M20 LEARNING TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Haines Watts

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Bridge House
157A Ashley Road
Hale

Altrincham Cheshire WA14 2UT





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COMPANIES HOUSE

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees

David Allan (Chair appointed 10 July 2019)
Katharine Allsup (appointed 19 November 2018)
Beverley Hughes (appointed 19 November 2018)
Mark O'Keefe (appointed 19 March 2019) #
David How (CEO and Accounting officer) #

Paul Barker-Matthews (Chair resigned 9 July 2019) # Patricia Holmes (resigned 19 November 2018) # Christopher Atkinson (resigned 10 July 2019) # Lynne Allan (resigned 19 November 2018)

members of the finance and audit committees

Members

David Allan (from 19 November 2018) Gunjit Bandesha (from 19 November 2018) Lucy Powell (from 19 November 2018) Lynne Allan (until 19 November 2018)

Christopher Atkinson (until 19 November 2018) Paul Barker-Mathews (until 9 July 2019) Patricia Holmes (until 19 November 2018)

Senior leadership team

- Chief executive officer/Headteacher
- Head of first school
- Deputy head of first school
- Director of finance and resources

David How Elizabeth Hardy

Ruth Byrne Tina Smith

Company registration number

08698831 (England and Wales)

Registered office

Beaver Road, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 6SX

Independent auditors

Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham, WA14 2UT

Bankers

Lloyds Bank, 42 - 46 Market Street, Deansgate, Manchester, M1 1PW

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's reports of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purpose of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 3 to 11 serving a catchment area in Didsbury. It has a pupil capacity of 768, which includes a 78 FTE place nursery and had a roll of 750 in the schools census on 16 May 2019.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee (company number: 08698831) and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The trustees of M20 Learning Trust are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as both the M20 Learning Trust and Beaver Road Primary School.

Details of the trustees who served during the year and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the reference and administrative details on page 1.

The accounting officer for the trust is the chief executive who is supported in the role by the director of finance & resources.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

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

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The management of the trust is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. The articles of association require members of the charitable company to appoint at least three trustees to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs and the management of the academy trust. Trustee appointments are subject to approval of the members and the full board of trustees.

Trustees are appointed for a term of four years and retire on the expiration of their office but may be eligible for reelection at the meeting at which they retire. Trustees are recruited through the existing board of trustees, taking into account the skills and experience, which the board of trustees feel, are most useful at the time of recruitment to ensure there is breath of skill and knowledge necessary to advance the trust in all areas.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The trustees are appointed based on the skills that they will bring to the board of trustees or based on a proposal to the board of trustees by representative groups. On appointment, trustees receive information relating to M20 Learning Trust, meet with the chief executive officer and receive an induction pack on the role and responsibilities of trustees. During this year, trustees were offered all necessary training.

Organisational structure

The management structure of the trust consists of the board of trustees, the local governing body, specific committees and the senior leadership team of the school. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The trustees fulfil a strategic role and are responsible for setting general policy, adopting a strategic school development plan and setting the budget. They also monitor M20 Learning Trust by the use of financial reports and examination results and make major decisions about the direction of M20 Learning Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The school leadership team is the headteacher, the head of first school, deputy head of first school and the director of finance & resources. These leaders control M20 Learning Trust at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the trustees and are accountable to them for the performance of the school. The head teacher is the chief executive officer and accounting officer.

The board of trustees has eight committees. Each committee has its own terms of reference detailing the responsibilities discharged to the committee and to the headteacher. The terms of reference and meeting frequency for each committee is reviewed and approved by the trustees annually.

The committees of the board of trustees are:

- Local governing body
- Standards and curriculum
- Finance and resources
- Audit
- Headteachers' performance management
- Pay
- Pay appeals
- Disciplinary

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel are defined as being those who have 'authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise'. M20 Learning Trust defines this as the school leadership team. The arrangements for setting pay and remuneration is set out in the academies pay policy which is reviewed annually.

Trade union facility time

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

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union	Full-time equivalent employee number	
officials during the relevant periods		
2	2	

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees .
0%	2
1% - 50%	
51% - 99%	
100%	

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	£0	
Provide the total pay bill	£2,933,000	
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent		1
on facility time, calculated as:	0.0%	
(total cost of facility time / total pay bill) x 100		

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as:	0%	
(total hours spent on paid trade union activities		
by relevant union officials during the relevant		
period / Total paid facility time hours) x 100		

Trustees should refer to Statutory Instrument 2017 No. 328, The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements Regulations 2017 for calculation details.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The trust has no related parties or other connected charities or organisations.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the trust is the operation of an academy to advance, for the public benefit, education for pupils in the within the trust, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, managing and developing an academy, offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

M20 Learning Trust's object is to ensure that as a child they have:

- A chance to dream and dreams are fostered
- Have many chances to showcase their talents
- Encouragement to understand their emotions and manage them
- Encouragement to develop their social skills and how to use them
- Experience in the joy of discovering nature
- Experience in the joys and wonders of Manchester and the surrounding region
- The right to be respected and a duty to respect others

Its aim is to provide the children with the necessary academic, creative, physical and social skills that will develop throughout their education and lay the foundations for a fulfilled adult life.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The wider aims of M20 Learning Trust are:

- To play our part in raising national standards in education through sharing good practice with other schools and teachers across Manchester
- To take a leading role in national initiatives

M20 Learning Trust's priorities for the year ending 31 August 2019 were:

- To raise standards of attainment and progress in Mathematics through the introduction of Singapore maths for Nursery to Year 3 from September 2018.
- To sustain the high quality of phonics teaching and learning achieved in EYFS and KS1, to all years groups.
- To improve and sustain outcomes and progress for disadvantaged pupils (pupil premium) in all curriculum areas.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

- To clearly demonstrate the impact of an enriched curriculum and high quality teaching particularly in writing across the curriculum, on pupil attainment and progress through the use of accurate assessment and data analysis (Teaching Backwards).
- To significantly enhanced parent involvement in their children's' learning (PICL).
- To successfully complete the transition of Beaver Road Primary School to a split site.

Our progress against these objectives is described in the Achievements and performance section below.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on the public benefit when reviewing the charity's aim and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular the trustees considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

M20 Learning Trust's trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The most significant achievement this year was the growth of Beaver Road Primary School from three forms of entry to five forms of entry. In September 2018, the school successfully took its first intake of 150 pupils in reception. In November 2018, Beaver Road Primary School successfully split on to two sites occupying a brand new purpose built building for year 4 to 6.

For the academic year 2018/19, the end of school progress scores were above average in Reading and in line with the national average for Writing. Progress scores in Mathematics were below average for this academic year.

KS2 attainment of at least the expected standard in the combined Reading, Writing and Mathematics measure was above the national at 71%, but lower than projected and a decrease from 2017/18. Attainment at greater depth standard in the combined Reading, Writing and Mathematics measure is again above the national at 19%.

In summary, the school remains above the national averages in Reading and Writing, but overall outcomes have dipped when compared to 2017/18 due to children's achievements in Mathematics.

Ofsted 'outstanding' in all measures:

Beaver Road Primary School was last inspected in 2011 when the academy trust was deemed 'outstanding'. The academy trust constantly reviews and monitors its own progress through self-elevation and against other academies nationally and locally to ensure that the academy trust continues to be 'outstanding'.

<u>Attendance</u>

The trust's overall attendance for 2018/2019 was 96.2%. Persistence absence (absence over 10%) was 9.11% for 2018/2019.

Key performance indicators

The senior leadership team considers the following to be the key performance indicators for the school:

- Attendance
- Attainment and achievement
- Ofsted 'outstanding' in all measures

The results achieved in the year for these key performance indicators are included above.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the M20 Learning Trust 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

Most of the M20 Learning Trust's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, some of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2019 and the associated expenditure is shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Under Accounting Standard FRS102, it is necessary to charge projected deficits on the Local Government Pension Scheme, which is provided for support staff, to the unrestricted fund. This resulted in the pension fund showing a deficit of £994,000 which has been carried forward to 2019/2020. It should be noted that this does not present a liquidity problem for the academy and that we are reviewing contributions to the pension scheme in order to see a reduction in the pension deficit in the future years.

Reserves policy

The level of reserves held at 31 August 2019 total £3,001,509, of which £116,534 are free reserves. A proportion of the reserves will be allocated as part of the School Development Plan, to update, improve and maintain facilities and resources. A capital-spending plan has been completed detailing the short, medium and long-term needs and plans of M20 Learning Trust for which reserves will be allocated and determined in order of priority to meet the needs of the school. The trustees will review the reserve levels annually. The review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

Investment policy

M20 Learning Trust aims to manage its cash balances to provide for the day-to-day working capital requirements of its operations, whilst protecting the real long-term value of any surplus cash balances against inflation. M20 Learning Trust does not consider the investment of funds as a primary activity, rather as a result of good stewardship as and when circumstances allow.

Principal risks and uncertainties

M20 Learning Trust has a risk management policy. The main risks identified include both strategic and operational risks and have been assessed under the following categories:

Professional – achieving strategic aims, management structures, educational priorities, conduct, and liability beyond classroom and staff and pupil procedures.

Physical – injury to staff and pupils, property, financial, legal, environmental, contractual, technological and disaster recovery.

The trustees are aware of their responsibility of the major risks to which the M20 Learning Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the M20 Learning Trust and its finances. The trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the academy trust faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety and school visits) and in relation to the control of finances. The trustees will introduce further systems, including refinements of internal financial controls in order to minimise risks so that they are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate any exposure to major risks. They have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. M20 Learning Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls.

A formal review of M20 Learning Trust's risk management process is undertaken on an annual basis and key controls in place will include:

- Formal agendas for all committee activity
- Terms of reference for all board of trustees and delegated committees under the direction of the board of trustees
- Pecuniary interests of trustees reviewed at each meeting
- Comprehensive budgeting and management reporting
- Established organisational structure and clear lines of reporting
- Formal written policies
- Clear authorisation and approval levels
- Vetting procedures as required by law for protection for the vulnerable

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Fundraising

The parent teacher association undertakes fundraising activities for M20 Learning Trust. The parent teacher association is a separate charity and is accountable for all funds that are raised for the trust.

Plans for future periods

M20 Learning Trust will continue striving to improve and develop its provisions for pupils and will continue its efforts to ensure all pupils reach their full potential.

M20 Learning Trust has a secure understanding of its current strengths and areas for development based on ongoing self-evaluation and analysis of student data. The academy trust development plan has set clear priorities for the year ahead and has been agreed by the board of trustees. Progress towards the development plan targets are regularly monitored and are amended annually by the SLT and trustees. It is underpinned by appropriate budget links.

Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

This trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors on 10 December 2019 and signed on the board's behalf by:

David Allan

Chair of trustees

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Scope of responsibility

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that M20 Learning 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 board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between M20 Learning Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the trustees' report and in the statement of trustees' responsibilities.

There has been a full governance review undertaken during this financial year. The governance was reviewed, restructured and finally completed in November 2018. During this review, new members were appointed and the existing trustees split between the trust board of the M20 Learning Trust and the local governing body of Beaver Road Primary School (previously, the trust board comprised of the governors of Beaver Road Primary School). This resulted in a significant change to the composition of the board of trustees.

The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Meetings attended	Out of a possible
1	1 ,
6	6
5	6
4	4
6	6
5	5
1	1
1	5
1	1
	1 6 5 4 6

As at the 31 August 2019 there were four serving trustees (plus the Headteacher/CEO). The trustees propose to appoint at least two additional trustees in the near future to further strengthen the board.

The finance committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the board of trustees by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the board of trustees' responsibility to ensure sound management of the M20 Learning Trusts finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probability. This committee will make appropriate comments and recommendations on such matters to the board of trustees on a regular basis. Major issues will be referred to the board of trustees for ratification.

The finance committee has formally met 2 times during the year. Only two meetings were held due to the change in governance structure; however, finance and audit were standing items on the agenda for the board of trustees meetings. Attendance during the year at meetings of the finance committee was as follows:

Meetings attended	Out of a possible
2	2
2	2
2	2
2	2
2	2
2	2
	2 2

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The audit committee is also a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to maintain an oversight of the academy trust's governance, risk management, internal control and value for money framework. This committee will report its findings annually to the board of trustees and the accounting officer as a critical element of the audit committee's annual reporting requirements. The committee members are the same members of the finance committee. For this reason the audit committee was held at the same time as the finance committee and attendance at the meetings was the same as the above finance committee.

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Keeping staffing structures and level of resources continually under review to ensure the most appropriate
 provision for our pupils. This ensures that value for money is maximised in terms of quality of teaching and
 learning, curriculum management and ensuring the correct adult-pupil ratios.
- Continue to embed the use of the pupil asset system enabling all teachers and the senior leadership team to track progress and attainment at a more detailed level to ensure all pupils make accelerated progress throughout each year and so that interventions can be planned and implemented where necessary. This also directs any school improvements required in year and what the school needs to focus on in future, this in turn ensures that the budget is allocated to specific areas that require additional resources, improving value for money.
- Having in place robust governance and financial controls validated by the internal audit reports.
- Having robust procedures in place for placing of contracts and purchasing of goods and services to ensure best value for money. These include undertaking tendering exercises for major items of spending, obtaining three quotes for orders over £10,000 and all orders reviewed by the trust's director of finance & resources to ensure that value for money is being utilised and allocated wisely.
- Ensuring the M20 Learning Trust's board of trustees approves the budget each year and is mindful of the need
 to balance expenditure against income to ensure that the academy trust remains a 'going concern'. The board
 of trustees also receives and approves the annual accounts and the external auditor's management report.
- The trust targets its use of the Pupil Premium so that the trust's most deprived pupils have the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment resulting in improved educational outcomes for all.
- Sharing good practice with a number of local schools, which helps to drive up standards and keep costs to a minimum.
- Benchmarking financial performance against other academy trusts to demonstrate that the academy trust provides good value for money.
- The trust runs before and after school care for pupils, as well as wraparound nursery care. This provides the trust with a reliable revenue stream whilst maximising income generation for the trust.

The trust is always mindful that minor improvements or savings are not cost effective if the administration involves substantial time or costs. Time wasted on these minor improvements and savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas. The trust therefore uses well known suppliers for small orders (e.g. stationery, small equipment).

The trust has an asset register, which manages the allocation of resources in terms of costing, effectiveness and depreciation.

Beaver Road Primary School is a National Support School on behalf of the M20 Learning Trust and the headteacher and head of school are National Leaders of Education (NLE). NLE's are commissioned by both local authority and academy trusts to support other schools experiencing difficulties or challenges.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the M20 Learning Trust for the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint an internal auditor (Tridan Business Concepts).

The role of the internal auditor includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. The internal auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned and provided details of any material control issues arising as a result of the review. There were no material control issues arising from the review.

Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer the headteacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor; and
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance committee and ensures continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 10 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

David Allan Chair of trustees David How Accounting officer

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

As accounting officer of M20 Learning Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

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

David How

Accounting officer

Date: 10 December 2019

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The trustees (who are also the directors of M20 Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

David Allan

Chair of trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF M20 LEARNING TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of M20 Learning Trust for the year ended 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the accounts any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the academy trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF M20 LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF M20 LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Use of our report

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

MANO

John Whittick BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Haines Watts Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

Bridge House Ashley Road Hale Altrincham

WA14 2UT

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO M20 LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 4 April 2014 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by M20 Learning Trust during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 M20 Learning Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the M20 Learning Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than M20 Learning Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of M20 Learning Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of M20 Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 29 October 2013 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO M20 LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Haines Watts

Reporting Accountant

Date IOMA

M20 LEARNING TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		Unrestricted Funds		ricted funds: Fixed asset	Total 2019	Total 2018
	Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	13	-	161	174	331
 Funding for educational operations 	4	-	3,365	-	3,365	2,948
Other trading activities	5	490			490	394
Total		503	3,365	161	4,029	3,673
Expenditure on: Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	438	3,535	110	4,083	3,893
Total	6	438	3,535	110	4,083	3,893
Net income/(expenditure)		65	(170)	51	(54)	(220)
Transfers between funds	16	(198)	1	197	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined						
benefit pension schemes	17	<u>-</u>	(486)	· <u>-</u>	(486)	282
Net movement in funds		(133)	(655)	248	(540)	62
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		250 . ——	(339)	3,631	3,542	3,480
Total funds carried forward		117	(994)	3,879	3,002	3,542

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Comparative year information		Unrestricted ·		ed funds:	Total
Year ended 31 August 2018		Funds	General Fix	ced asset	2018
	Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	8	-	323	331
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	2,948	-	2,948
Other trading activities	5	394	<u>-</u>	-	394
Total		402	2,948	323	3,673
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	140 ———	3,664	89	3,893
Total	6	140	3,664	89	3,893
Net income/(expenditure)		262	(716)	234	(220)
Transfers between funds	16	(318)	560	(242)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)	•				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension scheme					
	17			<u>.</u>	282
Net movement in funds		(56)	126	(8)	62
Reconciliation of funds					•
Total funds brought forward		306	(465)	3,639	3,480
Total funds carried forward		250	(339)	3,631	3,542

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019

·					
		2019		2018	
	Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Fixed assets	44		2.070		2 620
Tangible assets	11		3,878		3,630
Current assets					
Debtors	12	202		221	
Cash at bank and in hand		498		669	
		700		890	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(511)		(553)	
you.	13	(311)			
Net current assets			189		337
•					
Total assets less current liabilities			4,067		3,967
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(71)		(86)
than one year	14		<u>(71)</u>		
Net assets before defined benefit pensio	n				
scheme liability			3,996		3,881
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	17		(994)		(339)
Total and access			2.000		2.540
Total net assets			3,002		3,542
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16			•	
- Fixed asset funds	•		3,879		3,631
- Pension reserve			(994)		(339)
		•			
Total restricted funds			2,885		3,292
Unrestricted income funds	16		117		250
omesancted medine funds	10				
Total funds			3,002		3,542
					<u>.</u>

The accounts were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 10 December 2019 and are signed on their behalf by:

David Allan Chair of trustees

Company Number 08698831

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cash flows from operating activities Net cash provided by/(used in) operating					
activities	19		38		(30)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		36		323	
Capital funding received from sponsors and	others	125		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(358)		(81)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing	activities		(197)		243
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of long term bank loan		(12)		29	
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing	activities		(12)		29
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(171)		242
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the	he year		669		427
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the	year		498		669

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

M20 Learning Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Grants

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

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

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

Sponsorship income

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

<u>Donations</u>

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of an asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the academy trust's depreciation policy. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

Land and buildings50 yearsComputer equipment3 yearsFixtures, fittings & equipment7 yearsMotor vehicles5 years

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.9 Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

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

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Education and Skills Funding Agency/Department for Education and other 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.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 17, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

3	Donations and capital grants				
		Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
	ESFA capital grants	· -	36	36	323
	Other donations / LA capital grants	<u>13</u>	125	138	8
		13	161	174	331
4	Funding for the academy trust's education	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds £000	Total 2019 £000	Total 2018 £000
	DfE / ESFA grants	2000	2000	2000	2000
	General annual grant (GAG) Other DfE group grants		2,332 268	2,332 268	2,347 225
			2,600	2,600	2,572
	Other government grants				
	Local authority grants	-	765	765	376

The academy received £765,000 for the Local Authority (2018: £376,000) £329,000 related to Early Years, £77,000 related to top up, £4,000 related to music grants, £1,000 to LAC and £354,000 related to other LA income streams including the opening grant and pupil growth.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies attached to grants that have been recognised as income.

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £000	funds £000	2019 £000	2018 £000
Catering income	107	•	107	99
Music tuition	14	-	14	16
Trips	57	-	57	62
Nursery income	56	-	56	33
Other income	256 ———	·	256 ———	184
	490	-	490	394

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		Non Day E	anditura	Total	Tot
	Staff costs	Non Pay Exp Premises	enaiture Other	2019	20
		£000	£000	£000	£0
	£000	£000	2.000	£000	ŁU
Academy's educational of					
- Direct costs	2,522	99	250	2,871	2,5
- Allocated support costs	690	348	174 ——	1,212 ———	1,3
	3,212	447	424	4,083	3,8
Net income/(expenditu	re) for the year includes	:		2019	20
Casa assishin to assistant	£			£000	£0
Fees payable to auditor - Audit	tor:			6	
- Other services				7	
Operating lease rentals				3	
Depreciation of tangible	fixed assets			· 110	
Net interest on defined b				11	
Charitable activities					•
	•	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	То
		funds	funds	2019	20
		£000	£000	£000	£0
Direct costs				•	
Educational operations		65	2,806	2,871	2,5
Support costs		272	920	1 212	1 2
Educational operations		373	839 ——	1,212 ———	1,3
		438	3,645	4,083	3,8
Analysis of costs				2019	20
•				£000	£0
Direct costs					
Teaching and educations	al support staff costs			2,522	2,2
Staff development				21	
Depreciation				99	
				17	
Technology costs					
Educational supplies and	d services			128	1
	d services			128 84 ———	1
Educational supplies and	d services				

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

7	Charitable activities		
	Support costs	2019	2018
	Support costs	£000	£000
	Support staff costs	690	575
	Depreciation	11	9
	Technology costs	23	20
	Maintenance of premises and equipment	92	470
	Cleaning	93	60
	Energy costs	69	35
	Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	68	25
	Insurance	15	14
	Catering	114	74
	Interest on defined benefit pension scheme	11	13
	Other support costs	-	12
	Governance costs	26 	20
		1,212	1,327
8	Staff		
٠,	Staff costs		
	Staff costs during the year were:		
		2019	2018
		£000	£000
	Wages and salaries	2,380	2,090
	Social security costs	208	180
	Pension costs	503	452
	Amounts paid to employees	3,091	2,722
	Agency staff costs	121	88
	Staff restructuring costs		2
	Amounts paid to staff	3,212	2,812
	Staff development and other staff costs	<u>21</u>	
	Total staff expenditure	3,233	2,834
	Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
	Severance payments		2
	Staff numbers		
	The average number of persons employed by the academy trust duri	ng the year was as follows: 2019	2018
		Number	Number
	Teachers	37	32
	Administration and support	63	64
	Management	4	4
			
		104	100

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

8 Staff

Higher paid staff

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

•	•	2019 Number	2018 Number
£60,001 - £70,000 £80,001 - £90,000		1 1	1

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £293,000 (2018: £414,000).

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff, and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees. During the year, no travel and subsistence payments were made (2018: £nil).

The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

David How (Principal and trustee)

Remuneration: £80,001 - £85,000 (2018: £80,001 - £85,000)Employer's pension contributions: £10,001 - £15,000 (2018: £10,001 - £15,000)

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

10 Trustees and officers insurance

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

M20 LEARNING TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

11	Tangible fixed assets	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings &	Motor vehicles	Total
		2000	2222	equipment	2222	0000
	Cost	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	At 1 September 2018	3,728	. 143	132	26	4,029
	Additions	-	91	267	-	358
	At 31 August 2019	3,728	234	399	26	4,387
	Depreciation					
	At 1 September 2018	228	124	44	3	399
	Charge for the year	47	29		5	110
	At 31 August 2019	275	153	73	8	509
	Net book value					
	At 31 August 2019	3,453	81	326	18	3,878
	At 31 August 2018	3,500	19	88	. 23	3,630
12	Debtors				2019	2018
					£000	£000
	Trade debtors				1	1
	VAT recoverable				30	40
	Prepayments and accrued income				<u> 171</u>	180 ——
					202	221
13	Creditors: amounts falling due within o	ne vear			2019	2018
	· ·	•			£000	£000
	Government loans				15	12
	Trade creditors				96	190
	Other creditors				94	82
	Accruals and deferred income				306	269 ———
					. 511	553

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

14	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2019 £000	2018 £000
	Government loans	71	86
	Analysis of loans		
	Wholly repayable within five years	86	98
	Less: included in current liabilities	(15)	(12)
	Amounts included above	71	86
	Loan maturity		
	Debt due in one year or less	15	12
	Due in more than one year but not more than two years	15	12
	Due in more than two years but not more than five years	36	36
	Due in more than five years	20	38
		86	98

The Government loan is part of funding approved by the ESFA. The funding was delivered as a combination of capital grant and a 0% "Salix" loan.

5	Deferred income	2019	2018
		£000	£000
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	135	91
	Deferred income at 1 September 2018	91	77
	Released from previous years	(91)	(77)
	Resources deferred in the year	135	91
	Deferred income at 31 August 2019	135	91

At the balance sheet date, the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for :

- Universal infant free school meals funding £72,000 (2018: £66,000) Early years funding £22,000 (2018: 23,000) Milk income £2,000 (2018: £2,000) Local authority income £15,000 (2018: £Nil)

- British council income £14,000 (2018: £Nil)
- Other income £10,000 (2018: £Nil)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

6	Funds					
		Balance at			Gains,	Balance at
		1 September			losses and	31 August
		2018	Income	Expenditure	transfers	2019
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
	Restricted general funds					
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,332	(2,333)	1	-
	Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	268	(268)	-	-
	Other government grants	-	765	(765)		-
	Pension reserve	(339)		(169)	(486)	(994)
		(339)	3,365	(3,535)	(485)	(994)
	Restricted fixed asset funds					
	Inherited on conversion	3,473	-	(52)	-	3,421
	DfE group capital grants	81	36	(17)	-	100
	Private sector / LA capital					
	grants	77	125	(41)	197	358
		3,631	161	(110)	197	3,879
	Total restricted funds	3,292	3,526	(3,645)	(288)	2,885
	Unrestricted funds					
	General funds	250	503	(438)	(198)	117
						
	Total funds	3,542	4,029	(4,083)	(486)	3,002
			<u> </u>			

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

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objects of the academy.

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

Transfers out of unrestricted funds of £198,000 were made. £1,000 to meet the shortfall in restricted GAG funding, and £197,000 to help fund capital purchases.

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 2019.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

16 Funds

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2018 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,347	(2,907)	560	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	225	(225)	-	-
Other government grants	-	376	(376)	-	-
Pension reserve .	<u>(465)</u>		(156) ———		(339)
	(465)	2,948	(3,664)	842	(339)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	3,534	-	(61)	-	3,473
DfE group capital grants Private sector / LA capital	-	323	-	(242)	81
grants	105 ——		(28)		
	3,639	323	(89)	(242)	3,631
Total restricted funds	3,174	3,271	(3,753)	600	3,292
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	306	402	(140)	(318)	<u>250</u>
Total funds	3,480	3,673	(3,893)	282	3,542

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

17 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £43,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2019 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 full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis - these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. 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. 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 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 September 2019.

The pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £211,000 (2018: £174,000).

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

17 Pension and similar obligations

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.1 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employees. The estimated value of employer contributions for the forthcoming year is £127,000.

As described above the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

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

Total contributions made	2019	2018
	£000	£000
Employer's contributions	154	127
Employees' contributions	49	40
		~
Total contributions	203	167
Principal actuarial assumptions	2019	2018
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.1	3.1
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.3	2.3
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.9	2.8
		

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

	2019	2018
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.6	21.5
- Females	23.1	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.0	23.7
- Females	24.8	26.2
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

17 Pension and similar obligations

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are as set out below:

Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2019	Approximate % increase to employer liability		te monetary nount (£000)
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	15%		445
0.5% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	2%		66
0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	12%		370
The academy trust's share of the assets in the sc	heme ,	2019	2018
-		Fair value	Fair value
		£000	£000
Equities		1,331	1,141
Bonds		294	269
Cash		157	151
Property		176	117
Total market value of assets		1,958	1,678
The actual return on scheme assets was £85,000 (20	018: £83,000).		
Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial	Activities	2019	2018
		£000	£000
Current service cost		281	270
Past service cost		31	-
Interest income		(50)	(38)
Interest cost		61 ———	51
Total operating charge		323	283
Changes in the present value of defined benefit o	bligations	2019	2018
		£000	£000
At 1 September 2018	,	2,017	1,900
Current service cost		281	270
Interest cost		61	51
Employee contributions		49	40
Actuarial loss/(gain)		521	(237)
Benefits paid		(8)	(7)
Past service cost		<u>31</u>	
At 31 August 2019		2,952	2,017
			-



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

17	Pension and similar obligations				
	Changes in the fair value of the academy t	rust's share of sche	me assets		
	Onanges in the lan value of the academy t	rust s share or some	ine assets	2019	2018
				£000	£000
	At 1 September 2018			1,678	1,435
	Interest income			50	38
	Actuarial gain			35	45
	Employer contributions			154	127
	Employee contributions			49	40
	Benefits paid	•		(8)	(7)
	At 31 August 2019			1,958	1,678
4.5					
18	Analysis of net assets between funds		D4	halasad Samada.	Total
		Unrestricted Funds	General	ricted funds: Fixed asset	Total Funds
		£000	£000	£000	£000
	Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are	2000	2000	2000	2000
	represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	_	_	3,878	3,878
	Current assets	699	_	1	700
	Creditors falling due within one year	(511)	_	-	(511)
	Creditors falling due after one year	(71)	_	-	(71)
	Defined benefit pension liability	-	(994)	-	(994)
	Total net assets	117	(994)	3,879	3,002
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£000	£000	£000	£000
	Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,630	3,630
	Current assets	889	-	1	890
	Creditors falling due within one year	(553)	, -	-	(553)
	Creditors falling due after one year	(86)	-	-	(86)
	Defined benefit pension liability	<u>-</u>	(339)	<u>-</u>	(339)
	Total net assets	250	(339)	3,631	3,542



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activitie		0040
	2019	2018
	£000	£000
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial		
activities)	(54)	(220)
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(161)	(323)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	158	143
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	11	13
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	110	89
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	19	(23)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(45)	291
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	38	(30)

20 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 August 2019 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Amounts due within one year	2	2
Amounts due in two and five years	3	5
	5	7

21 Related party transactions

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

22 Members' liability

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