

Company No: 08565932
(England and Wales)

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND GROUP FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021



 **mha**
MOORE & SMALLEY

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

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LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

REFERENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	M Mason T Nichol
Governors	M Mason (Chair) C Turbitt H van Mourik Broekman - (Principal & Accounting Officer) T Nichol (Deputy Chair) Dr S Carr A Case K Clarke Dr H Eccles – (Resigned 6/5/21) C Thompson – (Resigned 19/5/21) Professor K Atkinson R Morgan Dr L Parr Dr O Barden T Hallam A Williams L Sheridan M D Sharpe
Company Secretary	C Flynn
Executive Leadership Team	
Principal	H van Mourik Broekman
Vice Principal	Mrs H Cassidy
Vice Principal	Mrs A Haynes
Director of Finance and Operations	C Flynn
Registered office	Liverpool College Mossley Hill Liverpool L18 8BG
Company Registration Number	08565932
Auditors	MHA Moore and Smalley Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Richard House Winckley Square Preston PR1 3HP
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 48b and 50 Lord Street Liverpool L2 1TD
Solicitors	Brabners LLP Horton House Exchange Flags Liverpool L2 3YL

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The governors present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company and subsidiary for the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates an all through academy for pupils aged 4-19 serving a catchment area in South Liverpool and beyond. On the January 2021 census the college had 1,537 pupils on roll (Jan 2020 – 1,494)

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

Liverpool College converted to Liverpool College Independent School Trust ('The Academy') on 1 September 2013. The Academy 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 for the purposes of company law.

The Academy was incorporated on 12 June 2013 and commenced its activities on transfer from the Liverpool College on the conversion date stated above.

The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of the Academy and are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as Liverpool College Independent School Trust.

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

Members' liability

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

Governors' indemnities

The Academy has purchased indemnity insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising in connection with Academy business. The insurance provides cover of up to £1,000,000 on any one claim.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors

The procedure for the recruitment, appointment and election of governors is set out in the company's articles of association. The Liverpool College trustees oversee the operation of the Academy by the Governors. The Liverpool College trustees are independent of the Governing Body and are responsible for approving members to serve on the Governing Body. These trustees do not serve on the Governing Body but work within the framework set out in the Articles. The Governing Body shall comprise no more than seventeen members comprising the Principal (ex-officio), up to twelve Foundation Governors, one governor appointed by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Liverpool, one staff governor and so nominated by the staff, and two governors being appointed as parental representatives, having undertaken a nomination and ballot exercise within the pupil parent body.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors (continued)

The Governors are appointed by the following:

Parent governors	Elected by parents of the pupils of the Academy
Staff governor	Elected by staff of the Academy
Foundation governors	Appointed by the Trustees of Liverpool College
University governor	Appointed by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Liverpool

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of governors

The Academy maintains an induction handbook for new governors. The Academy also funds, via an external provider, training opportunities for Governors, including specific induction training.

Organisational structure

The Academy is governed by its Governing Body, whose members are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 and trustees for the purposes of charity legislation. The organisational structure of the Academy consists of 3 levels: the Governing Body, the Principal, and the Senior Leadership Team.

The Governing Body is responsible for setting general policies, adopting a college development plan and budget, monitoring the Academy's performance, making major policy decisions, appointing senior staff, and through its various committees, overseeing the general strategic operation of the Academy. Certain elements of these responsibilities are delegated to the following sub committees who make recommendations to the full Governing Body:

- Education
- Operations
- Strategy

The Principal is also the Accounting Officer and in addition to the responsibilities associated with this role has responsibility for the strategic direction of the Academy, the day to day management of the Academy and its curriculum delivery.

The Executive Leadership Team comprises:

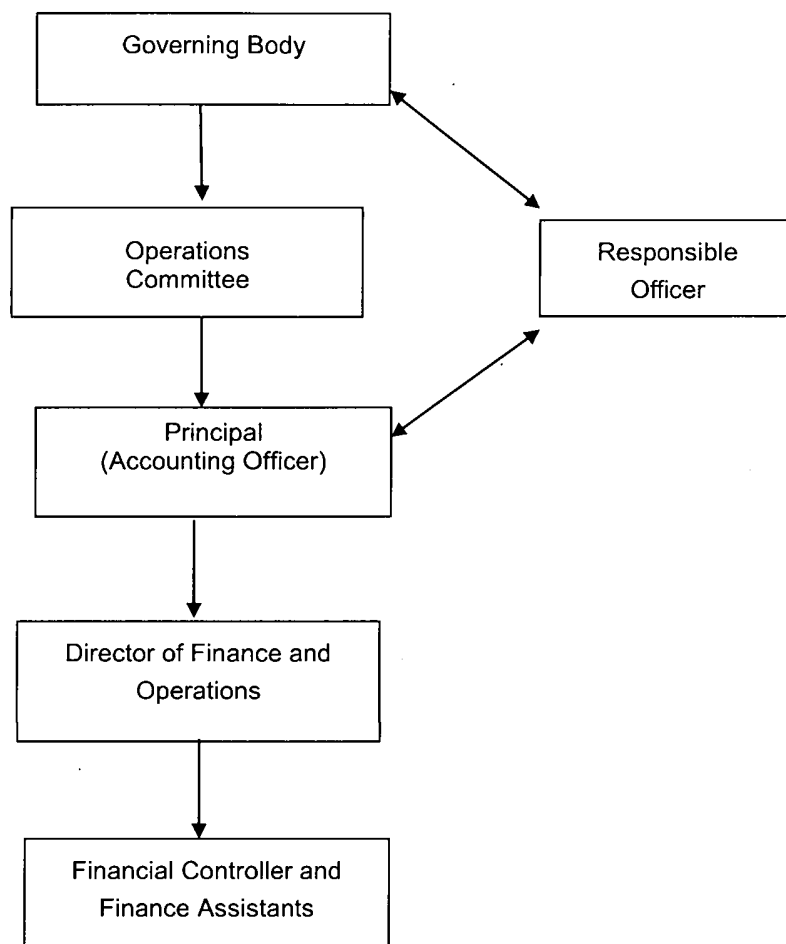
- H van Mourik Broekman
- Mrs H Cassidy
- Mrs A Haynes
- C Flynn

The Operations Committee (formerly the Finance, Estates and Resources Committee) of the Governing Body together with the Principal and Director of Finance and Operations will ensure the effective allocation of resources to appropriate budget holders for staffing, premises, administration, curriculum resources and pupil services. An annual budget is presented to the Governing Body for approval and regular financial statements are reviewed by the Governing Body, initially via its Operations Committee. Various levels of responsibility are set out in the Academy's Financial Procedures Manual and, as required in these procedures, governors make decisions when required and as appropriate as set out therein.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021



Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Governors Pay Committee meets to consider the pay and remuneration of the academy's key management personnel. Staff, who are paid on the Leadership Spine must demonstrate sustained high-quality performance, with particular regard to leadership, management and pupil progress at the school and will be subject to a review of performance against performance objectives before any performance points will be awarded. Annual pay progression within the range for this post is not automatic and is linked to performance.

All key management are performance managed and have their whole school targets set as well as specific personal targets. These targets are reviewed as part of the performance management process. This is done within the framework of the Governors' Pay Policy.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trade Union Facility Time

The Trust does not have any staff who are relevant union officials.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Academy has been formed out of the former Liverpool College Independent School. The Liverpool College Foundation continues to exist and supports the work of the Academy. Following a strategic review of its operations the Foundation ceased to offer International and boarding facilities to eligible students from 1st September 2016. The Academy has agreed to carry on the boarding education provisions and has been in discussions with the ESFA. As the original College was founded in 1840 a number of historic links, particularly to former pupils, exist and this and links to the Foundation may be a source of donations or other financial support to the Academy going forward.

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

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

To advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to a generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a Church of England school designated as such which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England including any Memorandum and Articles governing the use of land used by the Academy both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship and having regard to any advice issued by the Diocesan Bishop.

Strategies and Activities

The Academy's main strategy is encompassed in its mission statement and its school motto which is:

Non Solum ingenii verum etiam virtutis - Not only the Intellect but also the Character.

Mission Statement - Liverpool College values the dignity of each individual and promotes the development of character and learning through a commitment to high standards within a caring community.

Core Values

We recognise that all pupils have different talents and strive to ensure that every pupil has an equal opportunity to find and develop the talents they do possess

We believe that the development of spirituality, character, intellect and creativity are the primary aims of education.

We work together to create a happy and caring school community which is engaged in our local community and the wider world

We pursue high standards in every area of school life

To this end the activities provided include:

- Tuition and learning opportunities for all pupils to attain appropriate academic qualifications
- Training opportunities for all staff, especially teaching staff
- A programme of sporting and after school leisure activities for all pupils.
- A system of after school provision to allow pupils to explore topics in a practical manner

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives for the period were:

- To work with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to further develop a strategy for the future funding of the Academy and its projected growth

These were achieved by working with the ESFA, Governing Body, Trustees, Staff, parents and other associated parties.

Public benefit

In setting objectives and planning activities, the Board of Governors have paid due regard to the published guidance from the Charity Commission on the operation of the Public Benefit requirement under the Charities Act 2006.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

During the course of the period the Principal has reported on the following:

- Academic Results
- Admissions and admission appeal's
- Attendance and Exclusions
- Boarding
- Capital Income Donations
- College Development Plan – Development and Review
- Coronavirus – provisions and impacts
- Curriculum and Curriculum Staffing Review
- Dashboard – data analysis and information
- Facilities
- Funding and Finance
- Growth
- LA Social Inclusion
- LC Press
- LC Sports
- Ofsted and self-evaluation
- Partnerships
- Policies
- Pupil Premium
- Reporting Systems
- Safeguarding
- Schools Direct
- Sixth Form Strategy
- Staffing, staffing issues and School Organisation (including Leadership Structures)
- Strategic update
- Term dates
- Uniform

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Key performance indicators

This reporting period represents the Academy's sixth period of operation and it has set strategic goals related to achievement, progress, engagement, destinations and its provision. These goals are monitored closely by the Board of Governors. Due to covid restrictions there was no banding test operated in 2020 for 2021 admissions. Total main school pupils in the academic year ended 31st August 2021 numbered 1,537 (including 250 in the sixth form) and the Academy had full complements in all year groups up to and including Year 11. A total of 119 admission appeals were heard during the course of the year (2019-2020 was 78).

The College provides a balanced curriculum that encourages students to achieve their potential. During 2020 the effects of the global coronavirus pandemic has impacted upon the examinations with most pupils having results determined by teacher assessment rather than the traditional exams. Highlights of the 2021 assessed results include 71.9% A*-B pass rates at A level (2020 – 60.1%) and in respect of the GCSE, the old measure of A*-A pass rate is now replaced with an equivalent 9-7 pass rate. We achieved a 37% 9-7 pass rate in 2021 (2020 – 43.1%).

Pupil attendance for 2020-21 (full year 2019/20 and 2018/19 figures shown for comparison purposes)

Unlike 2019/20, where attendance could be measured and compared up to the first lockdown initiated on 20th March 2020, overall attendance in the 20/21 academic year will not be comparable with previous years. We have included a week on week attendance tracker which we believe shows better than average attendance in both phases of school apart from two periods early in the academic year where the Liverpool area was one of those particularly affected by COVID cases and the ensuing need for large groups of pupils to learn remotely.

	Pre-prep	Prep School	Upper School	Sixth Form	Whole School
2020-21	97.5%	97.4%	93.9%	85.4%	94.1%
2019-20	95.5%	96.9%	95.0%	92.8%	95.4%
2018-19	96.2%	96.9%	95.5%	92.9%	95.4%

Attainment – Results from external examinations are as follows:

The structure of results changed in the summer of 2018 with the letter grades being replaced by number grades, this change in structure and the way results are reported makes analysis more complex

	A*-B at A' Level	A*-E at A Level	A*-A at GCSE	5 A*-C (inc Eng & Maths)
2021	71%	100%	37% (equivalent)	85% (equivalent)
2020	60%	100%	43% (equivalent)	86% (equivalent)
2019	45%	98%	33% (equivalent)	75% (equivalent)

Progress 8 figures 0.59 - 2021 (0.34 - 2020)

Staff Turnover

	Retirements	Alternative Employment	Other leaver	Recruitment
Teaching	0	3	0	6
Support	0	7	6	16

Staff Ratios

Pupil teacher ratio is 1:18

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Going concern

Free reserves as at the end of August 2021 are £191,182. The current budget is for small surpluses over the next three years totalling £86k. The Trust will continue to review its cost base to ensure sustainability going forward.

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

Financial Review

The Academy's total incoming resources during the period were £9,880,444 (2020: £10,119,034).

The majority of the Academy's income derives from central government funding via the Education and Skills Funding Agency, in the form of current grants. Total funding received for the School's educational operations in the period was £8,777,707 (2020: £7,854,093) and further details are provided in Note 3 to the accounts.

Total outgoing resources for the period were £10,806,629 (2020 £10,200,526), the majority of which related to the direct provision of educational operations £10,530,200 (2020 £9,741,808).

At the period end the Academy's total reserves were £33,557,347, including unrestricted funds of £191,182, general restricted funds of £92,453, pension reserve of (£886,000) and restricted fixed asset funds of £34,159,712. The balances on general restricted funds relate to funding received in the period which is due to be spent in 2021/22 in accordance with the terms of funding. Further detail is provided in Note 15.

At 31 August 2021 all assets shown in the financial statements were used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to students of the Academy.

Reserves policy

Reserves held as at 31 August 2021 were as follows:

	£
Total reserves	33,557,347
Add back pension reserve	886,000
Less reserves attributable to fixed assets	(34,159,712)
Unrestricted and general restricted funds	283,635
Less other restricted funds	(94,453)
Free reserves	191,182

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Reserves policy

The Governors review reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure stream, the need to match income with commitments, the uncertainty surrounding the levels of future funding and the nature of reserves.

It is the Governors' aim to build a reserve to compensate for anticipated reductions in income for capital works (Devolved Formula Capital), loss of transitional funding associated with the agreement with the ESFA, equalisation of sixth form funding, removal of the Education Services Grant (ESG) and changes to the local and national funding formulas.

Restricted GAG reserves

The Governors have considered the level of GAG reserves which they believe will provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between the spending and receipt of grants and unexpected or planned future revenue and capital costs. The Governors believe that, under normal circumstances, the appropriate level of GAG reserve should be between 2% and 5% of GAG income and aim to keep the reserve within these parameters.

At 31 August 2021 the school only held GAG reserves of £Nil. The Governors will seek to increase this reserve in future years as funding allows.

Unrestricted reserves

In addition to the GAG reserve, which can only be utilised for the restricted purposes set out in the Funding Agreement, the Academy holds unrestricted free reserves, which provide additional working capital and are not committed or designated. It is the Governors' policy to aim to hold approximately 3 months' expenditure in unrestricted reserves, to provide an additional cushion over and above the restricted GAG reserve.

At 31 August 2021 the level of unrestricted reserves held was £191,182.

Investment policy

All investments are agreed by the Governing Body, which has regard to the Charity Commission guidance in relation to charity investment policy. The Academy does not currently hold any investments other than cash, which is held for its normal operations. The Governing Body has adopted a low risk strategy to its cash holdings. Surplus cash is held in an instant access account to ensure that there is always sufficient cash to meet short and medium-term requirements.

Principal risks and uncertainties

One of the considerations involved in the decision to convert from a fee paying Independent School to an Academy was the uncertainty surrounding pupil numbers. In consultation with the DfE the Academy has developed its plans to address this issue which does include an element of risk if the pupil numbers do not materialise as forecast. Initial indications show that the Academy is on track to meet its expectations in this regard. Accommodation has been enhanced to provide additional provision. The Academy has a growth plan in respect of pupil numbers to move towards financial viability. Further capital building will be required to accommodate the additional numbers and discussions with regard to funding are currently underway.

Fundraising

Under the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 the following section outlines information on fundraising practices. The areas covered are included in section 13 of the Act and include:

- **Approach to fundraising**
 - The College seeks voluntary contributions towards educational trips and activities, where appropriate, to allow for the development of both educational and enrichment activities on behalf of the pupils.
 - The College invites voluntary donations from parents, alumni, friends and other stakeholders for general or targeted school funding programmes, these may include specific capital projects

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The College does not work with any commercial participators/professional fundraisers and consequently does not put parents or other donors under undue pressure to donate

Risk management

In the current economic climate funding is always going to feature strongly as a risk factor and in an area with falling rolls and high-quality competition the ability to attract and retain pupils whether at Year 7 or Sixth Form will continue to offer challenges moving forward.

The Risk and Control Framework

The Academy's system of internal financial control is based upon a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including a segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability it includes-

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by Governors
- Regular reviews by the Operations Committee (formerly the Finance, Estates and Resources Committee) of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- Risk assessments undertaken and reviewed on key processes as part of risk management provisions

The Governors have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching, health and safety, school trips, child protection, safeguarding and finances. These risks are reviewed on an annual basis by the Director of Finance and Operations. Operational systems are also kept under review and refined, as appropriate, to meet changing needs.

The internal financial systems are based on the Academies Financial Handbook and are documented in the Academy's Financial Procedures Manual. The systems are based on a framework of segregation of duties, schemes of delegation which include authorisation and approval. Financial management information is provided to budget holders and members of the Operations Committee on a monthly basis.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Academy reviews its cash balances daily and ensures that funds are available to meet its liabilities when due.

Plans for future periods

The Governing Body and the Leadership of Liverpool College Independent School Trust have determined the following key aims for the future:

- The strategy of Liverpool College Independent School Trust must rise to the challenges and opportunities identified with imagination, ambition and excellence of development and delivery
- In line with our heritage, we seek to make our own very distinctive contribution to education and the future of young people available to a greater number of pupils within Liverpool and beyond
- The resources and finances required to develop and deliver the strategy are available and committed over the required time period and that the College remains a viable and sustainable Foundation and an establishment of educational excellence
- Manage the impact of the global coronavirus pandemic, in as much as it is able to, to protect pupils and staff and the delivery of learning whether this be within school or remotely.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

The Academy does not act as custodian trustee on behalf of others but it does administer a school fund on behalf of parents in respect of school trips and associated activities.

Auditor

In so far as the governors are aware:

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

Governors' Report, incorporating strategic report, approved by order of the members of the Governing Body, being the Board of Trustees and Company Directors on 13 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Monica Mason

.....
M Mason

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

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

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, 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 Liverpool College Independent School Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. He is also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities.

The governing body has formally met 4 times during the year. Due to the virus provisions meetings since March 2020 have been undertaken remotely and have been supplemented by update meetings, attendance at which has also been included here. Attendance during the period at meetings of the governing body was as follows:

	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
H van Mourik Broekman – Principal and Accounting Officer	4	4
K Atkinson	4	4
O Barden –Parent Governor	4	4
S Carr	4	4
A Case	4	4
K Clarke	3	4
H Eccles – (Resigned May 2021)	0	3
T Hallam	4	4
M Mason - Chair	4	4
R Morgan	4	4
T Nichol – Deputy Chair	4	4
L Parr	4	4
M Sharpe	4	4
L Sheridan	3	4
C Thompson – (Resigned May 2021)	0	3
C Turbitt	4	4
A Williams	4	4

Unfortunately, C Thompson has been unable to attend a number of meetings due to a serious health issue culminating in his resignation in May 2021.

The Operations Committee (formerly the Finance, Estates and Resources Committee) is a sub-committee of the main governing body. Its purpose is to monitor financial performance and related activities of the academy on behalf of the Governing Body attendance at meetings in the period was as follows:

	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
H van Mourik Broekman	3	3
K Clarke	2	3
M Mason	3	3
T Nichol	3	3

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
C Thompson - (Resigned May 2021)	0	2
A Williams	2	3
L Sheridan	3	3
M Sharpe	3	3

Unfortunately, C Thompson has been unable to attend a number of meetings due to a serious health issue culminating in his resignation in May 2021.

Among the particular issues dealt with within the period were:

- Building and estates issues – CIF bids, Health and safety reports and surveys, future developments, review bids, projects and capital spending plans
- Approval of Budget Forecast submission for 2021/22 prior to submission to full Governing Body (and ultimately ESFA), including a three-year forward looking forecast
- 2020-21 budget reviews
- Future Funding, funding formulas, forecasts, challenges and impact of growth
- 2019/20 accounts review including the Audited Financial statements
- Risk Register
- Audit provisions and timetable
- Condition Improvement Fund
- Financial Procedures Manual
- Responsible Officer reports
- Boarding Provisions including finance and accommodation issues
- Foundation Heirlooms
- SEN High needs funding
- Bank Balances
- School Uniform Contract
- Catering – contract and provisions
- Sports provisions and partnerships
- ICT Provisions
- Tender reports
- Terms of Reference
- Communications with ESFA – including relaxation of return submission arrangements
- ESFA SRMA Report and subsequent updates
- Academy finance related issues – including virus impact on revenues and costs
- Income generation and Fundraising – college fund, schools direct, capital donations
- Monthly management accounts review - allow governors to review the financial performance against budget

Key changes in the composition of the board of trustees

The initial term of office of many of the original Governing Body members ended in 2016-17, with the second term ending in 2021. In reviewing its own effectiveness, the Governing Body have sought to build on their strengths and improve the range of skills and abilities available to it through its membership. Following a number of resignations/retirements additional Governors were appointed during June 2020 to increase governor coverage in the areas of buildings and maintenance and legal with the appointment of a serving family court judge to add legal expertise and an architect to supplement information on the buildings and maintenance. The Governing body hopes that it has recruited well and the Board continues to grow and prosper responding to the new challenges the future holds. The Governing Body looks to strengthen its membership and the range of skills and abilities available to it when the opportunity arises. Additional governor appointments have been made post year end to further enhance the range of skills and expertise open to the Governing Body. The Governors would like to thank those members who have chosen to stand down, or not seek re-election as their dedication and commitment to the College and its continued development cannot go unrecognised.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer the Principal has responsibility for ensuring that the 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 as evidenced by the following:

- The College provides a balanced curriculum that encourages students to achieve their potential. Highlights of the 2021 examination results include 71% A*-B pass rates at A level (2020 – 60%) and the equivalent of 37% A*-A pass rates at GCSE (2020 – 43%).
- Termly reports to the Operations Committee of the Governing Body
- Operation of the Boarding Provisions as a further income stream.
- The Governing Body overseeing the operation of the school finance provisions including approval of the budget, review of accounts and the annual audited financial statements
- Robust internal controls, verified via external review
- Review of supply and service contracts and other provisions to generate further efficiencies
- Invoices reviewed prior to payment and procedures encompassed within a Financial Procedures Manual
- Orders above the limits identified within our Financial Procedures Manual reviewed prior to authorisation
- Large purchases or contracts have been subject to competitive tendering procedures
- Staffing complement reviewed annually to respond to changes in curriculum delivery or needs of the organisation
- Staffing appointments made on the basis of best person for the post not necessarily the cheapest
- Income generation – the Governors in collaboration with other partners have developed a strategy to secure the financial future of the Academy
- Independent external services are engaged to review internal practices to ensure probity and compliance on behalf of the school and the Trust

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's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the Academy for the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

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

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 Operations Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.
- Regular meetings between the Accounting Officer and Chief Financial Officer

The governing body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Governors have re-appointed MS Finance Ltd, as Responsible Officer ('RO'). The RO's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. The RO reported to the governing body on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the governing body's financial responsibilities as well as reviewing the impact of particular defined risks.

2020-21 has been another difficult year due to the continuing impact of the global coronavirus pandemic and these provisions and restrictions have had an impact upon the academy's ability to function during this period. Certain income and expenditures have been affected in differing measures and the virus continues to provide challenges going forward. The following information explains the impact on the school and the actions that have been taken.

- **Impact of virus control measures on our activities**
Virus provisions and restrictions have impacted upon the main achievements of the academy due to the period of lockdown and limited access to the curriculum for certain groups of pupils and the impact of the end of year examination testing/results. The school has adapted its site to facilitate social distancing and other control measures to help reduce the spread of the virus.
- **Financial sustainability and consideration of going concern**
The academy has taken steps to limit/reduce expenditure where possible and this will hopefully help to counteract reductions in certain income streams due to the virus provisions eg after school club provisions. It is hoped that as a result of the additional government funding we have received we may limit the impact of the virus provisions on the trust's future financial sustainability and consideration of going concern.
- **Contribution of volunteers in its work in managing in the changed circumstances.**
It is a balance between using volunteers and protecting the existing staff from exposure to too many other people.
- **The impact on the academy trust's ability to fundraise**
A number of income streams have been significantly affected by school closure and on-going virus restrictions in 2020-21 most notably after school club income, sports facility hire out costs and income from parents due to their own financial uncertainties. Boarding pupils were repatriated for periods and we have refunded fees paid for the period of closure. We have found that many are taking longer to settle lunch accounts and we have to take a more flexible and sympathetic approach to debt recovery being mindful of the pressures that others outside the school are subjected to. We have suspended some services for periods where we could in an effort to control costs but this has not been easy due to the contractual arrangements of certain employees.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

- **Affect on staff, volunteers and beneficiaries and the implications for the academy trust's operations and activities for the coming year**

Staff have been affected in different ways for different reasons. We have a number of staff who have been shielding at the direction of the NHS and others who have been self-isolating whether as a result of a positive test or due to contacts or symptoms. Although much of the curriculum has been delivered within the classroom this has been supplemented via on-line platforms. We have attempted to cover staffing absences with supply staff and moving forward the impact of this is an unknown quantity. We are grateful for the additional Governmental support we have received which will hopefully help us weather the storm. More meetings have been held via on-line platforms including those of the Governing Body and its various committees, so we have been able to fulfil our Governance responsibilities fairly well I feel.

- **Effect of the financial and operational effects of the virus and the control measures relating to the virus on the principal risks and uncertainties facing the academy trust during the reporting period.**

The school has managed to protect itself well from the on-going impact of the virus, or as well as can be expected under the circumstances. We have incurred additional costs in some areas particularly in supply costs covering for staff who are infected or self-isolating, additional cleaning staff, increased cleaning material costs, IT software costs as we mobilise the provisions to educate large numbers of pupils remotely, upgrading IT equipment (we had already planned to upgrade our IT infrastructure to improve the robustness of our network), catering costs – changes to the delivery of catering due to distancing requirements have increased costs and absence of volumes of pupils due to self-isolation for up to two weeks at a time has impacted upon income receipts. The lunch service has been extended during the day and during breaks pupils are widely distributed across campus to ensure they stay within their bubbles. Practical application of one-way systems, face coverings and other protection measures have changed the dynamics of the daily routine.

We have tried to mitigate the financial impact to some degree by suspending ordering and reducing expenditure in certain areas. The examinations expenditure incurred may still provide some sort of recompense which will help further. Enhanced cleaning provisions and increased usage of cleaning materials have increased costs significantly in this area and it is expected that this will continue

- **Implications for any existing deferred benefit pension liability and investments**

We are unable to quantify the impact virus provisions will have on deferred benefit pension liability and investments we will no doubt be informed by future fund valuations

- **Impact on the academy trust's reserve policy, level of reserves and changes to funds set aside for future commitments.**

It is hoped, with a combination of additional government support and internal measures to manage our response to the virus provisions we may be able to maintain the bulk of our existing reserves. It is an extremely fluid situation and as the virus provisions stabilise we hope this will reduce on future commitments

- **Impact on any wider network of which the academy is a part.**

All though we are an all through school we are a stand-alone academy so it is hoped we can reduce the impact of the virus provisions across all the different internal phases.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

- **Impact of virus control measures on future aims and activities**

Virus control measures are likely to have a lasting impact on future aims and objectives both in the quality of the education we are able to offer and the increased cleaning regime required to limit the transmission of the virus. We have struggled to recruit and retain cleaners which has increased our reliance on external agency cleaners who come at a premium. The increased costs of cleaning materials, antibacterial wipes and handwash that is supplied to all on a daily basis has increased our cleaning materials expenditure significantly. The segregation of pupils on sport and other group activities will hopefully be short lived. The suspension of external sports facilities to local sports and community groups impacts on our income and so our ability to fund investment plans there is no guarantee that those local sports and community groups will recover or indeed return to hire.

Review of effectiveness

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

The Board

The Governing Body has overall responsibility for the maintenance and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control. In order to strengthen this overview of internal control the Governors has elected to appoint an external company to provide a Responsible Officer service to provide re-assurance as to the effectiveness of the controls in place. They receive reports from the Operations Committee and its Chair as well as reports from the external auditors. The Governing Body review and approve associated policies including the Financial Procedures Manual which sets out the framework of internal control within the College.

Risk management

Risk assessments have been undertaken to assess the level of risk associated with many Academy operations. This has been further supplemented by the provision of a Risk Register which is reviewed annually.

Responsible Officer function

An external provider, MS Finance Ltd, provide an independent external RO service. No significant issues have been identified. The Responsible Officer has also helped and contributed to the formulation of the Financial Procedures Manual and reviewed the implication of a number of defined risk factors.

External audit

External auditors were appointed following a competitive tendering exercise and this relationship has been renewed for the eighth year. No significant issues have been identified to date.

Other explicit review/assurance mechanisms.

- The work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- The Director of Finance and Operations continues to work with the Accounting Officer, staff and Governors to develop and maintain the internal control framework of the College.
- The Bursary staff continue to develop as a team and support the further development of internal controls and best value practices.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Operations Committee and the new Finance Procedures Manual is designed to regulate the continuous improvement of the system.

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 13th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Monica Mason

H van Mourik Broekman

.....
M Mason
Chair

.....
H van Mourik Broekman
Accounting Officer

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

I confirm that I and the academy trust governing body are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of 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 Governors and the ESFA.

H van Mourik Broekman

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H van Mourik Broekman
Accounting Officer

17/12/2021

.....
Date:

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The governors (who act as trustees for charitable activities and are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the governors 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 academy and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and 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 academy will continue in business.

The governors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the academy's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the academy 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 academy and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

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

13/12/2021

Approved by order of the members of the governing body on and signed on its behalf by:

Monica Mason

.....
M Mason
Chair

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

We have audited the financial statements of Liverpool College Independent School Trust (the 'parent academy trust') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and of the parent academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 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 accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the reference and administrative details, Trustees' Report incorporating the Strategic Report and Directors' Report, the Governance Statement, the Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance and the Trustees Responsibilities Statement. The Trustees are responsible for the other information which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- Enquiries with management, including governors, about any known or suspected instances of noncompliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing internal audit reports;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Because of the field in which the client operates, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health & Safety; compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook; safeguarding and child protection; employment law; data protection and compliance with the UK Companies Act.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognize the non-compliance.

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

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. 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 auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Nicola Mason

.....
Nicola Mason
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of
MHA Moore and Smalley
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

Richard House
Winckley Square
Preston
PR1 3HP

17/12/2021

.....
Date

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 December 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies: Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by the academy trust during the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to the academy trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the 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 the academy trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the academy trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 July 2013 and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies: Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes consideration of governance issues, an evaluation of the control environment of the School together with enquiry, analytical review and substantive testing of transactions.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Conclusion

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

MHA Moore and Smalley

.....
MHA Moore and Smalley
Chartered Accountants

Richard House
Winckley Square
Preston
PR1 3HP

17/12/2021

.....
Date

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATES THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	Unrestricted general funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments:						
Donations and capital grants	2	-	67,453	621,092	688,545	1,619,893
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for the Academy's educational operations	3	480,842	8,296,865	-	8,777,707	7,854,092
- Provision of boarding activities		173,402	-	-	173,402	396,793
Other trading activities	4	240,790	-	-	240,790	248,255
Total income and endowments		895,034	8,364,318	621,092	9,880,444	10,119,033
Expenditure:						
Raising funds	5	106,058	12,314	-	118,372	69,611
Charitable activities:						
- Academy trusts educational operations	6	536,619	9,175,220	818,361	10,530,200	9,741,808
- Provision of boarding activities	6/24	158,057	-	-	158,057	389,107
Total expenditure		800,734	9,187,534	818,361	10,806,629	10,200,526
Net income/(expenditure)		94,300	(823,216)	(197,269)	(926,185)	(81,493)
Transfers between funds		(110,829)	608,634	(497,805)	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial gain/(loss) on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	84,000	-	84,000	(340,000)
Net movement in funds		(16,529)	(130,582)	(695,074)	(842,185)	(421,493)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	16	207,711	(662,965)	34,854,786	34,399,532	34,821,025
Total funds carried forward		191,182	(793,547)	34,159,712	33,557,347	34,399,532

All of the academy's activities derive from continuing operations.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

		Group		Company	
	Note	2021	2020	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10	33,724,683	34,543,044	33,714,637	34,531,452
Investments	11	-	-	-	-
Current assets					
Stock	12	1,191	1,519	1,191	1,519
Debtors	13	945,443	964,912	946,714	924,732
Cash at bank and in hand		849,922	584,475	776,850	535,581
		1,796,556	1,550,906	1,724,755	1,461,832
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,077,892)	(904,418)	(1,108,241)	(937,804)
Net current assets		718,664	646,488	616,514	524,028
Net assets excluding pension liability		34,443,347	35,189,532	34,331,151	35,055,481
Pension scheme liability		(886,000)	(790,000)	(886,000)	(790,000)
Total net assets		33,557,347	34,399,532	33,445,151	34,265,481
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds		34,159,712	34,854,786	34,149,666	34,843,195
- General funds		92,453	127,035	92,453	127,035
- Pension reserve		(886,000)	(790,000)	(886,000)	(790,000)
Total restricted funds		33,366,165	34,191,821	33,356,119	34,180,230
Unrestricted funds	16	191,182	207,711	89,032	85,251
Total funds		33,557,347	34,399,532	33,445,151	34,265,481

These accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on13/12/2021..... and are signed on their behalf by:

Monica Mason

M Mason – Chair

Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration Number 08565932

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	18		(355,645)		(839,903)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Purchase of tangible assets		-		(473,506)	
Capital grants from DfE Group		621,092		1,122,597	
			621,092		649,091
Movement in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			265,447		(190,812)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward			584,475		775,287
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	19		849,922		584,475

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Liverpool College Independent School Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

The governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of Academy Trust to continue as a going concern. The governors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts. The governors have considered the impact of the Government response to Covid-19 on the activity of the Academy Trust in terms of both increased costs of compliance with guidelines and catch up in learning and also reduced income.

General restricted and unrestricted reserves as at the end of August 2021 are £283,635. The current budgets are for surpluses for the next three years. The Trust continues to review its cost base in order to maximise the projected reserves.

As a result of the above, the Governors have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the 'going concern' basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts of the Academy and all group undertakings. Acquisitions are accounted for under the acquisition method and goodwill on acquisition has been written off in the year of acquisition.

Incoming resources

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

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Grants receivable

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

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

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

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Resources expended

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 cost attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support cost which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Resources expended (continued)

- **Expenditure on Raising Funds**

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

- **Charitable Activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Freehold buildings	2%
Long leasehold buildings	2%
Long leasehold land	Over the term of the lease
Refurbishments to land & buildings	2%
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	15%
ICT equipment	33%
Motor Vehicles	20%

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

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.

On conversion the Academy acquired the land and buildings from which it operates under a 125 year lease. No value was paid for the land and buildings, which were incorporated into the accounts as a donated asset, based on a depreciated replacement cost valuation carried out as at 31 March 2015 on behalf of the Department for Education by Mouchel.

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.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Provisions

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

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

Leased assets

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

Investments

The Academy's shareholding in the wholly owned subsidiary, Liverpool College Enterprises Limited, is included in the balance sheet at nil value as an estimate of its fair value on acquisition. There is no readily available market value, which is not considered to be material, and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived. The net assets of the subsidiary at the year end were £134,056.

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Stock

Stock consists of purchased goods for resale. Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Items donated for resale or distribution are not included in the financial statements until they are sold or distributed.

Taxation

The Academy 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 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.

Pension benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on the quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employees. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

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

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

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

Liverpool College Independent School Trust also participates in the Pensions Trust's Growth Plan (the Plan). The Plan is funded and is not contracted-out of the State scheme. The Plan is a multi-employer pension plan.

Fund accounting

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

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 and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency/Department for Education.

Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing Student Financial Support Funding from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid, and any balances held are disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. 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.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£		£	£
Capital grants	-	-	511,092	511,092	352,975
Other donations	-	67,453	110,000	177,453	1,266,918
	-	67,453	621,092	688,545	1,619,893

The income from donations and capital grants was £688,545 (2020: £1,619,893) of which £nil was unrestricted (2020: £38,132), £67,453 was restricted (2020: £45,748) and £621,092 was restricted fixed assets (2020: £1,508,224).

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

3 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	7,017,033	7,017,033	6,283,479
Other DfE/ESFA grants:	-	-	-	-
UFSM	-	100,149	100,149	104,027
Pupil Premium	-	324,003	324,003	280,841
Others	-	468,259	468,259	414,205
	-	7,909,444	7,909,444	7,082,552
Other government grants				
Other local government grants	-	92,389	92,389	37,956
Exceptional government grants				
Coronavirus job retention scheme grant	-	12,314	12,314	24,677
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	102,160	102,160	42,789
Other Coronavirus funding	-	91,280	91,280	-
	-	205,754	205,754	67,466
Other educational income				
Catering income	306,628	-	306,628	303,104
Other income	174,214	89,278	263,492	363,014
	480,842	89,278	570,120	666,118
Total	480,842	8,296,865	8,777,707	7,854,092

The income from funding for educational operations was £8,777,707 (2020: £7,854,092) of which £480,842 was unrestricted (2020: £490,542) and £8,296,865 was restricted (2020: £7,363,550).

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

The funding received for coronavirus exceptional support covers additional cleaning, supply and IT costs for acting as a hub school for keyworker children. The costs are included in note 6. The academy furloughed some of its boarding and other staff whose employment was not supported by direct government funding. The funding received relates to staff costs included in note 7.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Hire of facilities	7,500	-	7,500	7,460
Income from trading subsidiary	103,622	-	103,622	120,267
Transport	-	-	-	2,699
After school club	109,371	-	109,371	107,508
School fund	20,297	-	20,297	10,321
	240,790	-	240,790	248,255

The income from other trading activities was £240,790 (2020: £248,255) of which £240,790 was unrestricted (2020: £248,255).

	5 Expenditure				
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Expenditure on raising funds	85,040	-	33,332	118,372	69,611
Academy's educational operations:					
- Direct costs	5,546,259	3,710	863,067	6,413,036	5,992,321
- Allocated support costs	1,156,688	2,259,633	700,843	4,117,164	3,749,487
Boarding activities					
-Direct costs	87,995	-	24,153	112,148	302,128
-Allocated support costs	-	5,537	40,372	45,909	86,979
	6,875,982	2,268,880	1,661,767	10,806,629	10,200,526

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit of the financial statements	11,650	11,100
- Accountancy, taxation and other services	6,175	6,705
Operating leases	105,977	66,099
Depreciation	818,361	776,384

The expenditure on raising funds was £118,372 (2020: £69,611) of which £106,058 was unrestricted (2020: £69,611) and £12,314 was restricted (2020: £nil).

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

6 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Direct costs				
Educational operations	5,530	6,407,506	6,413,036	5,992,322
Boarding	112,148	-	112,148	302,128
Support costs				
Educational operations	531,089	3,586,075	4,117,164	3,749,487
Boarding	45,909	-	45,909	86,979
	694,676	9,993,581	10,688,257	10,130,916

The expenditure on charitable activities was £10,688,257 (2020: £10,130,916) of which £694,676 was unrestricted (2020: £488,431), £9,175,220 was restricted (2020: £8,866,099) and £818,361 was restricted fixed assets (2020: £776,385).

	2021 £	2020 £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	1,156,688	1,227,686
Depreciation	814,651	776,384
Premises costs	1,356,564	1,242,170
Other support costs	817,346	569,614
Legal fees	-	7,092
Governance costs	17,824	13,520
	4,163,073	3,836,466

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7 Staff costs

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	5,215,709	5,036,224
Employer's national insurance contributions	472,406	443,098
Pension costs	1,095,978	1,030,327
	<u>6,784,093</u>	<u>6,509,649</u>
Compensation payments	5,297	24,000
Supply staff costs	86,592	24,806
	<u>6,875,982</u>	<u>6,558,455</u>

Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including management team) employed by the Academy during the period as the full time equivalents, was as follows:

	2021 Number	2021 Full-time equivalent	2020 Number	2020 Full-time equivalent
Teachers	87	79	81	76
Administration and support	108	70	100	66
Management	4	4	4	4
	<u>199</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>146</u>

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	2	3
£70,001 - £80,000	1	
£130,001 - £140,000	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

Three of the above employees participated in the Teacher's Pension Scheme, during the year, pension contributions on behalf of these employees were £65,845.

Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £nil (2020: £24,000).

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the Executive Leadership Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £465,668 (2020: £451,376).

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Governors' remuneration and expenses

The Principal and staff governors only received remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Principal and staff members under their contracts of employment and not in respect of their services as governors. Other governors did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy in respect of their role as governors. The value of the governors' remuneration including pension contributions was as follows:

H van Mourik Broekman – Principal and Governor:

Remuneration – £135,001 - £140,000 (2020: £130,001 to £135,000)

Employer's pension contributions – £30,001 - £35,000 (2020: £30,001 - £35,000)

C Turbitt – Staff Governor:

Remuneration – £45,000 - £50,000 (2020: £40,000 - £45,000)

Employer's pension contributions – £10,000 - £15,000 (2020: £10,000 - £15,000)

A Case – Staff Governor

Remuneration – £5,000 - £10,000 (2020: £5,000 - £10,000)

Employer's pension contributions – £nil (2020: £nil)

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

9 Governor' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the period ended 31 August 2021 was £5,353 (2020: £4,118).

10 Tangible fixed assets – Group

	Freehold Land and Building £	Leasehold Land and Building £	Furniture and equipment £'000	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles £'000	Total Total £'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	6,952,174	31,778,000	646,552	221,595	44,891	39,643,212
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2021	6,952,174	31,778,000	646,552	221,595	44,891	39,643,212
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	476,632	3,933,631	444,790	212,630	32,485	5,100,168
Charged in period	139,044	574,296	92,498	3,710	8,813	818,361
At 31 August 2021	615,676	4,507,927	537,288	216,340	41,298	5,918,529
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	6,336,498	27,270,073	109,264	5,255	3,593	33,724,683
At 31 August 2020	6,475,542	27,844,369	201,762	8,965	12,406	34,543,044

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Tangible fixed assets – Trust

	Freehold Land and Building £	Leasehold Land and Building £	Furniture and equipment £'000	Computer equipment	Motor vehicles £'000	Total Total £'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	6,952,174	31,778,000	617,298	221,595	44,891	39,613,958
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2021	6,952,174	31,778,000	617,298	221,595	44,891	39,613,958
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	476,632	3,933,631	427,128	212,630	32,485	5,100,168
Charged in period	139,044	574,296	90,952	3,710	8,813	818,361
At 31 August 2021	615,676	4,507,927	518,080	216,340	41,298	5,918,529
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	6,336,498	27,270,073	99,218	5,255	3,593	33,714,637
At 31 August 2020	6,475,542	27,844,369	190,170	8,965	12,406	34,531,452

11 Investments

	2021 £ Shares in subsidiary undertaking	2020 £ Shares in subsidiary undertaking
	-	-

Liverpool College Independent School Trust acquired 100% of the ordinary share capital of Liverpool College Enterprises Limited for nil consideration. The net liabilities at the date of acquisition were £19,139. No fair value was attributed to the investment at the date of acquisition. Liverpool College Enterprises Limited is a company registered in England and Wales. Liverpool College Enterprises Limited raises funds for Liverpool College Independent School Trust by operating gym and sports facilities out of school hours. A summary of the trading results is shown below.

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Turnover	103,622	106,081
CJRS Grant	12,314	11,147
Administrative expenses	(76,507)	(71,671)
Distribution to Liverpool College	(61,289)	-
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	(21,860)	45,557
Taxation	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the year	(21,860)	45,557
Share capital	50,002	50,002
Profit and loss reserves	62,194	84,054
Net assets	112,196	134,056

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

12 Stock

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Catering stock	1,191	1,519	1,191	1,519
	1,191	1,519	1,191	1,519

13 Debtors

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	13,729	16,688	-	-
VAT recoverable	69,919	171,830	69,919	171,830
Other debtors	4,180	43,105	4,180	4,612
Prepayments and accrued income	857,615	733,289	872,615	748,290
	945,443	964,912	946,714	924,732

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £'000	2020 £'000	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade creditors	27,907	33,621	27,907	33,621
Other taxation and social security	125,667	121,632	125,667	121,632
Other creditors	354,424	377,078	391,178	413,598
Accruals and deferred income	569,894	372,087	563,489	368,953
	1,077,892	904,418	1,108,241	937,804

15 Deferred income

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income is included within:				
Creditors due within one year	180,822	191,838	180,822	191,838
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	191,838	328,264	191,838	328,264
Released from previous years	(191,838)	(328,264)	(191,838)	(328,264)
Amounts deferred in the year	180,822	191,838	180,822	191,838
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	180,822	191,838	180,822	191,838

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding grant income relating to the Universal Infant Free School Meals received from the ESFA in advance of the related expenditure.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds

Group	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	7,017,033	(7,625,667)	608,634	-
Pupil premium	108,078	324,003	(354,936)	-	77,145
UIFSM	-	100,149	(100,149)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	468,259	(468,259)	-	-
Other government grants	-	298,143	(298,143)	-	-
Other restricted funds	18,957	156,731	(160,380)	-	15,308
Pension reserve	(790,000)	-	(180,000)	84,000	(886,000)
	(662,695)	8,364,318	(9,187,534)	692,634	(793,547)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	27,995,996	-	(574,296)	-	27,421,700
DfE group capital grants	2,781,200	511,092	(142,214)	(387,805)	2,762,273
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	4,065,999	110,000	(100,306)	(110,000)	3,965,693
Trading subsidiary fixed assets	11,591	-	(1,545)	-	10,046
	34,854,786	621,092	(818,361)	(497,805)	34,159,712
Total restricted funds	34,191,821	8,985,410	(10,005,895)	194,829	33,366,165
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	207,711	895,034	(881,945)	(110,829)	191,182
Total funds	34,399,532	9,880,444	(10,806,629)	84,000	33,557,347

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds (continued)

Company	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	7,017,033	(7,625,667)	608,634	-
Pupil premium	108,078	324,003	(354,936)	-	77,145
UFSM	-	100,149	(100,149)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	468,259	(468,259)	-	-
Other government grants	-	285,829	(285,829)	-	-
Other restricted funds	18,957	156,731	(160,380)	-	15,308
Pension reserve	(790,000)	-	(180,000)	84,000	(886,000)
	(662,965)	8,352,004	(9,175,220)	692,634	(793,547)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	27,995,996	-	(574,296)	-	27,421,700
DfE group capital grants	2,781,200	511,092	(142,214)	(387,805)	2,762,273
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	4,065,999	110,000	(100,306)	(110,000)	3,965,693
	34,843,195	621,092	(816,816)	(497,805)	34,149,666
Total restricted funds	34,180,230	8,973,096	(9,992,036)	194,829	33,356,119
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	85,251	791,412	(676,802)	(110,829)	89,032
Total funds	34,265,481	9,764,508	(10,668,838)	84,000	33,445,151

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running expenses of the School and any amounts carried forward at the end of a financial period must be used in accordance with the terms of the Funding Agreement.

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.

Other DfE/ESFA grants comprise additional funding received for the furtherance of education, which must be used in accordance with the specific terms of each grant.

Other government grants includes Local authority and Central government funding for educational purpose which includes Special Educational Needs, Nursery grants and other smaller grants for specific projects.

Other restricted funds include contributions received for school trips and non-public donations and the related expenditure.

The pension reserve represents the value of the School's share of the deficit in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Restricted fixed asset funds include assets inherited on conversion and expenditure out of GAG and other capital grants during the period. Depreciation is charged against the fund.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds (continued)

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

Group	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	6,283,479	(7,512,366)	1,228,887	-
Pupil premium	173,271	799,073	(864,266)	-	108,078
UIFSM	-	-	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	-	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	105,422	(105,422)	-	-
Other restricted funds	16,014	249,113	(235,045)	(11,125)	18,957
Pension reserve	(301,000)	-	(149,000)	(340,000)	(790,000)
	(111,715)	7,437,086	(8,866,099)	877,762	(662,695)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	28,570,293	-	(574,297)	-	27,995,996
DfE group capital grants	2,589,759	352,975	(120,300)	(41,234)	2,781,200
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	3,554,763	1,155,249	(80,242)	(563,771)	4,065,999
Trading subsidiary fixed assets	13,137	-	(1,546)	-	11,591
	34,727,952	1,508,224	(776,385)	(605,005)	34,854,786
Total restricted funds	34,616,237	8,945,310	(9,642,484)	272,757	34,191,821
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	204,788	1,173,722	(558,042)	(612,757)	207,711
Total funds	34,821,025	10,019,033	(10,200,526)	(340,000)	34,399,532

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds (continued)

Company	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	6,283,479	(7,512,366)	1,228,887	-
Pupil premium	173,271	799,073	(864,266)	-	108,078
UIFSM	-	-	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	-	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	105,422	(105,422)	-	-
Other restricted funds	16,014	249,113	(235,045)	(11,125)	18,957
Pension reserve	(301,000)	-	(149,000)	(340,000)	(790,000)
	(111,715)	7,437,086	(8,866,099)	877,762	(662,695)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	28,570,293	-	(574,297)	-	27,995,996
DfE group capital grants	2,589,759	352,975	(120,300)	(41,234)	2,781,200
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	3,554,763	1,155,249	(80,242)	(563,771)	4,065,999
	34,714,815	1,508,224	(774,839)	(605,005)	34,843,195
Total restricted funds	34,603,099	8,945,310	(9,640,938)	272,757	34,180,226
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	143,619	1,057,306	(502,917)	(612,757)	85,251
Total funds	34,746,718	10,002,617	(10,143,855)	(340,000)	34,265,481

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	33,724,683	33,724,683
Current assets	191,182	1,170,345	435,029	1,796,556
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(1,077,892)	-	(1,077,892)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(886,000)	-	(886,000)
	191,182	(793,547)	34,159,712	33,557,347

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	34,543,044	34,543,044
Current assets	207,711	1,031,453	311,742	1,550,906
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(904,418)	-	(904,418)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(790,000)	-	(790,000)
	207,711	(662,965)	34,854,786	34,399,532

18 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flows from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(926,185)	(81,493)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation (see note 10)	818,361	776,384
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other sources	(621,092)	(1,122,597)
Defined benefit pension scheme costs	180,000	149,000
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	328	612
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	19,469	(559,174)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	173,474	(2,635)
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(355,645)	(839,903)

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1 September 2020 £	Cashflows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 August 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	584,475	265,447	-	849,922
	584,475	265,447	-	849,922

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations

The Academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff, and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Merseyside Local Authority. Both are multi-employer defined benefit scheme. Some employees also belong to other private defined contribution schemes, including the Pensions Trust Growth Plan.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, of the LGPS 31 March 2019 and of the Pensions Trust Growth Plan the 30 September 2020.

Contributions amounting to £111,228 (2020 £106,005) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £781,529 (2020: £755,720).

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

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £189,249 (2020: £166,337), of which employer's contributions totalled £138,638 (2020: £122,888) and employees' contributions totalled £50,621 (2020: £42,607). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.2 per cent for employers and allocated to one of nine bands between 5.5 per cent and 12.5 per cent for employees, the allocation to a band depending upon the individual's salary.

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.

Principal actuarial assumptions	31 August 2021 %	31 August 2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.2	3.9
Rate of increase in pensions in payment/inflation	2.8	2.5
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.8
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7	2.4

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

	31 August 2021 Years	31 August 2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.0	20.9
- Females	24.0	24.0
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.6	22.5
- Females	26.0	25.9

Sensitivity analysis

	Sensitivity 1 + 0.1% p.a. discount rate £000	Sensitivity 2 + 0.1% p.a. inflation £000	Sensitivity 3 + 0.1% p.a. pay growth £000	Sensitivity 4 1 yr increase in life expectancy £000
Liabilities	2,476	2,564	2,526	2,600
Assets	(1,634)	(1,634)	(1,634)	(1,634)
Deficit/(surplus)	842	930	892	966
Projected service cost for next year	326	343	334	345
Projected net interest cost for next year	14	15	14	15

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 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	840	589
Government bonds	23	30
Other bonds	193	167
Property	155	109
Cash/liquidity	29	65
Other	394	249
Total market value of assets	1,634	1209

The actual return on scheme assets was £23,000.

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Current service cost	302	261
Past service cost	-	5
Interest income	(23)	(8)

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2022 is £139,000.

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Obligations at 1 September 2020	1,999	685
Current service cost	302	261
Interest on pension liabilities	36	14
Past service gain	-	5
Employee contributions	51	42
Actuarial loss	135	1,003
Benefits/transfers paid	(3)	(11)
At 31 August 2021	2,520	1,999

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Assets at 1 September 2020	1,209	384
Return on plan assets	23	8
Admin expenses	(4)	(3)
Actuarial gain/(loss)	219	663
Employer contributions	139	126
Employee contributions	51	42
Benefits/transfers paid	(3)	(11)
At 31 August 2021	1,634	1209

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The Pensions Trust Growth Plan

Liverpool College Independent School Trust participates in the Pensions Trust's Growth Plan (the Plan). The Plan is funded and is not contracted-out of the State scheme. The Plan is a multi-employer pension plan. Contributions paid into the Plan up to and including September 2001 were converted to defined amounts of pension payable from Normal Retirement Date. From October 2001 contributions were invested in personal funds which have a capital guarantee and which are converted to pension on retirement, either within the Plan or by the purchase of an annuity.

The rules of the Plan allow for the declaration of bonuses and/or investment credits if this is within the financial capacity of the Plan assessed on a prudent basis. Bonuses/investment credits are not guaranteed and are declared at the discretion of the Plan's Trustee.

The Trustee commissions an actuarial valuation of the Plan every three years. The purpose of the actuarial valuation is to determine the funding position of the Plan by comparing the assets with the past service liabilities as at the valuation date. Asset values are calculated by reference to market levels. Accrued past service liabilities are valued by discounting expected future benefit payments using a discount rate calculated by reference to the expected future investment returns.

The rules of the Plan give the Trustee the power to require employers to pay additional contributions in order to ensure that the statutory funding objective under the Pensions Act 2004 is met. The statutory funding objective is that a pension scheme should have sufficient assets to meet its past service liabilities known as Technical Provisions.

If the actuarial valuation reveals a deficit, the Trustee will agree a recovery plan to eliminate the deficit over a specified period of time either by way of additional contributions from employers, investment returns or a combination of these.

The rules of the Plan state that the proportion of obligatory contributions to be borne by the member and the member's employer shall be determined by agreement between them. Such agreement shall require the employer to pay part of such contributions and may provide that the employer shall pay the whole of them.

Liverpool College Independent School Trust paid contributions at the rate of 5% during the accounting period. Members paid contributions at the rate of 5% during the accounting period.

As at the balance sheet date there were 29 (2020 29) active members of the Plan employed by the Trust. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £54,475 (2020 £49,687), of which employer's contributions totalled £28,160 (2020 £25,098) which includes life assurance premiums of £2,167 and employee's contributions totalled £26,315 (2020 £24,589). The Trust continues to offer membership of the Plan to its employees.

It is not possible in the normal course of events to identify a reasonable and consistent basis the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to individual participating employers. The Plan is a multi-employer scheme, where the assets are co-mingled for investment purposes, and benefits are paid out of the Plan's total assets. Accordingly, due to the nature of the Plan, the accounting charge for the period under FRS 102 represents the employer contribution payable.

If an actuarial valuation reveals a shortfall of assets compared to liabilities, the Trustee must prepare a recovery plan setting out the steps to be taken to make up the shortfall.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The Pensions Trust Growth Plan (Continued)

The Pensions Regulator has the power under Part 3 of the Pensions Act 2004 to issue scheme funding directions where it believes that the actuarial valuation assumptions and/or recovery plan are inappropriate. For example, the Regulator could require that the Trustee strengthens the actuarial assumptions (which could increase the Plan liabilities and hence impact on the recovery plan) or impose a schedule of contributions to the Plan (which would effectively amend the terms of the recovery plan). A copy of the recovery plan in respect of the September 2011 valuation was forwarded to the Pensions Regulator on 2 October 2012, as required by legislation.

Following a change in legislation in September 2005, there is a potential debt on the employer that could be levied by the Trustee of the Plan and the Pensions Act 2011 has more recently the definition of series 3 of the Growth Plan so that a liability arises to employers from membership of any Series except Series 4. The debt is due in the event of the employer ceasing to participate in the Plan or the Plan winding up.

The debt for the Plan as a whole is calculated by comparing the liabilities for the Plan (calculated on a buy-out basis i.e. the cost of securing benefits by purchasing annuity policies from an insurer, plus an allowance for expenses) with the assets of the Plan. If the liabilities exceed the assets there is a buy-out debt.

The leaving employer's share of the buy-out debt is the proportion of the Plan's liability attributable to employment with the leaving employer compared to the total amount of the Plan's liabilities (relating to employment with all the currently participating employers). The leaving employer's debt therefore includes a share of any 'orphan' liabilities in respect of previously participating employers. The amount of the debt therefore depends on many factors including total Plan liabilities, Plan investment performance, the liabilities in respect of current and former employees of the employer, financial conditions at the time of the cessation event and the insurance buy-out market. Therefore, the amounts of debt can be volatile over time.

When an employer withdraws from a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme which is in deficit, the employer is required by law to pay its share of the deficit, calculated on a statutory basis (known as the buy-out basis). Due to a change in the definition of money purchase contained in the Pensions Act 2011 the calculation basis that applies to the Growth Plan will be amended to include Series 3 liabilities in the calculation of an employer's debt on withdrawal.

The Growth Plan is a "last man standing" multi-employer scheme. This means that if a withdrawing employer is unable to pay its debt on withdrawal the liability is shared amongst the remaining employers. The participating employers are therefore, jointly and severally liable for the deficit in the Growth Plan. As at 30 September 2020 the total deficit calculated on an on-going funding basis was £33.3m.

Liverpool College Independent School Trust has been notified by the Pensions Trust of the estimated employer debt on withdrawal from the Plan based on the financial position of the Plan as at 30 September 2020. In accordance with FRS 102, the liability has not been provided for in the accounts of the Trust.

Private Pension Provisions

Liverpool College Independent School Trust has a number of staff who have chosen not to avail themselves of the different formal schemes available. Instead they have taken on private pension provisions with the College paying contributions at the rate of 5% during the accounting period on their behalf. Some members have also chosen to make paid contributions at the rate of 5% during the accounting period.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

21 Related party transactions

The Academy has taken advantage of the exemption available not to disclose transactions entered into between two or more members of a group.

There have been no other related party transactions during the year.

22 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes Student Financial Support Funding to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the trust received £23,516 and disbursed £29,254 from the fund. Unspent bursary funding of £48,256 is included in creditors.

23 Members' liability

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

24 Academy boarding trading account

	2021 £	2021 £	2020 £	2020 £
Income				
Fee income		161,156		396,793
CJRS grant		12,246		10,475
Expenditure				
Direct costs				
Staff costs	87,995		135,914	-
Catering	24,153		60,369	-
Rent and rates	-		105,845	-
		112,148		302,128
Support costs				
Marketing	325		-	-
Commission	11,286		39,490	-
Cleaning	5,537		5,946	-
Other costs	28,761		41,543	-
		45,909		86,979
Surplus in the year		15,345	-	18,161

25 Financial Commitments

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	105,978	105,978
Amounts due in two-five year	155,641	261,469
	261,619	367,447