaning	152	110
Energy costs	150	116
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	67	59
Insurance	29	22
Security and transport	10	23
Catering	96	91
Interest on defined benefit pension scheme	71	59
Other support costs	167	172
Governance costs	7	11
	<u>2,726</u>	<u>2,665</u>

8 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Wages and salaries	4,502	3,926
Social security costs	439	424
Pension costs	1,013	1,162
Staff costs - employees	<u>5,954</u>	<u>5,512</u>
Staff restructuring costs	-	51
	<u>5,954</u>	<u>5,563</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	12	13
Total staff expenditure	<u>5,966</u>	<u>5,576</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments	-	51
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FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8 Staff

(Continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teachers	66	64
Administration and support	47	52
Management	5	7
	<u>118</u>	<u>123</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,001-£70,000	2	2
£70,001-£80,000	1	2
£110,001-£120,000	-	1
£120,001-£130,000	1	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>

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 key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £586,000 (2022: £675,000).

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

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

D Mackenzie (head teacher)	£120,001 - £125,000	(2022: £115,001 - £120,000)
J Fitzgibbons (staff trustee)	£40,001 - £45,000	(2022: £35,001 - £40,000)
A Brooks (staff trustee)	£10,001 - £15,000	(2022: £10,001 - £15,000)

The value of trustees pension contribution was as follows:

D Mackenzie (head teacher)	£25,001 - £30,000	(2022: £25,001 - £30,000)
J Fitzgibbons (staff trustee)	£10,001 - £15,000	(2022: £5,001 - £10,000)
A Brooks (staff trustee)	£1 - £5,000	(2022: £1 - £5,000)

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

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Assets under construction	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2022	12,152	51	271	1,478	14	13,966
Transfer on conversion	51	(51)	-	-	-	-
Additions	637	-	146	38	-	821
	<u>12,840</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>417</u>	<u>1,516</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>14,787</u>
At 31 August 2023	12,840	-	417	1,516	14	14,787
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2022	2,453	-	207	769	8	3,437
Charge for the year	327	-	25	81	3	436
	<u>2,780</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>232</u>	<u>850</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>3,873</u>
At 31 August 2023	2,780	-	232	850	11	3,873
Net book value						
At 31 August 2023	10,060	-	185	666	3	10,914
At 31 August 2022	<u>9,699</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>709</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>10,529</u>

The net book value of land and buildings comprises:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Long leaseholds (over 50 years)	<u>10,060</u>	<u>9,699</u>

12 Debtors

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Trade debtors	10	6
VAT recoverable	166	32
Prepayments and accrued income	658	637
	<u>834</u>	<u>675</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Government loans	21	21
Trade creditors	16	21
Other creditors	131	106
Accruals and deferred income	199	133
	<u>367</u>	<u>281</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Government loans	93	87
	<u>93</u>	<u>87</u>

Analysis of loans	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Wholly repayable within five years	114	108
Less: included in current liabilities	(21)	(21)
Amounts included above	<u>93</u>	<u>87</u>

Loan maturity	2023	2022
Debt due in one year or less	21	21
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	38	21
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	46	33
Due in more than five years	9	33
	<u>114</u>	<u>108</u>

15 Deferred income

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	30	-
	<u>30</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	-	-
Resources deferred in the year	30	-
	<u>30</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	<u>30</u>	<u>-</u>

At the balance sheet date, the academy trust was holding income received in advance for trips taking place in 2023-24.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	374	6,343	(6,224)	18	511
Pupil premium	-	153	(153)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	339	(339)	-	-
Other government grants	-	631	(631)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	192	(192)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,804)	-	(34)	836	(1,002)
	<u>(1,430)</u>	<u>7,658</u>	<u>(7,573)</u>	<u>854</u>	<u>(491)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	7,548	-	(177)	-	7,371
DfE group capital grants	3,030	721	(171)	(18)	3,562
Capital expenditure from GAG	438	-	(88)	-	350
	<u>11,016</u>	<u>721</u>	<u>(436)</u>	<u>(18)</u>	<u>11,283</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>9,586</u>	<u>8,379</u>	<u>(8,009)</u>	<u>836</u>	<u>10,792</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>394</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>501</u>
Total funds	<u>9,980</u>	<u>8,486</u>	<u>(8,009)</u>	<u>836</u>	<u>11,293</u>

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

Restricted general funds are those resources that have been designated restricted by the grant provider in meeting the objectives of the academy.

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objectives of the academy. The restricted fixed asset fund represents the net book value of fixed assets of £10,914,000 plus unspent capital income of £369,000.

Unrestricted funds are those funds to which the board of trustees may use in the pursuance of the academy's objectives and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	337	6,135	(6,028)	(70)	374
Pupil premium	-	146	(146)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	20	(20)	-	-
Other Coronavirus funding	-	12	(12)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	1	174	(175)	-	-
Other government grants	18	405	(423)	-	-
Other restricted funds	20	181	(201)	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,641)	-	(220)	2,057	(1,804)
	<u>(3,265)</u>	<u>7,073</u>	<u>(7,225)</u>	<u>1,987</u>	<u>(1,430)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	7,725	-	(177)	-	7,548
DfE group capital grants	2,558	607	(135)	-	3,030
Capital expenditure from GAG	464	-	(96)	70	438
Private sector capital sponsorship	6	-	(6)	-	-
	<u>10,753</u>	<u>607</u>	<u>(414)</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>11,016</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>7,488</u>	<u>7,680</u>	<u>(7,639)</u>	<u>2,057</u>	<u>9,586</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>250</u>	<u>144</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>394</u>
Total funds	<u>7,738</u>	<u>7,824</u>	<u>(7,639)</u>	<u>2,057</u>	<u>9,980</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,914	10,914
Current assets	501	971	369	1,841
Current liabilities	-	(367)	-	(367)
Non-current liabilities	-	(93)	-	(93)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,002)	-	(1,002)
Total net assets	501	(491)	11,283	11,293
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,529	10,529
Current assets	394	742	487	1,623
Current liabilities	-	(281)	-	(281)
Non-current liabilities	-	(87)	-	(87)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,804)	-	(1,804)
Total net assets	394	(1,430)	11,016	9,980

18 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 The Merseyside Pension Scheme. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £83,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £88,000) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £757,000 (2022: £747,000).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.3% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Total contributions made	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Employer's contributions	293	253
Employees' contributions	65	57
Total contributions	358	310

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2023 %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.3	4.4
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	3.0
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.4	4.3
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.8	2.9

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.8	20.9
- Females	23.3	24.0
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.1	22.4
- Females	25.1	25.9

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

	2023	2022
Discount rate + 0.1%	(70)	(85)
Discount rate - 0.1%	72	87
Mortality assumption + 1 year	92	103
Mortality assumption - 1 year	(90)	(101)
CPI rate + 0.1%	72	87
CPI rate - 0.1%	(70)	(85)

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

	2023 Fair value £'000	2022 Fair value £'000
Equities	1,715	1,393
Government bonds	188	269
Other Bonds	59	101
Cash/liquidity	36	64
Property	396	312
Other assets	904	751
Total market value of assets	3,298	2,890

The actual return on scheme assets was £148,000 (2022: £(128,000)).

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Current service cost	251	414
Interest income	(130)	(49)
Interest cost	201	108
Administrative expenses	5	-
Total operating charge	<u>327</u>	<u>473</u>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
At 1 September 2022	4,694	6,428
Current service cost	251	414
Interest cost	201	108
Employee contributions	65	57
Actuarial gain	(818)	(2,234)
Benefits paid	(93)	(79)
At 31 August 2023	<u>4,300</u>	<u>4,694</u>
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
At 1 September 2022	2,890	2,787
Interest income	130	49
Actuarial (gain)/loss	18	(177)
Employer contributions	293	253
Employee contributions	65	57
Benefits paid	(93)	(79)
Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses	(5)	-
At 31 August 2023	<u>3,298</u>	<u>2,890</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		477	185
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(721)	(607)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	18	(37)	161
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	18	71	59
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		436	414
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(646)	742
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		86	(32)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(334)</u>	<u>922</u>

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2022 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2023 £'000
Cash	948	59	1,007
Loans falling due within one year	(21)	-	(21)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(87)	(6)	(93)
	<u>840</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>893</u>

21 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Amounts due within one year	41	18
Amounts due in two and five years	22	14
	<u>63</u>	<u>32</u>

FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

22 Capital commitments

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	369	620
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The capital commitments relate to ongoing CIF projects at the balance sheet date.

23 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.

24 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.

25 Agency arrangements

Formby High School distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. During the year Formby High School received £7,182 (2022: £10,734) and disbursed £8,927 (2022: £21,066) from the fund. An amount of £3,986 (2022: £5,725) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to the ESFA.