

Company Registration No. 09081030 (England and Wales)

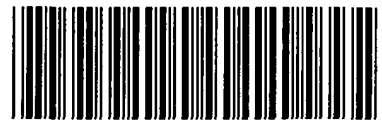
PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

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PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Mr T Baulch
Mr J Faulkes
Mr I Fidge
Mr N Rose
Mrs S Wallis (resigned 6 November 2020)
Mrs R Rudin (appointed 17 November 2021)

Trustees

Mr J A Faulkes (Chair of Trustees)
Mr G Livingstone (Director, CEO and Accounting Officer)
Mrs M T Osivwemu
Mr P Brooks
Mr N C Heslop (Vice Chair of Trustees)
Mrs R Thorne
Mr B Woollard
Mrs J Fairbourn (Appointed 8 December 2020)

Senior management team

- CEO	Mr G Livingstone
- Headteacher	Miss J Dabell
- Headteacher	Mrs S Martin
- Headteacher	Mrs C Spencer
- Deputy Headteacher	Mrs S Murrell
- Assistant Headteacher	Miss C Jefferies
- Deputy Headteacher	Mrs T Scanlan
- Deputy Headteacher	Mrs E Webster
- Deputy Headteacher	Miss R Loftus
- Trust Business Manager	Mrs J Abbott

Company secretary

Mrs R J Gatton

Company registration number

09081030 (England and Wales)

Registered office

Halsford Park Primary School
Manor Road
East Grinstead
West Sussex
RH19 1LR

Academies operated

Baldwins Hill Primary School
Partners In Learning Academy Trust
Halsford Park Primary School
Blackwell Primary School

Location

East Grinstead
East Grinstead
East Grinstead
East Grinstead

Principal

Miss J Dabell
Mr G Livingstone
Mrs C Spencer
Mrs S Martin

Independent auditor

Carpenter Box
Amelia House
Crescent Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 1RL

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
PO Box 1000
Andover
BX1 1LT

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson
Mowbray House
Castle Meadow Road
Nottingham
NG2 1BJ

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

The academy trust operates three primary school academies consisting of Baldwins Hill Primary School, Blackwell Primary School and Halsford Park Primary School for pupils aged 4-11 serving three catchment areas in East Grinstead. Baldwins Hill Primary School is a one form entry school and has a pupil capacity of 210 and had a roll of 193 in the school census in May 2021. Blackwell Primary School is a two form entry school and has a pupil capacity of 420 and had a roll of 346 in the school census in May 2021. Halsford Park Primary School is a two form entry school and has a pupil capacity of 420 and had a roll of 410 in the school census in May 2021.

On 1 September 2020, Blackwell Primary School was a sponsored convertor from the local authority, West Sussex County Council, to join the Partners in Learning Academy Trust.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of Partners In Learning Academy Trust Limited are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Partners In Learning Academy Trust.

Details of the trustees who served during the year and to the date that the accounts are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The academy trust maintains trustees' and officers' liability insurance which gives appropriate cover for legal action brought against the trustees. The academy trust has also granted indemnities to each of its trustees and other officers as permitted by law. Qualifying third party indemnity provisions (as defined by section 234 of the Companies Act 2006) were in force during the period and remain in force, in relation to certain losses and liabilities which the trustees or other officers may incur to third parties in the course of acting as trustees or officers of the academy trust.

Trustees' third party indemnity is covered by a policy of insurance with Zurich, procured under a government approved framework.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The number of trustees shall not be less than 3, but shall not be subject to any maximum. Subject to articles 48-49 the company shall have up to 4 trustees, appointed by the members under Article 50, a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and minimum of either 2 parent trustees, or 2 parent local governors. The trust may also have a co-opted trustee under Article 58. The total number of trustees who are employed by the trust including the Chief Executive Officer, shall not exceed one third of the total number of trustees.

The number of parent trustees and parent members of the local governing bodies or advisory bodies required shall be made up by parent trustees and parent members appointed by the trustees if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.

It is important that Partners in Learning Academy Trust has the right people on the Trust Board. In order to capitalise on people's expertise and experience the Board needs a broad, balanced and focused mix of skills in order to be a highly effective Board of Trustees with the ability to challenge and support the Trust and the schools within.

- Trustees are recruited through either the academy ambassadors programme or by individual skills or expertise being identified and recommended.
- Potential trustees are then invited to meet with both the Chair of the Trust Board and the CEO to highlight compatibility and alignment.
- Should all parties wish to proceed, the recruitment of the potential trustee is discussed at the next Trust Board meeting and then elected via a trustee vote and through ratification by the full board at the next available meeting.
- Initial trustee appointments are then taken to the Members Board for approval at the next available meeting.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The new trustee undertakes an induction period with the Chair, they are provided with a new multi academy trust handbook (published by the National Governance Association) and undertake all relevant training as required.

All trustees and governors are DBS checked and undertake safeguarding training and prevent training. Any new trustees also receive the NGA's Trustee Guide as compulsory. Further training to support GDPR compliance is available via Judicium e-learning portal. More specific training to support expertise coverage across the trust and the local governing body is via the National Governance Association Learning Links. Additional training for governors is provided by West Sussex County Council (WSCC).

Organisational structure

The academy trust has a leadership structure which consists of the Academy Trust Board (ATB) and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The SLT consists of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who is also the Executive Principal and accounting officer for the trust, the Head Teachers of each school within the trust and the Trust Business Manager. The ATB of Partners In Learning Academy Trust devolves the responsibility of the day-to-day running of the school to the SLT. Their activities and decisions are monitored through a number of governors' committees.

The committees are:

- Audit & Risk Committee
- Standards Committee
- Remuneration Committee
- Local Governing Bodies

The ATB are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual trust improvement plan, approving the statutory accounts, monitoring the academy trust by the use of budgets and other standards and key performance data and making major decisions about the direction of the academy trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The LGB are responsible for all areas of the curriculum and ensure that targets and achievements are in line with the school improvement plan.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel pay is set with reference to the most up to date teachers' pay and conditions document, available and provided by the DfE, whilst considering the local recruitment challenges.

The CEO's pay range is set within the guidance under the section "Determination of the school's Headteacher group". Other senior leadership posts are set within the guidance under the section "determination of leadership pay ranges".

Remuneration of key management personnel posts also have due regard to the processes set out in the teachers' pay and conditions document under the section "Pay progression for leadership group members". For non-teaching leadership posts the pay is determined following the local government pay scales.

Appraisal team leaders make the annual recommendation for pay progression of their team members using the guidance set out in the Partners In Learning Teachers' appraisal booklet (Growing Great Teachers). In line with the trust's scheme of delegation, pay progression is awarded through the following process:

CEO/Executive Principal pay award:

Responsible: Trust Board

Accountable: Trust Board

Trust Business Manager pay award:

Responsible: Trust Board

Accountable: Trust Board

Headteachers and Senior Leadership Team pay award:

Responsible: CEO and Local Governing Body

Accountable: Trust Audit & Risk Committee

Staff pay award:

Responsible: Headteachers

Accountable: CEO

Consulted: Local Governing Body

Trade union facility time

During the year there was no employees who were a relevant trade union official and therefore there was no trade union facility time within this reporting period and no associated cost.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There are no related parties that either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the Partners In Learning Academy Trust.

Baldwins Hill Primary school has a Parent Teacher Association (PTA) which fund raises for the benefit of the children of Baldwins Hill Primary School. This association is a registered Charity (no 1080779).

Blackwell Primary School has a Parent Teacher Association (PTA) which fund raises for the benefit of the children of Blackwell Primary School. This association is a registered Charity (no 1059281).

Halsford Park Primary School has a Parent Teacher Association (PTA) which fund raises for the benefit of the children of Halsford Park Primary School. This association is a registered Charity (no 1103845).

Catchment

The trust made the decision to adopt the West Sussex County Council admissions procedures and criteria. West Sussex County Council also manage admissions for all schools.

Partners in Learning Academy Trust applied the regulations of admissions fairly and equitable to those who wish to attend any of our schools. We are inclusive schools and welcome all applications. All applications will be treated on merit and in a sensitive manner.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

In accordance with the articles of association the charitable company has adopted a funding agreement and supplementary funding agreements for the three schools, approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The principle object of the charitable company Partners In Learning Academy Trust is the operation of Baldwins Hill Primary School, Blackwell Primary School and Halsford Park Primary School, to provide education and care for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4-11.

Objectives, strategies and activities

Our Mission Statement is:

We are a learning community which inspires, empowers and develops schools to prepare every child for success in life. Sharing our strengths ensures that our communities grow and prosper and that we have opportunities to support and learn through each other to create futures for all.

Our vision to 2022 is described across 3 key drivers:

Place children at the heart of what we do

- Develop confident, resilient and reflective learners who understand what it means to be a responsible citizen
- Ensure that children in our schools work with talented and high performing teaching and support staff
- Involve parents in supporting children's learning and listen to parent views
- Establish challenging targets for achievement and development of the whole child
- Promote improvements to the physical environment of our schools to enhance learning and wellbeing.

Build partnerships and networks

- Build an empowered culture enabling strong local governance and leadership
- Maintain the distinctiveness and strengths of schools in our trust, whilst ensuring close collaboration to maximise effectiveness of all
- Share resources where appropriate to maximise financial opportunities
- Collaborate with wider networks of schools, to share knowledge, expertise and participate in mutually beneficial initiatives
- Build links with community institutions, local services and companies for shared benefit.

Inspire commitment and engagement in all of our work force

- Encourage all of our schools to be dynamic, friendly and supportive places to work
- Provide leadership and practitioner development experiences across our schools - grow talent from within
- Recognise staff talent, effort and great achievements across our schools
- Reward excellent performance with opportunities for leadership and advancement
- Encourage creative solutions to problems and the challenges in our trust community.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trust Development Planning for 2020/2021 consisted of the main following objectives

To challenge the Executive Leadership, in the light of any national directives and developments, including those that arise from the global pandemic:

- To maximise attainment and progress of pupils, ensuring consistent high performance across all three schools and improving the reputation of Blackwell school in the community through rapid and sustained improvements;
- To oversee the further development of the governance within the Trust, in particular the LGB's, to support objective one robustly;
- To oversee the further development of a culture of support for interdependence and well-being, across all personnel at all schools within the Trust;
- To oversee the development of the central Trust team, to being an integrated unit supporting all Trust schools, with a clear differentiation between the Trust's remit and the schools;
- To further develop the outreach activities to surrounding schools, to promote the trust, offering both support to the community and to further our reputation as a reliable sponsor.

The deliverables to achieve this were:

- The Trust Board to have a strengthened overview of schools' performance.
- Revised Trust Development Strategy (5 years) & Trust Development Plan (annual)
- Ensuring efficiency and efficacy in Trust systems, structures, time and teams, taking into account the impact of COVID-19.
- Academies Financial Handbook: Key Financial Performance Indicators have been established and measured regularly throughout the year
- Revised central administration team in place
- Revised central Education team in place
- An effective training programme for the central administration team is in place
- Identify a dedicated Trust Office and Trust Training Centre
- An effective Trust wide training offer including career development pathways has been established.
- Raise the profile of the Trust and the Schools within the local area
- Blackwell Primary School Local Governing Body was established
- Clerks group established
- Enhanced the wellbeing offer with a particular focus on the impact of the global pandemic
- Trust Central Team Business Continuity Plan
- School-to-school support opportunities identified

The annual Trust Development Plan was integrated into all Trust Board meetings allowing Trustees more regular information on progress. At the start of the academic year, the Trustees expressed concern that the Trust Executive could be being too ambitious in the number of deliverables, taking into account the impact of the global pandemic. However, the Trustees were pleased with the achievements made, as all deliverables were met, and in some areas, exceeded.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Due to the cancellation of statutory testing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is no validated school data, or national data, for the academic year, which would usually be the Trust's main key performance indicators. Schools have continued internal assessments and progress reporting which has been presented as "The Headteacher Report" to parents and students, which in turn has been scrutinised by Local Governing Bodies and is the basis for the Standards Committee Report – "The Trustee Report". The Standards Committee have continued to meet to scrutinise data, along with deepening their knowledge regarding the remote learning offer.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Key performance indicators

Baldwins Hill Primary School

Ofsted – 'Good' – May 2017

Attendance - 96.30%

Blackwell Primary School

Ofsted – Pre-conversion 'Special Measures' - May 2019

Attendance - 96.48%

Halsford Park Primary School

Ofsted Rating – Good – June 2017

Attendance - 96.43%

In addition to the above, children continued remote working between January 2021 and March 2021. Every child in the schools in the Trust had access to a laptop if required and a full remote learning package was offered via Google Classrooms. All three schools undertook a parental survey to receive feedback on the remote learning offer which was greeted with overwhelming praise and gratitude from the vast majority of parents.

Throughout the year, due to bubble closures, all children were able to access the curriculum remotely. Staff continued to monitor children and family wellbeing, with readily accessible class emails for contact, follow up phone calls and offers of support for families who may have been struggling through the pandemic.

Vulnerable and key worker children were given the opportunity to take part in on-site learning during the closures.

All children were welcomed back to access face-to-face learning at the end of March 2021.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption and going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Financial review

The principal source of funding for the academy trust is the general annual grant (GAG) and other government funding, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. This has been utilised in a manner which serves the best interests of the school and its pupils. The objective of the academy trust is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom in particular to establish, maintain, carry on, manage and develop a school offering a broad balanced curriculum.

The grants received during the year ended 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities (SOFA).

During the year ended 31 August 2021 the main expenditure item has been salary costs. During this period the total expenditure (excluding pension reserves) of £4,778,624 was covered by recurrent government funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources and accumulated reserves brought forward. As reported in the SOFA, income excluding fixed assets totals £4,371,813.

The addition of the newly converted Blackwell Primary School has led to an increased income of approximately £1.6m (when excluding funds inherited on conversion). £1,316,250 of this relates to GAG and a further £227,406 relates to expected recurrent funding from the DfE, other government departments and local authority.

In the restructure of the SEND provision, teaching assistants are predominantly employed for the needs of the children in the class who require additional support.

During this year, the CIF funding was used to replace the Halsford Park Early Years classrooms, which finished construction in August 2021 and opened to the children in September 2021.

We currently have two CIF appeals for Halsford Park and Blackwell schools and are awaiting decisions.

S106 Funding has been allocated to Baldwins Hill Primary school which is currently in the planning stage and a nominated consultant has been allocated by West Sussex County Council. This is to be used to improve the outdoor learning and facilities.

Income generation has been from various sources through the reporting period:

- Due to COVID-19, lettings income generation has suffered significantly across all sites.
- Member of staff commissioned as Assistant Maths Hub Lead.
- The CEO continued to support a Trust in the role of Director of Education, (commissioned 1 ½ days per week).
- The CEO provided coaching support for a new Headteacher outside of the Trust.
- The Trust provided school to school support using the Aspire programme fundamentals.
- We provide lettings to external club providers including dance, football and sports coaching at all schools. Wrap around care for Baldwins Hill and Halsford Park is provided at Halsford Park and is in line with government guidance
- Blackwell uses another external provider on site with after school care looking to be extended to wrap around care from September 2021.
- Holiday clubs re-started from May 2021 at Blackwell.
- Blackwell benefits from a large number of solar panels which generate funding for the school.

Plans are in place to reduce where possible ongoing costs in light of the new funding formula, but the results are also distorted by a £561,000 increase in the pension reserve deficit for the existing schools as well as the transfer of Blackwell's deficit on conversion of £216,000. When Blackwell's joined the trust, they brought in donations on transfer from the local authority of £4,477,077. When excluding this our net position for the year is £465,796 in surplus which is largely due to the large CIF bid won in the year and capitalised.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Throughout the whole year, COVID-19 has impacted heavily on our resources, both financially and with regard to personnel. Cover has been required for staff who have been self-isolating or suffering from COVID, along with staff members who have suffered from long COVID. Full cleaning throughout the day has continued across all schools. Cleaning equipment, including additional soap and paper towels and PPE and specialist anti-bacterial cleaners continue to be purchased. Specialist sanitising stations continue. Additional costs were incurred due to children's resources no longer being able to be shared. Each child had their own pencil case and associated stationery and materials. IT costs increased due to staff working remotely and schools providing licences to allow remote access and to create a laptop pool for staff self-isolating and working from home. All staff had access to a laptop if required to facilitate Google Classroom.

The costs of the cleaning equipment continued at a high level as the pandemic continued through this year. These increased costs impacted heavily on the school budgets.

Additional agency costs were incurred due to staff suffering with COVID-19. All schools across the Trust have the provision of HLTA's and Cover Supervisors as a mitigation to rising costs where possible.

The significant increase in the restricted fixed asset fund has arisen from the introduction of the leasehold buildings and land at fair value on conversion of Blackwell Primary School to academy status. The fund is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the children of the academy trust.

The in-year deficit figure of £36,609 agrees to the change in balance of restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus unrestricted funds. The brought forward reserves plus the deficit within the current year gives us total reserves of restricted general funds (excluding pension reserves) plus unrestricted funds of £171,592.

There are no material investments held by the academy trust. Cash balances are invested in such a way that the cash is readily accessible whilst a small return has been generated by way of interest earned. The trustees are satisfied with the interest earned on the cash balances in the year.

In order to continue to ensure our compliance with new regulations, the trust employs a specialist GDPR/DPO supplier creating a new service level agreement. This service level agreement has continued into the current period.

In line with one of the Ofsted identified areas for development, to improve attendance for disadvantaged and SEND pupils, common across all schools in the Trust, funding was used to create a new service level agreement with an education welfare service, to provide schools with specialist support and guidance regarding attendance/ absenteeism to improve attendance. This service level agreement has continued into the current period.

The academy trust's non-teaching staff are entitled to enter the local government pension scheme. The academy trust's share of the scheme assets is currently assessed to be less than its share of the scheme liabilities and consequently the academy trust's balance sheet shows a significant liability in this respect. However, the deficit does not mean that an immediate liability is about to manifest. The contribution rate to reduce this deficit is calculated by an independent actuary and will be paid over a period of time via additional pension contributions as part of a longer term deficit reduction. As reported in the SOFA the value of the pension fund and its resultant deficit continue to have a negative impact on the financial reserves of the academy trust.

The academy trusts reserve and investment policies have been detailed below.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Reserves policy

The trustees review the reserve levels of the academy trust annually. The review includes the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of any reserves. By setting and managing a balanced budget, they aim to only carry forward reserves that it considers necessary and will have a clear plan for how it will be of benefit to the pupils.

The trustees have determined that a target of one month's operational costs (around £385,000) should be maintained when possible to ensure adequate working capital cover for delays between spending and the receipt of grant monies plus a further amount to act as a cushion for unexpected emergencies such as urgent building maintenance.

The academy trust has £90,124 in unrestricted reserves. This fund is freely available for its general purposes, training and resources, some of this has been used this year to support the emergency maintenance on both sites, general resources and new service level agreements. As at 31 August 2021, there was £81,469 restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) available to carry forward, giving total available reserves £171,593. The available reserves as at 31 August 2021 are below the target level of resources noted above. The Trust Board are aware of the financial situation and reporting shows that this gap has occurred due to the rise in costs due to the global COVID-19 pandemic which has spanned across nearly two years. This includes:

- a continued and sustained increase in supply costs for long term and short term staff sickness;
- a continued and sustained increase in cleaning staff costs to ensure schools sanitation is maintained to a high level;
- a continued and sustained increase in costs for cleaning products, including sanitising stations throughout all three schools.

The Trust Business Manager's plan moving forward to address the decrease in reserves:

- Review and restructure leadership across the Trust.
- Review and restructure SEND provision across the Trust.
- Review and restructure SEND staffing to ensure best match in provision and funding.
- Marketing campaign to improve numbers across the Trust in future years.
- Continued application of capital CIF funding to cut down maintenance costs.
- Continued use of Cover and HLTA's across the Trust to reduce supply costs.
- Opportunities for school to school support in local and surrounding areas.
- Continually looking for grant funding to support learning.
- Extend the use of lettings and facilities.
- Review of all SLA's across the Trust for current and future years.

The trustees are aware of the need to manage within a budget and are keen to retain a surplus without detrimentally affecting the education of the children.

Investment policy

There are no material investments held by the academy trust. Cash balances are invested in such a way that the cash is readily accessible whilst a small return has been generated by way of interest earned. The trustees are satisfied with the interest earned on the cash balances in the year.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk to the Partners In Learning Academy Trust is the maintenance of pupil numbers as funding is directly related to the number of pupils on roll. The number on roll is set in the October of the previous year and is the basis of the calculation on which the funding is received in the following September. There remains a strong possibility of volatility regarding the future funding of academies and the ever increasing costs set against reducing budget income. This risk has been identified in the trust risk register.

Throughout the year, the trust board meet regularly to review the risk register which is updated by the trust business manager and clerk on a monthly basis, or sooner, should a new risk emerge. Due to the global pandemic during this accounting period, all financial, operational, compliance and strategic risks have been reviewed and duly noted, with the Audit & Risk Committee taking responsibility for deep dives and internal scrutiny from September 2020 with internal scrutiny being carried out on IT provision, as identified on the risk register.

As from September 2020, Blackwell Primary School joined the trust as a sponsor school having been supported by the trust the previous year. The school is currently aligning to the trust systems and processes and policies accordingly. Shared leadership is emerging as a strength with the Headteacher joining the Executive Leadership Group. A central finance team has been formed to allow for shared processes and sharing of best practice across all schools.

Fundraising

We do not fundraise at the Trust level, but we bid for additional grants from the ESFA , the DfE and any other eligible grants where possible.

All fundraising activities are carried out by the individual schools Parent Teacher Associations (PTA's) which conforms to the recognised standards under the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment Act) 2016, Section 13. Each school's PTA is a registered charity.

Under section 2.3 of the charity fundraising guidance, the day-to-day management of financial activities has been delegated to the Trust Business Manager. All funds are monitored in line with the guidelines and recognised standards as highlighted in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020-21.

PTA activities are approved and closely monitored by the Headteachers. This includes all risk assessments and systems in order to protect the schools, the trust and their reputations, and those attending such events. Such events are advertised through the school holding the event and there is no undue pressure placed on any person to donate to the school. For example, on a non-uniform day, a £1 donation is suggested but is not compulsory in order to take part.

To date we have not received any fundraising complaints.

The Fundraising Policy represents a commitment to the highest standards of good practice and ensure that all fundraising activities are open, legal and fair. The trust will actively ensure the protection of the public, including vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and undue pressure to donate.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Plans for future periods

The Trust's Mission, Vision and 5 Year Goals are:

Mission

We are a learning partnership which inspires, empowers and develops schools to prepare every child for success in life - Today's Children; Tomorrow's Future.

The Partners in Learning vision statement is to:

- Place children at the heart of what we do
- Cultivate leading edge talent
- Build a strong community
- Ensure sustainability

The Partners in Learning 5 year goals are to:

- Place children at the heart of what we do
 - We will provide consistently excellent leadership and governance in all schools
 - All schools in the Trust will consistently provide an excellent quality of education.
- Cultivate leading edge talent
 - We will maintain a consistently innovative and passionate workforce, inspiring learning for all.
 - We will embed and maintain a strong succession plan, recruiting the best talent and ensuring capacity and responsiveness to future growth.
- Build a strong community
 - We will be a trusted centre of excellence in school improvement, school leadership, business management and governance.
- Ensure sustainability
 - We will be regarded as, and ready to be, a Trust of choice (sponsorship and converter).

To continue to challenge the Executive Leadership, in the light of any national directives and developments, including those that arise from the global pandemic:

1. To maximise attainment and progress of pupils, ensuring consistent high performance across all schools through the development of a broad, balanced and highly effective curriculum;
2. To oversee the further development of the governance within the Trust at all levels to support objective one robustly;
3. To oversee the further development of a culture of support for interdependence and the well-being of all, across the Trust;
4. To embed the new central Trust team, to ensure an integrated unit supporting all Trust schools, with a clear differentiation between the Trust's remit and the schools;
5. To further develop the outreach activities to surrounding schools, to promote the trust, offering both support to the community and to further our reputation as a reliable sponsor.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Partners In Learning Academy Trust does not hold funds on behalf of others.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

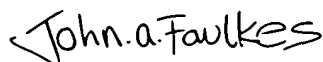
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10/12/21 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr J A Faulkes
Chair of Trustees

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

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

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

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 8 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr J A Faulkes (Chair of Trustees)	8	8
Mr G Livingstone (Director, CEO and Accounting Officer)	7	8
Mrs M T Osivwemu	6	8
Mr P Brooks	7	8
Mr N C Heslop (Vice Chair of Trustees)	6	8
Mrs R Thorne	6	8
Mr B Woollard	8	8
Mrs J Fairbourn (Appointed 8 December 2020)	2	4

The Board structure shown above includes an additional Trustee to the Board, joining the Trust midway through the year. As in previous periods the Trust Board it has focused on defining future strategy for the Trust as well as managing risk, oversight of finances, performance management and educational performance.

Remuneration committee

Due to COVID-19, this meeting was carried out virtually and email responses sought in order to finalise pay awards. The CEO submitted a paper to all Trustees, outlining the process, evidence from LGB and proposals for pay awards.

The Clerk holds the responses from Trustees approving the recommendations.

Audit & Risk Committee

The Audit & Risk Committee (A&RC) met 6 times during the academic year prior to each full Trust Board. The purpose of the committee is to oversee and scrutinise finance, premises, HR and review the Risk Register. The Committee report their findings and present as a summary at each full Trust Board meeting. This level of scrutiny is judged effective and sufficient by the Board.

Attendance was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Mr N C Heslop	6	6
Mr B Woollard	6	6
Mrs M T Osivwemu (Appointed to A&RC on 12 February 2021)	2	3

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Standards Committee

The Standards Committee met 3 times during the academic year at each 'data drop'. The purpose of the committee is to oversee and scrutinise standards across the schools within the Trust. The Committee report their findings and present as a summary at the next full Trust Board meeting. This level of scrutiny is judged effective and sufficient by the Board.

The Board self-evaluation, using the DfE MAT Improvement Capacity Framework and CST Framework, has been established as an annual process and the next review will be September 2021.

Attendance was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Mrs R Thorne	4	4
Mr P Brooks	3	4
Mrs J Fairbourn (Appointed 8 December 2020)	2	2

Review of value for money

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

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

- **External Funding**
Following the success of the CIF bids and the allocation of S106 funding which is currently in the planning stages, the new Early Years build were constructed in August 2021. Throughout the year there has been a continued improvement to the outdoor learning environments across the trust.
 - **Support beyond the Trust**
Continued provision of school to school support in areas of Maths for Sussex Maths Hub and Leadership support to another Trust.
 - **Support within the Trust**
Initial restructuring of the Trust Central Team to provide more services centrally to enable savings and create an alignment of services including HR, payroll, stationery and resources has successfully enabled savings to be made. Further centralising of services will continue in the coming academic year
- IT improvement programme continued across the Trust with provision of additional laptops to support all children in remote learning.
- Early budget setting with a strong level of proactive involvement with Headteachers, along with the continued Trust Board involvement through the Audit & Risk Committee has raised financial awareness across the schools and the Trust.
- **Savings & Income Generation**
In a continued drive to reduce costs, Cover Supervisors and HLTAs continue to be used and as part of the succession planning programme further staff have been trained. The Trust's current recharge rate is 5% which is still below the recommended national benchmark for primary schools.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 Partners In Learning Academy Trust for the period 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 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 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 board of trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees
- regular reviews by the finance 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.

The board of trustees has considered the need for an internal scrutiny and assessed the non-financial risk lies within the Trust IT systems which was carried out by an external IT provider, focusing on hardware, software, malware and security. Recommendations were made and actioned during the summer period ensuring critical works were complete and compliant. Moving forward in the next academic year, it was agreed by the Trust Board that Blackwell Primary School will have a full in-depth IT security analysis.

The trust continue to use Edufin to provide further financial internal scrutiny focusing on financial processes and controls together with accounting procedures. They also continue support throughout the year in the maintenance of the Trust finance systems. An additional financial review has also been undertaken throughout this period.

Training and upskilling continued in the reporting period with the Bursar and Business Manager focusing on advanced processes and procedures, and an internal audit took place mid-year. Internal audit visits are scheduled for the forthcoming year 2021/22.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

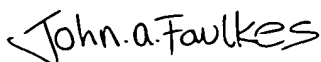
Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the period in question the review has been informed by:

- The work of the external IT provider
- The work of the internal auditor
- The work of the external auditor
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool
- The work of the Senior Leadership Team within the academy trust who has 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 Academy Trust Board and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10/12/21 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr J A Faulkes
Chair of Trustees



Mr G Livingstone
Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

As accounting officer of Partners In Learning Academy 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 2020.

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

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



Mr G Livingstone
Accounting Officer

10/12/21

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

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

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

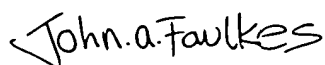
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 10/12/21 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr J A Faulkes
Chair of Trustees

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

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

In our opinion the accounts:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements and operations;
- Obtaining an understanding of the charitable company's policies and procedures on fraud risks, including knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- Discussing among the engagement team how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud through our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and our sector-specific experience.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. We are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. As a result of performing the above, we identified the following areas as those most likely to have an impact on the financial statements: employment law and compliance with the UK Companies Act, Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 and the 2020 Academies Financial Handbook.

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

- Making enquiries of management and those charged with governance about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation, fraud or any actual or potential litigation and claims against the charitable company;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of the board of trustees, senior management and the audit committee;
- Reviewing internal scrutiny reports for the academic year;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Reading correspondence with regulators;
- Review and assess compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook 2020 and issue a separate report on compliance with regularity requirements;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates, in particular in relation to the local government pension scheme; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness.

Due 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 recognise 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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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.



Robin Evans BA FCA CTA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Carpenter Box
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Worthing

14/12/2021

Carpenter Box is a trading name of Carpenter Box

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO PARTNERS IN LEARNING 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 8 November 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Partners In Learning Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Partners In Learning Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Partners In Learning Academy 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 Partners In Learning Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Partners In Learning Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Partners In Learning Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 18 August 2014 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Consideration of the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statements on regularity, propriety, and compliance;
- Review of procedures and controls ensuring their adequacy, compliance and appropriateness;
- Analytical procedures on the general activities of the academy trust;
- Planning of assurance procedures including identifying key risk areas;
- Further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including the testing and identification of control processes and examination of supporting evidence as well as additional verification and substantive testing on individual transactions.
- A review of minutes of committees and board meetings which may be relevant to regularity;
- Consideration of discussions with key personnel including the accounting officer and governing body.

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.



Reporting Accountant

Carpenter Box
Amelia House
Crescent Road
Worthing
West Sussex
BN11 1RL

Dated: 14/12/2021

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General	Fixed asset £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	76,468	-	407,529	483,997	63,297
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	27	17,782	(170,861)	4,630,156	4,477,077	-
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	117,269	4,277,847	-	4,395,116	2,888,540
Other trading activities	5	38,283	14,973	-	53,256	15,267
Investments	6	52	-	-	52	202
Total		<u>249,854</u>	<u>4,121,959</u>	<u>5,037,685</u>	<u>9,409,498</u>	<u>2,967,306</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	1,806	-	-	1,806	744
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	18,919	4,828,853	178,046	5,025,818	3,225,961
Total	7	<u>20,725</u>	<u>4,828,853</u>	<u>178,046</u>	<u>5,027,624</u>	<u>3,226,705</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		229,129	(706,894)	4,859,639	4,381,874	(259,399)
Transfers between funds	18	(283,960)	260,117	23,843	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	(312,000)	-	(312,000)	43,000
Net movement in funds		<u>(54,831)</u>	<u>(758,777)</u>	<u>4,883,482</u>	<u>4,069,874</u>	<u>(216,399)</u>
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		144,955	(635,754)	7,135,671	6,644,872	6,861,271
Total funds carried forward		<u>90,124</u>	<u>(1,394,531)</u>	<u>12,019,153</u>	<u>10,714,746</u>	<u>6,644,872</u>

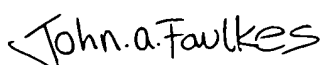
PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		12,012,362		7,130,186
Current assets					
Debtors	14	310,085		131,732	
Cash at bank and in hand		275,469		308,489	
		<u>585,554</u>		<u>440,221</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(399,923)		(226,535)	
Net current assets			185,631		213,686
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>12,197,993</u>		<u>7,343,872</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(7,247)		-
Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability			<u>12,190,746</u>		<u>7,343,872</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		(1,476,000)		(699,000)
Total net assets			<u><u>10,714,746</u></u>		<u><u>6,644,872</u></u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	18				
- Fixed asset funds			12,019,153		7,135,671
- Restricted income funds			81,469		63,246
- Pension reserve			(1,476,000)		(699,000)
Total restricted funds			<u>10,624,622</u>		<u>6,499,917</u>
Unrestricted income funds	18		90,124		144,955
Total funds			<u><u>10,714,746</u></u>		<u><u>6,644,872</u></u>

The accounts were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 10/12/21 and are signed on its behalf by:



Mr J A Faulkes
Chair of Trustees

Company Number 09081030

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash used in operating activities	21		(83,119)		(34,233)
Cash funds transferred on conversion			67,859		-
			<u>(15,260)</u>		<u>(34,233)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		52		202	
Capital grants from DfE Group		22,671		14,773	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		379,858		12,821	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(430,004)</u>		<u>(61,506)</u>	
Net cash used in investing activities			(27,423)		(33,710)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Loan inherited on conversion		12,078		-	
Repayment of loan inherited on conversion		<u>(2,415)</u>		<u>-</u>	
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities			9,663		-
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(33,020)		(67,943)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			<u>308,489</u>		<u>376,432</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>275,469</u>		<u>308,489</u>

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY 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 of uncertainty, is set out below.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the entity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £1.

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

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 financial statements. The COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing lockdown measures have had an impact on the academy trust's operations. However, the UK government considers the ongoing provision of education throughout the pandemic as a key priority and ongoing funding, and the ongoing operation of schools, appears to be assured. In addition the trustees have reviewed the trust's academies budget forecast return three year which demonstrates the trust's ongoing viability over that period. Within this context the trustees have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Conversion to an academy trust

Where assets and liabilities are received by the academy trust on conversion to an academy from a state maintained school, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from Blackwell Primary School to the academy trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Donations – transfer from local authority on conversion in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds. Further details of the transaction are set out in note 27.

1.4 Income

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

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

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.

Capital grants are received for capital purposes and must be spent in line with the terms and conditions of the grant.

Donations

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

Other income

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

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. Upon sale the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value to 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'.

1.5 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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(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.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management, trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Leasehold land and buildings	Over 125 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10 years

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

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

1.7 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.

1.8 Leased assets

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

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.9 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 14. 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 as detailed in note 15. 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.

1.10 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 part 11 chapter 3 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.

1.11 Pensions benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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 projected unit 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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY 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.

1.12 Fund accounting

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency/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 costs or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Donated fixed assets	-	5,000	5,000	-
Capital grants	-	402,529	402,529	27,594
Other donations	76,468	-	76,468	35,703
	<u>76,468</u>	<u>407,529</u>	<u>483,997</u>	<u>63,297</u>

The income from donations and capital grants was £483,997 (2020: £63,297) of which £76,468 (2020: £35,703) was unrestricted, £5,000 (2020: £nil) was restricted and £402,529 (2020: £27,594) was restricted fixed assets.

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	3,594,724	3,594,724	2,174,020
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
UFSM	-	113,541	113,541	88,930
Pupil premium	-	127,266	127,266	66,951
Start up grants	-	-	-	90,000
Other DfE group grants	-	257,119	257,119	165,126
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,092,650</u>	<u>4,092,650</u>	<u>2,585,027</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	84,349	84,349	47,082
Special educational projects	-	20,688	20,688	11,784
	<u>-</u>	<u>105,037</u>	<u>105,037</u>	<u>58,866</u>
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up premium	-	80,160	80,160	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	13,833
	<u>-</u>	<u>80,160</u>	<u>80,160</u>	<u>13,833</u>
Other incoming resources	<u>117,269</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>117,269</u>	<u>230,814</u>
Total funding	<u>117,269</u>	<u>4,277,847</u>	<u>4,395,116</u>	<u>2,888,540</u>

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations (Continued)

The income from funding for educational operations was £4,395,116 (2020: £2,888,540) of which £117,269 (2020: £230,814) was unrestricted and £4,227,847 (2020: £2,657,726) was restricted.

The academy received £80,160 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £47,786, with the remaining £32,374 to be spent in 2021/22.

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

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Hire of facilities	38,283	-	38,283	10,193
Parental contributions	-	14,973	14,973	5,074
	<u>38,283</u>	<u>14,973</u>	<u>53,256</u>	<u>15,267</u>

The income from other trading activities was £53,256 (2020: £15,267) of which £38,283 (2020: £10,193) was unrestricted and £14,973 (2020: £5,074) was restricted.

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Short term deposits	<u>52</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>202</u>

All income from investments in the current and prior year was unrestricted.

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	1,806	1,806	744
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	3,338,185	-	133,598	3,471,783	2,226,250
- Allocated support costs	791,061	385,399	377,575	1,554,035	999,711
	<u>4,129,246</u>	<u>385,399</u>	<u>512,979</u>	<u>5,027,624</u>	<u>3,226,705</u>

The expenditure on raising funds was £1,806 (2020: £744), all relating to unrestricted funds.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7	Expenditure	(Continued)	
	Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:	2021	2020
		£	£
	Fees payable to auditor for:		
	- Audit	7,400	6,150
	- Other services	6,150	4,400
	- Teachers' pension audit	1,850	1,250
	- Taxation	-	260
	Operating lease rentals	5,734	3,312
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	178,046	122,555
	Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	18,000	13,000

8 Central services

The academy trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- financial services
- educational support services
- legal and professional services
- insurance

The academy trust charges for these services on approximate pupil numbers.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:	2021	2020
	£	£
Baldwins Hill Primary School	44,779	44,928
Partners In Learning Academy Trust	-	-
Halsford Park Primary School	90,141	81,244
Blackwell Primary School	65,813	-
	200,733	126,172

9 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	2021	2020
			£	£
Direct costs				
Educational operations	14,709	3,457,074	3,471,783	2,226,250
Support costs				
Educational operations	4,210	1,549,825	1,554,035	999,711
	18,919	5,006,899	5,025,818	3,225,961

The expenditure on charitable activities was £5,025,818 (2020: £3,225,961) of which £18,919 was unrestricted (2020: £145,537), £4,828,853 was restricted (2020: £2,957,869) and £178,046 was restricted fixed assets (2020: £122,555).

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

9 Charitable activities	(Continued)	
	2021 £	2020 £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	791,061	496,929
Depreciation	178,046	122,555
Premises costs	207,353	118,680
Legal costs	54,404	25,349
Other support costs	294,792	205,285
Governance costs	28,379	30,913
	<u>1,554,035</u>	<u>999,711</u>

The expenditure on educational operations was £5,025,819 (2020: £3,225,961) of which £18,919 (2020: £145,537) was unrestricted, £4,828,856 (2020: £2,957,869) was restricted and £178,044 (2020: £122,555) was restricted fixed assets.

10 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	2,851,173	1,764,198
Social security costs	240,377	145,431
Pension costs	889,410	559,216
Staff costs	<u>3,980,960</u>	<u>2,468,845</u>
Agency staff costs	148,286	139,368
Total staff expenditure	<u>4,129,246</u>	<u>2,608,213</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	47	27
Administration and support	87	50
Management	10	8
	<u>144</u>	<u>85</u>

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Staff

(Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

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

The above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

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 £677,290 (2020: £548,174).

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The executive head teacher and other staff trustees have been paid remuneration or received other benefits from employment with the academy trust. They have 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 trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

G Livingstone (Chief Executive Officer/Executive Principal and trustee)

Remuneration: £95,000 - £100,000 (2020: £90,000 - £95,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £20,000 - £25,000 (2020: £20,000 - £25,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £nil were reimbursed to staff trustees (2020: £1,195 to 1 staff trustee). These expenses were incurred wholly in their capacity as employees of the trust.

12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the period was included with the total insurance costs. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the insurance scheme.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Assets under construction	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2020	7,447,135	12,821	165,379	45,483	7,670,818
Reclassified on completion	4,235	(4,235)	-	-	-
Transfer from local authority on conversion	4,625,218	-	-	-	4,625,218
Additions	26,421	345,549	63,034	-	435,004
At 31 August 2021	12,103,009	354,135	228,413	45,483	12,731,040
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2020	413,244	-	106,068	21,320	540,632
Charge for the year	131,254	-	42,360	4,432	178,046
At 31 August 2021	544,498	-	148,428	25,752	718,678
Net book value					
At 31 August 2021	11,558,511	354,135	79,985	19,731	12,012,362
At 31 August 2020	7,033,891	12,821	59,311	24,163	7,130,186

14 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	5,103	10,567
VAT recoverable	63,057	20,711
Prepayments and accrued income	241,925	100,454
	310,085	131,732

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other loans	2,416	-
Trade creditors	56,048	55,464
Other taxation and social security	58,384	37,238
Other creditors	101	10,662
Accruals and deferred income	282,974	123,171
	399,923	226,535

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

(Continued)

Included within other loans above is the current remaining portion of £2,416 of a local authority school solar loan granted to Blackwell Primary School in October 2015 from West Sussex County Council, which was initially granted for £20,376. The loan was inherited from the local authority on conversion. There are instalments of £2,416 due annually on 01 February every year. Interest is charged on the loan of 4% per annum. The remaining balance of £7,247 is shown within creditors falling due after more than one year.

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other loans	7,247	-
	<u>7,247</u>	<u>-</u>
Analysis of loans	2021 £	2020 £
Wholly repayable within five years	9,663	-
Less: included in current liabilities	(2,416)	-
	<u>7,247</u>	<u>-</u>
Amounts included above	<u>7,247</u>	<u>-</u>
Loan maturity		
Debt due in one year or less	2,416	-
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	2,416	-
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	4,831	-
	<u>9,663</u>	<u>-</u>

17 Deferred income

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	135,991	91,946
	<u>135,991</u>	<u>91,946</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	91,946	97,843
Released from previous years	(83,390)	(90,815)
Resources deferred in the year	127,435	84,918
	<u>135,991</u>	<u>91,946</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	135,991	91,946

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance of £80,529 for Universal Infant Free School Meals Funding, £5,910 of Rates reimbursement, £16,915 of SEN funding, £7,028 of Growth Funding, £12,555 of trip income and £13,054 of PTA donations which relate to the 2021/22 academic year.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,606,275	(3,877,732)	271,457	-
Start up grants	63,246	-	(35,338)	-	27,908
UIFSM	-	113,541	(113,541)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	127,266	(127,266)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	80,160	(47,786)	-	32,374
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	283,028	(250,501)	(11,340)	21,187
Other government grants	-	112,716	(112,716)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	14,973	(14,973)	-	-
Pension reserve	(699,000)	(216,000)	(249,000)	(312,000)	(1,476,000)
	<u>(635,754)</u>	<u>4,121,959</u>	<u>(4,828,853)</u>	<u>(51,883)</u>	<u>(1,394,531)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	6,216,319	4,630,156	(92,796)	-	10,753,679
DfE group capital grants	906,504	402,529	(81,139)	33,552	1,261,446
Capital expenditure from GAG	12,848	-	(3,139)	(9,709)	-
Private sector capital sponsorship	-	5,000	(972)	-	4,028
	<u>7,135,671</u>	<u>5,037,685</u>	<u>(178,046)</u>	<u>23,843</u>	<u>12,019,153</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>6,499,917</u>	<u>9,159,644</u>	<u>(5,006,899)</u>	<u>(28,040)</u>	<u>10,624,622</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>144,955</u>	<u>249,854</u>	<u>(20,725)</u>	<u>(283,960)</u>	<u>90,124</u>
Total funds	<u>6,644,872</u>	<u>9,409,498</u>	<u>(5,027,624)</u>	<u>(312,000)</u>	<u>10,714,746</u>

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

(Continued)

Within the year, the academy have transferred £283,960 from unrestricted funds and £11,340 from other DfE/ESFA grants to cover the deficit on GAG and restricted fixed asset capital expenditure from GAG during the year.

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

- GAG funds are restricted to providing education and funding the academy's operating costs.
- UIFSM funding provides funding to offer free school meals to pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2.
- Pupil premium funding is provided to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.
- Catch-up premium is provided to help pupils and disadvantaged young people catch up on missed education due to COVID-19.
- Other DfE/EFA grants relate to reimbursement for specific services and funding the academy's operating costs
- Other government grants are in relation to funding the academy's operating costs as well as towards the costs of providing special education needs.
- Other restricted funds are held to provide trips and other activities to students and for the provision of education.
- Capital grants are received for capital purchases and must be spent in line with the terms and conditions of the grant.

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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,174,020	(2,352,397)	178,377	-
Start up grants	-	90,000	(26,754)	-	63,246
UIFSM	-	88,930	(88,930)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	66,951	(66,951)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	178,959	(178,959)	-	-
Other government grants	15,938	58,866	(74,804)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	5,074	(5,074)	-	-
Pension reserve	(578,000)	-	(164,000)	43,000	(699,000)
	<u>(562,062)</u>	<u>2,662,800</u>	<u>(2,957,869)</u>	<u>221,377</u>	<u>(635,754)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	6,270,568	-	(54,249)	-	6,216,319
DfE group capital grants	897,764	27,594	(43,692)	24,838	906,504
Capital expenditure from GAG	48,622	-	(24,614)	(11,160)	12,848
	<u>7,216,954</u>	<u>27,594</u>	<u>(122,555)</u>	<u>13,678</u>	<u>7,135,671</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>6,654,892</u>	<u>2,690,394</u>	<u>(3,080,424)</u>	<u>235,055</u>	<u>6,499,917</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>206,379</u>	<u>276,912</u>	<u>(146,281)</u>	<u>(192,055)</u>	<u>144,955</u>
Total funds	<u>6,861,271</u>	<u>2,967,306</u>	<u>(3,226,705)</u>	<u>43,000</u>	<u>6,644,872</u>

Within the prior year, the academy transferred £178,377 from unrestricted funds to GAG funding to cover the deficit within the year. A further £24,838 from unrestricted funds was transferred to restricted fixed asset DfE group capital grants to cover the deficit within the year.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

(Continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

	2021 £	2020 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:		
Baldwins Hill Primary School	33,650	55,850
Partners In Learning Academy Trust	47,022	100,865
Halsford Park Primary School	33,828	51,486
Blackwell Primary School	57,092	-
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	171,592	208,201
Restricted fixed asset fund	12,019,153	7,135,671
Pension reserve	(1,476,000)	(699,000)
Total funds	10,714,745	6,644,872

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Baldwins Hill Primary School	658,836	135,335	16,667	143,499	954,337	1,054,168
Partners In Learning Academy Trust	139,478	101,521	16,073	65,101	322,173	213,534
Halsford Park Primary School	1,301,242	332,073	26,264	252,489	1,912,068	1,672,446
Blackwell Primary School	1,204,724	240,132	14,466	201,677	1,660,999	-
	3,304,280	809,061	73,470	662,766	4,849,577	2,940,148

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	12,012,362	12,012,362
Current assets	90,125	488,638	6,791	585,554
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(399,923)	-	(399,923)
Creditors falling due after one year	-	(7,247)	-	(7,247)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(1,476,000)	-	(1,476,000)
Total net assets	90,125	(1,394,532)	12,019,153	10,714,746
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	7,130,186	7,130,186
Current assets	144,954	289,782	5,485	440,221
Creditors falling due within one year	1	(226,536)	-	(226,535)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(699,000)	-	(699,000)
Total net assets	144,955	(635,754)	7,135,671	6,644,872

20 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 West Sussex County 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 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £nil (2020: £9,971) 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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £451,590 (2020: £288,718).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £261,410 (2020: £153,026), of which employer's contributions totalled £208,001 (2020: £120,360) and employees' contributions totalled £53,409 (2020: 32,666). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.5% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

As described in note 27 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, being the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who joined the scheme in the period. 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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Total contributions made	2021 £	2020 £
Employer's contributions	211,000	139,000
Employees' contributions	54,000	32,000
Total contributions	265,000	171,000
Principal actuarial assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.4	2.7
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.2
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	22.1	22.2
- Females	24.4	24.2
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	23.1	23.3
- Females	26.1	25.9

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

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	(131)	(75.8)
Discount rate - 0.1%	131	75.8
Mortality assumption + 1 year	200	1
Mortality assumption - 1 year	(200)	(1)
CPI rate + 0.1%	126	73.8
CPI rate - 0.1%	(126)	(73.8)

Defined benefit pension scheme net liability	2021 £	2020 £
Scheme assets	3,523,000	1,827,000
Scheme obligations	(4,999,000)	(2,526,000)
Net liability	(1,476,000)	(699,000)

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY 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 £	2020 Fair value £
Equities	1,831,960	986,580
Bonds	1,268,280	621,180
Cash	140,920	91,350
Property	281,840	127,890
Total market value of assets	3,523,000	1,827,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £530,000 (2020: £131,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	442,000	290,000
Interest income	(48,000)	(30,000)
Interest cost	66,000	43,000
Total operating charge	460,000	303,000

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations

	2021 £	2020 £
At 1 September 2020	2,526,000	2,104,000
Obligations acquired on conversion	1,121,000	-
Current service cost	442,000	290,000
Interest cost	66,000	43,000
Employee contributions	54,000	32,000
Actuarial loss	794,000	58,000
Benefits paid	(4,000)	(1,000)
At 31 August 2021	4,999,000	2,526,000

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2021 £	2020 £
At 1 September 2020	1,827,000	1,526,000
Assets acquired on conversion	905,000	-
Interest income	48,000	30,000
Actuarial gain	482,000	101,000
Employer contributions	211,000	139,000
Employee contributions	54,000	32,000
Benefits paid	(4,000)	(1,000)
At 31 August 2021	3,523,000	1,827,000

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	4,381,874	(259,399)
Adjusted for:		
Net surplus on conversion to academy	(4,477,077)	-
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(407,529)	(27,594)
Investment income receivable	(52)	(202)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	231,000	151,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	18,000	13,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	178,046	122,555
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(178,353)	122,116
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	170,972	(155,709)
Net cash used in operating activities	(83,119)	(34,233)

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2020 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2021 £
Cash	308,489	(33,020)	275,469
Loans falling due within one year	-	(2,416)	(2,416)
Loans falling due after more than one year	-	(7,247)	(7,247)
	308,489	(42,683)	265,806

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

23 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	6,693	5,734
Amounts due in two and five years	4,149	9,083
	<u>10,842</u>	<u>14,817</u>

24 Capital commitments

At the year end the trust had nearly completed construction on the replacement of a number of classrooms at Halsford Park primary school. These works totalled £354,135, of which £110,961 has been accrued at the year end. This has been funded by the Condition Improvement Fund (for a successful application, there has to be a financial contribution by the school), of which £176,392 had been received at the year end, £161,856 is due to be received at the year end. The remaining shortfall has been funded by capital grant funding and the reserves of the trust.

25 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.

26 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.

PARTNERS IN LEARNING ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

27 Conversion to an academy

On 1 September 2020 the Blackwell Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Partners In Learning Academy Trust from the West Sussex Local Authority for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair values and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the statement of financial activities as 'donations – transfer from local authority on conversion.'

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

Academy	Location	Date of conversion		
Blackwell Primary School	East Grinstead	1 September 2020		
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds:		Total 2021
	£	General	Fixed asset	£
Net assets transferred:				
Leasehold land and buildings	-	-	4,625,218	4,625,218
Cash	17,782	33,062	17,015	67,859
Borrowing obligations	-	12,077	(12,077)	-
Pension scheme deficit	-	(216,000)	-	(216,000)
	<u>17,782</u>	<u>(170,861)</u>	<u>4,630,156</u>	<u>4,477,077</u>
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds:		Total 2021
	£	General	Fixed asset	£
Funds surplus/(deficit) transferred:				
Fixed assets funds	-	-	4,630,156	4,630,156
LA budget funds	17,782	45,139	-	62,921
LGPS pension funds	-	(216,000)	-	(216,000)
	<u>17,782</u>	<u>(170,861)</u>	<u>4,630,156</u>	<u>4,477,077</u>

The leasehold land and buildings transferred into the trust on conversion have a remaining lease of 125 years.

Blackwell Primary School was contracted into a solar loan agreement with West Sussex County Council that has been transferred to the academy on conversion. This has been disclosed further within note 15.