

Company Registration No. 08537140 (England and Wales)

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021



OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Mr C Garner
Mrs M James
Mr S Mallon
Ms H Tait
Mr R Gohil

Trustees

Dr J Tedds (Chair)
Mr P Merry (CEO and Accounting Officer)
Mrs F Weston
Mr M Elton
Mrs M James
Mr P Clarke (Resigned 30 November 2020)
Mr O Rahman
Mrs S Steer (Resigned 4 January 2021)
Mrs K Chapman (Appointed 30 November 2020)

Senior management team

- CEO	Mr P Merry
- Headteacher of School	Mrs H Bonser
- Headteacher of School	Mrs S Conlon
- Headteacher of School	Mrs V Pankhania
- Headteacher of School	Miss N Hackett
- Headteacher of School	Mr D Harding
- Finance	Ms K McLaren
- HR DPO	Ms K McLaren

Company registration number

08537140 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office

Langmoor Primary School
Kenilworth Drive
Oadby
Leicester
LE2 5HS

Academies operated

Glenmere Primary School
Langmoor Primary School
Little Hill Primary School
Fernvale Primary School
Hinckley Parks Primary School
New Lubbethorpe Primary School

Location

Wigston
Oadby
Wigston
Thurnby
Hinckley
Lubbethorpe

Principal

Mrs S Conlon
Mrs H Bonser
Mrs V Pankhania
Miss N Hackett
Mr D Harding
Mr P Merry

Miss N Hackett headteacher at New Lubbethorpe Primary School 2021-2022

Mrs H Cartledge-Splitt headteacher at Fernvale Primary School 2021-2022

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent auditor	RSM UK Audit LLP Rivermead House 7 Lewis Court Grove Park Leicester Leicestershire LE19 1SD
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc 54-56 Chestnut Ave Oadby Leicester LE2 5JG
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP Mowbray House Castle Meadow Road Nottingham NG2 1BJ

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Academy Trust operated six primary schools for pupils aged 4 to 11 years old in Leicestershire during the year under review. The Academy Trust has a combined pupil capacity of 2,310 and had a roll of 1,712 in the school census dated 1 October 2021.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

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

The Trustees act as Trustees for the charitable activities of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust. The articles of association require the members of the charitable company to appoint at least four Trustees to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs of the charitable company and the management of the Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the year and up to the date these accounts are approved 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 company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

Trustees' indemnities

A Trustee may benefit from any indemnity insurance purchased at the Trust's expense to cover the liability of the Trustee which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust. Provided that such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustee knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the trustee in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustee in their capacity as a director of the Academy Trust.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Trustees are appointed through nomination and election (Staff and Parent Trustee Positions) and Community Trustees were appointed or re-appointed at the inception of the Academy and are renewed at each academy school within the Trust as appropriate. Terms of office for a Trustee are based upon four years. The Trust has local governing bodies which also have Parent and Staff representation.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary induction will provide training on charity and educational legal and financial matters. All new Trustees will be given a tour of the Academy. All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees which will be made available online through The Learning Platform or documents will be sent as appropriate. As there are normally only one or two new Trustees a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Organisational structure

A unified management structure is utilised to run each of the Academies. The structure now consists of three levels: The Members, Trustees, Local Governors. The Executive Advisory board (EAB), head teachers and senior managers provide support and advice. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and approving the annual budget, monitoring each Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Academies, capital expenditure and staff appointments. Specific responsibilities of the committees are outlined below in the relevant terms of reference.

Our schools governance consists of parent, co-opted and staff Governors who are responsible for their schools and reporting to the Trustees.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Pay and remuneration for key management staff is set out in Academies pay policy for Teachers which is annually reviewed and ratified by Trustees. The pay policy sets out the framework for making decisions on all teachers' pay including key management staff. The policy has been developed to comply with current legislation and the requirements of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) and has been consulted on with staff and/or the recognised trade unions. The pay policy underpin the Academies Performance Management Policy which provides the opportunity for all staff to discuss their performance and development needs in relation to their job role and pay progression. Where eligible for pay progression, the recommendation made by the appraiser is based on the assessment of their performance against the agreed objectives. The final decision lies with the pay committee, made up of Trustees, and is based on the statutory criteria and guidance set out in the STPCD and the relevant teacher standards. No remuneration payments are made to Trustees.

Trade union facility time

Under the provisions of the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017, where an academy trust has more than 49 full time equivalent employees throughout any 7 months within the reporting period, it must include information included in Schedule 2 of the Regulations.

Currently the Trust has no trade union reps internally. The Trust had no members of staff acting as trade union representatives in the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

The Trustees would have referred to Statutory Instrument 2017 No 328, The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirement Regulations 2017) for calculation details.

Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

The Academy Trust is a Multi Academy Trust ("MAT") which included six primary schools during the year under review: Glenmere Primary School, Langmoor Primary School, Little Hill Primary School, Fernvale Primary School, Hinckley Parks Primary School and New Lubbethorpe Primary School, which is a presumptive academy free school.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The principal object of the charitable company is the operation of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust which provides education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4 and 11.

The main objectives of The Trust are summarised below:

- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care;
- to raise the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- to improve the effectiveness of each Academy by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- to conduct the Trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

The Trust's main strategy is encompassed in its vision and mission statements promoting high levels of engagement, aspiration, achievement and enterprise across all of our schools.

Principles:

- The overriding principle is the success and wellbeing of the children educated within the Trust schools.
- There is an expectation of professional challenge, support and development between member schools.
- Trust between members is essential for the success of the collaboration.
- Trust is engendered by: confidentiality, openness and professionalism. The Head Teacher and teacher standards provide a framework for this professionalism.
- The Trust members will take account of data protection and GDPR policies in all work they do.
- The Trust members abide by the principles of best value and the long term benefit and gain of all the member schools. The budget will support the priorities based on the action plan. The Trust will not hold great sums of money but it will be spent to benefit the children in the schools at that time.
- Our work is focused on raising standards of provision in all areas of the Ofsted criteria and securing school improvements. Collaboratively we aim to respond quickly and effectively supporting and working with the local committees, developing national priorities and local initiatives. Needs are identified across the Trust and responded to effectively both by the whole group and sub-groups.

Objectives, strategies and activities

As a result of such an environment we hope our children will:

- be confident and at ease with themselves and others;
- become independent, self-disciplined and self-motivated;
- have respect for themselves, each other and the environment;
- be keen to learn and able to set, and achieve, realistic goals of a high standard;
- be valued as an individual and as a member of the community, both within the school and beyond;
- become literate, numerate, communicative, creative and co-operative.

Public benefit

In settling our objectives and planning our activities the governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. In line with the Academy Trust's charitable objectives there is a wide use of the schools facilities by the local community.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

STRATEGIC REPORT

Key performance indicators

The Trustees at Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust review financial performance indicators through six budget monitoring exercises per year where the current financial position is scrutinised. This in turn is presented to Trustees and Governors at least three times a year plus a commentary.

The main key performance indicators are stated below:

Teaching and learning

- Children to achieve to their full potential to achieve expected progress in reading, writing, and maths by end of KS2
- Phonics screening check 82% and above - equalling national at least
- At least 70% of children to attain age related standards by end of KS2 within Reading, Writing and Maths
- 70% of children to achieve combined KS2 related standards across trust
- 100% of teaching and learning to be good or better with no inadequate teaching
- GLD 80% - in line with national targets
- The Trust's KPIs will aim to always be above national results

Welfare, behaviour and safeguarding

- School attendance to be above national average
- To secure a safe, secure, stimulating environment
- All children to have access to opportunities beyond the curriculum, e.g. residential, school visits, theatre trips etc

Leadership and management

- All vacancies to be filled with good quality teachers
- To ensure appropriate CPD to grow and nurture own staff for succession planning
- Staff retention to be at 80%
- Staff attendance maintained at 95% plus
- All schools to be good or better as categorised by Ofsted

Governance

- 100% of skills coverage within Trustees
- Financial probity: no red flags
- Robust financial parameters maintained in all schools

Achievements and performance

No data was published during 2020-21 due to Covid19 and pupils not participating in tests.

The academic year 2020-2021 was unprecedented in its challenges and disruption, due to Covid 19. Our Trust schools have endured a turbulent year with the partial closure of schools from the start of the academic year and onwards which resulted in the cancellation of SATs, compounded with achieving remote learning and provision for keyworker and vulnerable pupils. For these reasons, targets set for the year cannot be fully reviewed.

Financial review

The vast majority of the Trust's income is obtained from the DfE/ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE/ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure is shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE/ESFA and such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Financial review (continued)

The Trust held fund balances at 31 August 2021 of £9,913k (2020: £11,037k) comprising £13,743k (2020: £13,820k) of restricted funds, which is mainly the fixed asset restricted fund, £966k (2020: £751k) of unrestricted general funds and a pension reserve deficit of £4,796k (2020: £3,534k). The Trust during the year had a net movement for the year of £1,124k deficit (2020: £6,835k surplus), which included a surplus of £319k (2020: £70k), with respect to movement on the unrestricted and restricted general funds excluding pension fund reserves.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The risks faced by the Trust are outlined in the Risk Register and although there is an annual assessment undertaken, the Trustees are continually aware and are monitoring any financial risks and related financial procedures within the Trust.

Reserves policy

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

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust in Finance Committee meetings which take place six times per year. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance, budgeted under contingency at all schools within the trust. The Trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £966k (2020: £751k) which is considered adequate compared to its policy.

The Academy Trust aims to build a central free reserve to cover between 3 and 6 months expenditure.

The Academy Trust has restricted fixed assets fund, with a balance of £13,626k (2020: £13,807k) which is in respect of fixed assets and capital expenditure of the Academy Trust, which is not available for general purpose of the trust and will only be realised by disposing of the tangible assets.

The pension liability at 31 August 2021 is £4,796k (2020: £3,543k), which is shown separately in a restricted fund and the Trustees continue to review the contribution due based on the reports received from the scheme actuary ensuring the cash is available to meet contributions as they fall due.

Hinckley Parks Primary School debit balance is directly attributable to significant staff costs arising from several pregnant teachers having to shield due to Covid for significant parts of the year, costing to school in excess of £41k to cover for their extended absences from the classroom. The budget projections for 2021-22 and 2022-23 show the school returning to a surplus balance not later than August 2023.

Going concern

Following the uncertainty presented by COVID-19, management has reassessed the going concern assumption and confirms that it remains appropriate based on the strong cash and free reserves which enables it to meet its liabilities as they fall due despite the COVID-19 situation.

The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the 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.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Investment policy

At present, the Academy Trust does not hold significant funding to warrant additional investment. Currently, the balance outlined above is held within our main school bank account and the balance is planned for development of our school buildings. This will be reviewed regularly by the CFO and Finance and Audit Committee.

Plans for future periods

The Academy Trust will continue striving to improve the levels of performance of its students at all levels. The Trust has been granted Sponsorship status by the RSC and DFE. The Trust has opened a Free School in the New Lubbesthorpe area. The Trust has signed a funding agreement with the DFE. The Free School was opened in September 2019. This is now open an operational across all primary ages and will cater for 420 pupils as a two form entry school. The Trustees and CEO are actively looking for additional schools to join our Trust and welcome opportunities to those who wish to explore this. Fernvale Primary School has had additional building work and will grow to a two form entry school (420 pupils). Hinckley Parks has also had additional building works to cater for 630 pupils as a 3 form entry school, as this school continues to grow.

The Academy Trust continues to review its growth pattern.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust's main source of funding is from the Education and Skills Funding Agency and as such this minimises the Trust's exposure to cash flow or liquidity issues. Cash flow is managed on a monthly basis to reflect the profile of income received and expenditure requirements of the Trust.

The Trust faces a potential risk relating to safeguarding and the maintenance of relevant protocols in each of the schools in the Academy Trust. Safeguarding risks are managed by the completion of the annual Local Authority safeguarding return, trustees periodically checking on the schools and having a designated governor in place at each school.

Fundraising

The Trust has regard to guidance: "Charity fundraising : a guide to trustee duties (CC20)".

The Trust agree and monitor, the charity's overall approach to fundraising. The Trust fundraising plan takes into account of risks, charity's values and its relationship with donors and the wider public, as well as its income needs and expectations.

The Trust has systems in place to oversee the fundraising which others carry out for the charity, so that remains, in the charity's best interests. It means delegating responsibly so that our charity's in-house and volunteer fundraisers, and any connected companies, know what is expected of them. If the Trust employ a commercial partner to raise funds for our charity, the arrangement is in the charity's best interests and complies with any specific legal rules and standards that apply.

The Trust protects our charity's reputation, money and other assets The Trust ensures that there is strong management of our charity's assets and resources so that the Trust can meet our legal Trustee duty to act in our charity's best interests and protect it from undue risk. The Trust ensure adequate consideration of the impact that our charity's fundraising has on its donors, supporters and the public, making sure that our charity receives all the money to which it is entitled, and taking steps to reduce risk of loss or fraud.

The Trust identifies and ensures compliance with the laws or regulations that apply specifically to our charity's fundraising, this includes data protection law, licensing, and working with commercial partners. The Trust ensures that its charity has access to sufficient information and appropriate advice and its fundraising complies with all relevant legal rules.

The Trust identifies and follows the recognised standards that apply to our charity's fundraising. (These are in the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice. The Code outlines both the legal rules that apply to fundraising and the standards designed to ensure that fundraising is open, honest and respectful. The Commission expects all charities that fundraise to fully comply with the Code).

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Fundraising (*continued*)

The Trust is open and accountable: This includes complying with any relevant statutory accounting and reporting requirements on fundraising and using reporting to demonstrate that our charity is well run and effective. The Trust is able to effectively explain our fundraising work to members of the public and our charity's donors and supporters.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

There are no funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

AUDITOR

RSM UK Audit LLP indicated their willingness to be reappointed for another term and appropriate arrangements have been put in place for them to be deemed reappointed as auditors in the absence of an Annual General Meeting.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditor

The Trustees have confirmed that, as far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the Trustees have confirmed that they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Trustees' Report is approved by order of the board of trustees and the Strategic Report (included therein) is approved by the Board of Trustees in their capacity as the directors at a meeting on 29.11.21 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr J Tedds
Chair

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, 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 Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year and additional meetings were also held. Meetings were held via online platforms and in person due to Covid-19. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Dr J Tedds (Chair)	6	6
Mr P Merry (CEO and Accounting Officer)	6	6
Mrs F Weston	6	6
Mr M Elton	2	6
Mrs M James	5	6
Mr P Clarke (Resigned 30 November 2020)	0	0
Mr O Rahman	5	6
Mrs S Steer (Resigned 4 January 2021)	2	2
Mrs K Chapman (Appointed 30 November 2020)	4	5

There has been one key change in the composition of the Board of Trustees, the introduction of a new Trustee and the resignation of two others. We currently have two vacancies and are seeking appointments. We have appointed a CFO after the retirement of our previous CFO.

The board has evaluated the performance of each of the academies within the Trust, reporting this to the RSC. Skills audits and coverage of the Trust expertise has been reviewed and vacancies within the Trustees are being addressed. The board's performance, including assessment of its own effectiveness and any particular challenges that have arisen for the board include opening a SEMH unit, growing school capacity and securing governance across each of our academies. The Board of Trustees receive reports from each of the academies termly which the CEO presents. An annual report is provided reviewing the academic year, presented by the CEO. This information and data is used by the board to evaluate performance.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance reviews

The Academy Trust carries out an annual internal and external review of its Governance and finances at each academy annually. The latest review took place during June 2021. This is carried out by the Local Authority and provides independent validation of our current position. Each academy has received audit reviews to support governance and finance at local levels. The Trust receives and consolidated review and report. Recommendation have been presented to each local governing body and to the Trust. All of the recommendations have been considered/actioned and responses made to the Local Authority. The impact of this has been policies renewed, Risk management process standardised across the Trust, enhanced budgetary reporting and financial efficiency.

Changes to the structure of the Trustees and governing bodies and formats were reviewed and planned for the year 2021/22. Meetings are planned in advance at Strategy days to allow for forward thinking.

The Finance and Audit committee, which are combined is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees.

The purpose of the Finance and Audit Committee is to review the effectiveness of the internal control environment, and to make recommendations and actions where it is felt necessary. It is important that academies understand that the prime responsibility for internal control (first line of defence) lies with each academy's management, supported by the Trust. The Finance and Audit committee does not take away the responsibility for management to effectively manage the day-to-day risks of the organisation but monitors, supports and provide guidance to assurance that Key risks are identified and actively managed and a sound framework of controls is in place that adequately and effectively reduces risks to an acceptable level in accordance with the Academy Trust Handbook.

The Committee is authorised by the Academy Trust Board to investigate any activity within its terms of reference. It is authorised to seek any information it requires from any employee and all employees are directed to cooperate with any request made by the Committee. The Committee is authorised by the Academy Trust Board to obtain outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of any person at any Committee meeting with relevant experience and expertise if it considers this necessary.

Duties

The duties of the Committee shall be to: this may be added to and consideration of other Trust documents applies)

Finance

- Develop a financial strategy for the Academy Trust and consider policies, procedures or plans required to realise such strategy
- Consider the Academy Trust's indicative funding, once notified by the ESFA, and to assess its implications for the Academy Trust, in consultation with the CEO and the Chief Finance Officer, in advance of the financial year, drawing any matters of significance or concern to the attention of the Trustees.
- Receive schools' budgets for approval from the Local Governors Board.
- Consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the Academy Trust's budget to the Trustees.
- Monitor any variances from the budget and ensure the ESFA is notified as required.
- Receive and make recommendations on the broad budget headings and areas of expenditure to be adopted each year, including the level and use of any contingency fund or balances, ensuring the compatibility of all such proposals with the development priorities set out in the Academy Trust development plan.
- Monitor and review income and expenditure on a regular basis and ensure compliance with the overall financial plan for the Academy Trust, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of the Academy Trust Board.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Duties (continued)

Finance (continued)

- Monitor and review procedures for ensuring the effective implementation and operation of financial procedures, on a regular basis, including the implementation of bank account arrangements and, where appropriate to make recommendations for improvement.
- Prepare the financial statement to form part of the annual report of the Trustees.
- Ensure the Academy Trust's commercial and fundraising activities are carried out effectively.
- Examine and review new initiatives for financial development, including fundraising.
- Oversee significant investment and capital financing decisions.
- Approve and keep under review the Academy Trust's investment policy.
- Approve and keep under review the Academy Trust's reserves policy.
- Promptly notify the ATB of all financial matters of which the Committee has knowledge and which may materially affect the current or future position of the Academy Trust.
- Advise generally on the provision of resources and services to the Academy Trust.
- To review, on a regular basis, its own performance, constitution and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness.

Audit

- Consider the appointment of the external auditor, the audit fee and any questions of resignation or dismissal.
- Discuss with the external auditor before the audit commences the nature and scope of the audit.
- Review the annual financial statements before submission to the ATB, focusing particularly on:
 - any changes in accounting policies and practices
 - areas involving a significant degree of judgement
 - significant adjustments resulting from the audit
 - the going concern assumption
 - compliance with accounting standards
 - compliance with legal requirements
 - the clarity of disclosures
 - the consistency of accounting policies from year to year
- Discuss problems and reservations arising from the audit and any matters the external auditor may wish to discuss (in the absence of the management where necessary).
- Review the internal audit function, consider the major findings of internal audit investigations and the management's response, and ensure co-ordination between the internal and external auditors.
- Keep under review, the effectiveness of internal control systems, and in particular review the external auditor's management letter and the management's response.
- Develop and keep under review risk management and measurement strategies across the Academy Trust together with the procedures for monitoring the adequacy and effectiveness of those processes.
- Review the action and implementation of risk management policy across the Academy Trust
- Consider the Academy Trust's risk profile relative to current and future Academy Trust strategy and identifying any such trends, concentrations or exposures and any requirement for policy change.
- Receive and review risk management and relevant regulatory information and reports.
- Consider material breaches of the agreed risk limits, review the actions taken in response and to prevent a repeat occurrence.
- Consider the effect on the rights of the Academy Trust of the findings of the internal audits or the external audits.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Duties (continued)

Audit (continued)

- Review, on a regular basis, its own performance, constitution and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness in discharging its duties, the aims of the Committee are to:
 - facilitate good communication between the Academy Trust and its external auditor
 - increase the credibility and objectivity of financial reporting
 - strengthen the independence of the audit function
 - improve the quality of the accounting and auditing functions

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Dr J Tedds (Chair)	5	6
Mr P Merry (CEO and Accounting Officer)	6	6
Mrs F Weston	5	6
Mr M Elton	0	6
Mrs M James	4	6
Mr O Rahman	3	6
Mrs K Chapman (Appointed 30 November 2020)	4	4

Review of value for money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- The Academy Trust continually reviews the progress of all their pupils throughout the year. This progress is audited throughout the year in conjunction with its partners – the process involves identifying the progress of classes and groups within them such as Pupil Premium Pupils, ethnic groups, etc. Any areas for concern are identified and an action plan is agreed with each of the Academy's Senior Leadership Team.
- The individual academies annually review their staffing as part of the budget setting process. Where schools are growing additional staff has been deployed. The quality of teaching is monitored by the School leadership team and discussed with an OFSTED trained inspector.
- The CEO and Head teachers work very closely together to support and challenge each other.
- The Trust use reviewed services for areas such as payroll and HR. They discussed this with other local academies before choosing to a preferred provider.
- The Trust has worked to procure a financial software package to monitor the Trusts funding. By working together, they will have been able to make considerable savings for individual academies in the Trusts.
- Bursars from the Trust attend/feed into the Trust meetings to give updates on financial management. It is a standing item for all the meeting.
- The Trust employs a firm of accountants to provide support for the bursars and for the Accounting Officers.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

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

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Internal auditor/reviewer has delivered their schedule of work as planned, providing details of material control issues arising as a result of the internal auditor's/reviewer's work and, all remedial actions have been taken to rectify the issues. This includes all academy budget information being provided to the Finance and Audit Committee. Monthly management accounts are available for inspection and is sent to the Chair of Trust. The system generated report of Accounting changes to supplier details should be Officer obtained on a regular basis and be independently reconciled to information held.

The Trustees considered the need to have in place a process for independent checking of financial controls, systems, transactions and risks. In fulfilment of this requirement the decision was taken to appoint Leicestershire County Council as internal auditors. The academy will benefit from internal auditors who will give advice on financial matters and perform a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. Following each visit the internal auditors will provide a report for the governing body on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the governing body's financial responsibilities.

Review of effectiveness

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

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

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness (continued)

The management of risk (including internal control arrangements) has been evaluated in the following areas: -

1. Governance - policies and procedures
2. Governance
3. Risk management
4. Budgetary planning and control
5. Budgetary reporting
6. Financial efficiency
7. Bank and cash
8. Making supplier payments
9. Ordering and payment procedures - general

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

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 29-11-21 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr J Tedds
Chair of Trustees



Mr P Merry
CEO and Accounting Officer

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

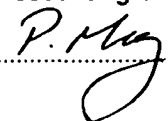
STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

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

Mr P Merry
Accounting Officer

 29-11-21

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees who are also the directors of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust for the purposes of company law are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report (including the Strategic Report) and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

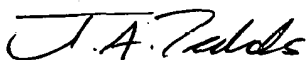
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting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

The 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 financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The 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 financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 29-11-21 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr J Tedds
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust (the "charitable company") for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the 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 charitable company'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 financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the 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 financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

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 which includes the Directors Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 17, the Trustees (who act as trustees for the charitable activities of the charitable company are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses, and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Education and Skills Funding Agency's Academies Financial Handbook and Annual Accounts Direction. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees' Report.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to safeguarding and the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the charitable company is in compliance with these law and regulations and inspected correspondence with regulatory authorities.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, and challenging judgments and estimates.

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

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.

RSM UK Audit LLP

Gareth Jones (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Rivermead House
7 Lewis Court
Grove Park
Leicester
Leicestershire, LE19 1SD
06/12/2021.....

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	4	89	-	131	220	7,667
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	5	10	8,120	-	8,130	7,374
Other trading activities	6	189	-	-	189	237
Investments	7	-	-	-	-	1
Total		<u>288</u>	<u>8,120</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>8,539</u>	<u>15,279</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	8	73	-	-	73	209
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	-	8,382	377	8,759	8,256
Total	8	<u>73</u>	<u>8,382</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>8,832</u>	<u>8,465</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		215	(262)	(246)	(293)	6,814
Transfers between funds	19	-	(65)	65	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit obligations	26	-	(831)	-	(831)	21
Net movement in funds		215	(1,158)	(181)	(1,124)	6,835
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		751	(3,521)	13,807	11,037	4,202
Total funds carried forward		<u>966</u>	<u>(4,679)</u>	<u>13,626</u>	<u>9,913</u>	<u>11,037</u>

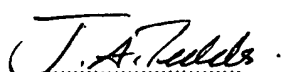
OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		13,577		13,543
Current assets					
Debtors	15	53		235	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,448		1,173	
		<u>1,501</u>		<u>1,408</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(363)		(372)	
Net current assets			1,138		1,036
Total assets less current liabilities			14,715		14,579
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17		(6)		(8)
Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability			14,709		14,571
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	26		(4,796)		(3,534)
Total net assets			<u>9,913</u>		<u>11,037</u>
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds	19				
- Restricted fixed asset funds			13,626		13,807
- Restricted income funds			117		13
- Pension reserve			(4,796)		(3,534)
Total restricted funds			8,947		10,286
Unrestricted income funds	19		966		751
Total funds			<u>9,913</u>		<u>11,037</u>

The financial statements on pages 21 to 47 were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29/11/21 and are signed on their behalf by:



Dr J Tedds
Chair

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	23		548		72
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		-		1	
Capital grants from DfE Group		29		285	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		102		14	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(402)		(132)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities			(271)		168
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of other loan		(2)		(2)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(2)		(2)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			275		238
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			1,173		935
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			1,448		1,173

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

General information

Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust (the 'Academy Trust') is a Charitable Company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the Trustees' Report.

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust 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 financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The Academy Trust is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 and has therefore applied the relevant public benefit requirements of FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is also the functional currency of the Academy Trust.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest whole £1,000, except where otherwise indicated.

Going concern

Following the uncertainty presented by COVID-19, management has reassessed the going concern assumption and confirms that it remains appropriate based on the strong cash and free reserves which enables it to meet its liabilities as they fall due despite the COVID-19 situation.

The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the 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.

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.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement, when performance-related conditions have been met, and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

Donations

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

Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, educational outsourcing and educational operations is recognised at fair value of the consideration received or receivable in the period it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

Donated fixed assets

Gifts in kind, being the gift of a fixed asset, are measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be 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.

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 to further its charitable aims for the benefit of the beneficiaries, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy Trust apportioned to charitable activities.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

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. Subsequent costs are capitalised only when it is probable that such costs will generate future economic benefits. All other costs of repairs and maintenance are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred.

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, so as to write off the cost of assets on a straight line basis over their expected useful lives to their residual value as follows:

Long leasehold buildings	10 years or 50 years
Computer equipment	4 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	4 years

Included within long leasehold buildings are leasehold improvements which are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the expected useful life of 10 years.

Residual value is calculated at prices prevailing at the reporting date, after estimated cost of disposal, for the asset as if it were at the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

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

Liabilities

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

Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Financial instruments

The Academy Trust has chosen to adopt Sections 11 and 12 of FRS 102 in full in respect of financial instruments.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Academy Trust becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. A financial asset or financial liability that is payable or receivable in one year is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be received or paid net of impairment, unless it is a financing transaction. If an agreement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset only when there is a current legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the intention to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Derecognition of financial assets and liabilities

A financial asset is derecognised only when the contractual rights to cash flow expire or are settled, or substantially all the risks and the rewards of ownership are transferred to another party, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party. A financial liability (or part thereof) is derecognised when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

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.

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'), which are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting, it is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Pension benefits (continued)

The LGPS is a funded scheme multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately. 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 reporting date. The amounts charged to net income 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 comprehensive income.

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

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 Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education Group.

Short-term employment benefits

Short-term employment benefits such as salaries and compensated absences (holiday pay) are recognised as an expense in the year in which the employees render services to the Academy Trust. The cost of any unused holiday entitlement the Academy Trust expects to pay in future periods is recognised in the period the employees' services are rendered.

The best estimate of the expenditure required to settle an obligation for termination benefits is recognised immediately as an expense when the Company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement (Continued)

Pension scheme

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 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. The carrying value of the defined benefit pension scheme liability at the year end was £4,796k (2020: £3,543k).

Depreciation

The assessment of the useful economic lives and the method of depreciating fixed assets requires judgement. Depreciation is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities based on the useful economic life selected, which requires an estimation of the period and profile over which the Academy Trust expects to consume the future economic benefits embodied in the assets. The carrying value of tangible fixed assets at the year end was £13,577k (2020: £13,543k).

Critical areas of judgement

The judgements (apart from those involving estimation) that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are disclosed below:

Leasing

In categorising leases as finance leases or operating leases, management makes judgements as to whether significant risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the Academy Trust as lessee, or whether the Academy Trust is a lessor.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

3 Statement of financial activities - comparative year information

Year ended 31 August 2020	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed asset Funds £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and capital grants	195	-	7,472	7,667
Charitable activities:				
- Funding for educational operations	-	7,374	-	7,374
Other trading activities	237	-	-	237
Investments	1	-	-	1
Total	433	7,374	7,472	15,279
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	209	-	-	209
Charitable activities:				
- Educational operations	-	7,873	383	8,256
Total	209	7,873	383	8,465
Net income/(expenditure)	224	(499)	7,089	6,814
Transfers between funds	(138)	41	97	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	-	21	-	21
Net movement in funds	86	(437)	7,186	6,835

4 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	7,173
Capital grants	-	131	131	299
Other donations	89	-	89	195
	89	131	220	7,667

During the prior year, the Academy Trust was donated the school building and IT equipment at New Lubbesthorpe Primary School from Leicestershire County Council at a fair value of £6,723k. Also in the prior year Little Hill Primary School were donated new class rooms from Leicestershire County Council at a value of £450k.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

5 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	6,404	6,404	5,928
Other DfE / ESFA grants:				
- Universal infant free school meals	-	357	357	232
- Pupil premium	-	336	336	302
- Others	-	446	446	444
	-	7,543	7,543	6,906
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	422	422	408
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE / ESFA)				
Catch-up premium		135	135	-
Other DfE / ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	19	19	-
	-	154	154	-
Other incoming resources	10	1	11	60
	10	8,120	8,130	7,374

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

The Academy Trust has been eligible to claim additional funding in the year from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above under exceptional government funding.

The funding received for coronavirus exceptional support covers £19k of energy and cleaning costs. These costs are included in notes 8 and 9 below as appropriate.

The Academy Trust received £135k of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £133k, with the remaining £2k to be spent in 2021/22.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

6 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Hire of facilities	47	-	47	42
Educational outsourcing	60	-	60	44
Educational operations	82	-	82	151
	<u>189</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>237</u>

7 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Interest from short term deposits	-	-	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

8 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non Pay Premises £'000	Expenditure Other £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	73	73	209
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	5,463	-	305	5,768	5,263
- Allocated support costs	1,449	872	670	2,991	2,993
	<u>6,912</u>	<u>872</u>	<u>1,048</u>	<u>8,832</u>	<u>8,465</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Operating lease rentals	17	11
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	368	368
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	63	59
Fees payable to RSM UK Audit LLP and its associates in respect of both audit and non-audit services are as follows:		
- Audit	34	32
- Other services	9	8
	<u>43</u>	<u>40</u>

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

9 Charitable activities	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
All from restricted funds:		
Direct costs		
Educational operations	5,768	5,263
Support costs		
Educational operations	2,991	2,993
	<u>8,759</u>	<u>8,256</u>
	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	1,453	1,454
Depreciation	368	368
Premises costs	504	548
Legal costs	4	4
Other support costs	613	570
Governance costs	49	49
	<u>2,991</u>	<u>2,993</u>

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

10 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Wages and salaries	4,934	4,495
Social security costs	419	381
Pension costs	1,506	1,411
Staff costs - employees	6,859	6,287
Agency staff costs	53	120
Staff restructuring costs	-	2
	6,912	6,409
Staff development and other staff costs	44	40
Total staff expenditure	6,956	6,449

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments	-	2
--------------------	---	---

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	78	74
Administration and support	162	158
Management	9	7
	249	239

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	4	1
£70,001 - £80,000	1	2
£90,001 - £100,000	1	1

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

10 Staff (Continued)

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £697k (2020: £658k).

11 Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- Financial services
- Legal services
- Administration services

The Academy Trust charges 5% (2020: 5%) of grant income for these services to each academy.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Glenmere Primary School	41	40
Langmoor Primary School	42	43
Little Hill Primary School	79	77
Fernvale Primary School	45	43
Hinckley Parks Primary School	91	81
New Lubbethorpe Primary School	-	-
	<u>298</u>	<u>284</u>

12 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, one trustee was paid remuneration or received other benefits from their employment with the Academy Trust. The CEO only receives remuneration in respect of services he provides undertaking the roles of principal and staff member under his contract of employment and not in respect of his services as trustee. Other trustees did not receive any payments from the Academy Trust in respect of their role as trustees.

P Merry, the CEO, received remuneration of £93k in 2021 (2020: £90k) and is accruing benefits under the Teachers' Pension Scheme. The contributions paid in the year amounted to £22k (2020: £21k).

During the year ended 31 August 2021, no expenses were reimbursed to Trustees.

Other related party transactions involving the Trustees are set out in note 27.

13 Trustees and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000k (2020: £3,000k) on any one claim. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of this insurance.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Long leasehold buildings £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost				
At 1 September 2020	14,219	166	174	14,559
Additions	362	28	12	402
	<u>14,581</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>186</u>	<u>14,961</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2020	821	102	93	1,016
Charge for the year	298	36	34	368
	<u>1,119</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>1,384</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2021	13,462	56	59	13,577
At 31 August 2020	<u>13,398</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>13,543</u>

The long leasehold buildings are leased from the local councils of the individual academies and are leased over periods of up to 125 years for a peppercorn rent. No such charge has been made in the current year (2020: £nil).

15 Debtors

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	2	10
VAT recoverable	30	29
Prepayments and accrued income	21	196
	<u>53</u>	<u>235</u>

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Other loans	2	2
Other taxation and social security	97	88
Other creditors	129	112
Accruals and deferred income (see note 18)	135	170
	<u>363</u>	<u>372</u>

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

17 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Other loans	6	8
	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
Analysis of loans	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Wholly repayable within five years	8	10
Less: included in current liabilities	(2)	(2)
	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
Amounts included above	6	8
	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>
Loan maturity		
Debt due in one year or less	2	2
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	2	2
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	4	6
	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>

Included within other loans is an interest free Salix energy efficiency loan. The loan is repayable over 8 years and the repayments will be made in 6 monthly instalments of £1k by way of a reduction in the monthly General Annual Grant payments issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

18 Deferred income

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	14	128
	<u>14</u>	<u>128</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	128	101
Released from previous years	(128)	(101)
Resources deferred in the year	14	128
	<u>14</u>	<u>128</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	14	128
	<u>14</u>	<u>128</u>

At 31 August 2021 £nil (2020: £123k) of deferred income related to grants received in advance, £14k (2020: £4k) related to trip and swimming income received in advance and £nil (2020: £1k) related to other sundry income received in advance.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

19 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	6,404	(6,282)	(65)	57
Other DfE / ESFA grants:					
- Universal infant free school meals	-	357	(305)	-	52
- Pupil premium	13	336	(349)	-	-
- Others	-	446	(446)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	135	(133)	-	2
Other DfE / ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	19	(19)	-	-
Other government grants	-	422	(416)	-	6
Other restricted funds	-	1	(1)	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,534)	-	(431)	(831)	(4,796)
	<u>(3,521)</u>	<u>8,120</u>	<u>(8,382)</u>	<u>(896)</u>	<u>(4,679)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	5,175	-	(115)	-	5,060
DfE group capital grants	997	131	(59)	-	1,069
Capital expenditure from GAG	174	-	(46)	65	193
Donated fixed assets	7,461	-	(157)	-	7,304
	<u>13,807</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>(377)</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>13,626</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>10,286</u>	<u>8,251</u>	<u>(8,759)</u>	<u>(831)</u>	<u>8,947</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	751	288	(73)	-	966
Total funds	<u>11,037</u>	<u>8,539</u>	<u>(8,832)</u>	<u>(831)</u>	<u>9,913</u>

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

19 Funds (Continued)

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 2021.

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

Restricted general funds

This fund represents grants received for the Academy's operational activities and development. This includes the pension reserve which represents the potential liabilities due by the academy at the year end. From time to time, additional funds are applied as set out above for specific purposes laid down by the grant provider and to be used in the short term.

Restricted fixed asset fund

This fund represents the net book value of fixed assets that the Academy have purchased out of grants received and have been transferred on conversion.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds represent other incoming resources to the Trust applied for the general purposes of the Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

19 Funds (Continued)

Funds prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,928	(5,969)	41	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants:					
- Universal infant free school meals	-	232	(232)	-	-
- Pupil premium	29	302	(318)	-	13
- Others	-	444	(444)	-	-
Other government grants	-	408	(408)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	60	(60)	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,113)	-	(442)	21	(3,534)
	<u>(3,084)</u>	<u>7,374</u>	<u>(7,873)</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>(3,521)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	5,290	-	(115)	-	5,175
DfE group capital grants	758	299	(60)	-	997
Capital expenditure from GAG	128	-	(51)	97	174
Donated fixed assets	445	7,173	(157)	-	7,461
	<u>6,621</u>	<u>7,472</u>	<u>(383)</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>13,807</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,537</u>	<u>14,846</u>	<u>(8,256)</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>10,286</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	665	433	(209)	(138)	751
Total funds	<u>4,202</u>	<u>15,279</u>	<u>(8,465)</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>11,037</u>

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

19 Funds (Continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:		
Glenmere Primary School	127	78
Langmoor Primary School	205	217
Little Hill Primary School	330	161
Fernvale Primary School	67	22
Hinckley Parks Primary School	(16)	67
New Lubbesthorpe Primary School	277	119
Central services	93	100
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	1,083	764
Restricted fixed asset fund	13,626	13,807
Pension reserve	(4,796)	(3,534)
Total funds	9,913	11,037

Hinckley Parks Primary School debit balance is directly attributable to significant staff costs arising from several pregnant teachers having to shield due to Covid for significant parts of the year, costing to school in excess of £41k to cover for their extended absences from the classroom. The budget projections for 2021-22 and 2022-23 show the school returning to a surplus balance not later than August 2023.

Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and educational support staff £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs excluding depreciation £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Glenmere Primary School	629	103	23	218	973	957
Langmoor Primary School	664	189	17	195	1,065	1,075
Little Hill Primary School	1,349	194	24	316	1,883	1,990
Fernvale Primary School	762	106	16	219	1,103	1,139
Hinckley Parks Primary School	1,730	321	45	358	2,454	2,123
New Lubbesthorpe Primary School	312	96	25	142	575	363
Central services	138	77	-	100	315	331
	5,584	1,086	150	1,548	8,368	7,978

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,577	13,577
Current assets	966	486	49	1,501
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(363)	-	(363)
Creditors falling due after one year	-	(6)	-	(6)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(4,796)	-	(4,796)
Total net assets	966	(4,679)	13,626	9,913

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,543	13,543
Current assets	751	393	264	1,408
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(372)	-	(372)
Creditors falling due after one year	-	(8)	-	(8)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(3,534)	-	(3,534)
Total net assets	751	(3,521)	13,807	11,037

21 Capital commitments

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	19	-

22 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

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

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Amounts due within one year	11	8
Amounts due between one and five years	18	14
	29	22

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

23 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(293)	6,814
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants	(131)	(299)
Donated fixed asset	-	(7,173)
Interest receivable	-	(1)
Pension costs less contributions payable	368	383
Pension scheme finance costs	63	59
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	368	368
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	182	(120)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(9)	41
Net cash provided by operating activities	548	72

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2020 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2021 £'000
Cash	1,173	275	1,448
Loans falling due within one year	(2)	-	(2)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(8)	2	(6)
	1,163	277	1,440

25 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.

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

26 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 Leicestershire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Included within creditors at 31 August 2021 is an amount of £129k (2020: £112k) relating to pension contributions payable.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions 2014.

Membership is automatic for teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. 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 below the information available on the scheme.

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:

- Total scheme liabilities for service (pensions currently payable and the estimated cost of future benefits) of £218 billion
- Value of notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196 billion
- Notional past service deficit of £22 billion
- Discount rate is 2.4% in excess of CPI

As a result of the valuation, new employer contribution rates were set at 23.68% (including a 0.08% administration levy) of pensionable pay from September 2019 onwards (compared to 16.48% during 2019/20). The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £720k (2020: £653k).

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

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 24.9% 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.

Total contributions made	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Employer's contributions	409	381
Employees' contributions	98	90
Total contributions	507	471

Principal actuarial assumptions

The following information is based upon a full actuarial valuation of the fund at 31 March 2019 updated to 31 August 2021 by a qualified independent actuary.

	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.4	2.7
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.2
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1.7

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.7	21.5
- Females	24.2	23.8
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.6	22.2
- Females	25.9	25.2

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2021 Fair value £'000	2020 Fair value £'000
Equities	2,738	2,050
Bonds	1,369	1,007
Property	330	278
Other assets	283	139
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total fair value of assets	4,720	3,474
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £809,000 (2020: £(100,000)).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Current service cost	777	764
Net interest cost	63	59
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total operating charge	840	823
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021 £'000
At 1 September 2020	7,008
Current service cost	777
Interest cost	126
Employee contributions	98
Actuarial loss/(gain)	1,577
Benefits paid	(70)
	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2021	9,516
	<u> </u>

OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST

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

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets

	2021 £'000
At 1 September 2020	3,474
Interest income	63
Return on plan assets (excluding net interest on the net defined pension liability)	746
Employer contributions	409
Employee contributions	98
Benefits paid	(70)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2021	4,720
	<hr/>

27 Related party transactions

All transactions involving related parties or connected parties are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the requirements of the AFH, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, the trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures, unless otherwise stated.

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

Certain trustees' remuneration and expenses are already disclosed in note 12. Key management personnel disclosures are included in note 10.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

Conclusion

We have carried out an engagement in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 29 September 2017 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Basis for conclusion

The framework that has been applied is set out in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts. We are independent of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are applicable to this engagement and we have fulfilled our ethical requirements in accordance with these requirements. We believe the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient to provide a basis for our conclusion.

Responsibilities of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust's accounting officer and Trustees

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 27 June 2013 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received are applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. The accounting officer is also responsible for preparing the Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance. The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the proper conduct and financial operation of Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust and appointment of the accounting officer.

Reporting Accountant's responsibilities for reporting on regularity

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 extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

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 the procedures vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement; consequently a limited assurance engagement 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.

We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes identified by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO OADBY, WIGSTON AND LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including the specific requirements of the funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, the Academies Financial Handbook 2020 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and high level financial control areas where we identified a material risk of irregularity is likely to arise. It also included areas assessed as presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, on a sample basis, based on the identified areas where a material irregularity is likely to arise, or potential impropriety where such areas are in respect of controls, policies and procedures that apply to classes of transactions. Our work was undertaken with due regard to the 'Evidence to support conclusion on regularity' guidance in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 29 September 2017. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Oadby, Wigston and Leicestershire Schools Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

RSM UK Audit LLP

RSM UK Audit LLP
Chartered accountants
Rivermead House
7 Lewis Court
Grove Park
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE19 1SD

Dated:06/12/2021.....
