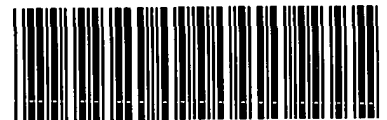


ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

THURSDAY



ABWYRIUB

A11

09/02/2023

#349

COMPANIES HOUSE

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1 - 2
Trustees' Report	3 - 19
Governance Statement	20 - 24
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	25
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	26
Independent Auditors' Report on the Financial Statements	27 - 30
Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity	31 - 32
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account	33
Balance Sheet	34 - 35
Statement of Cash Flows	36
Notes to the Financial Statements	37 - 67

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Professor J H West-Burnham B Keaney B Leeke N D Pavitt C Gartland
Trustees	Professor J H West-Burnham, Chair of Trustees E Casey, Vice Chair, Chair of Area Governance Ipswich G H Clarke N Denny (resigned 6 May 2022) S J P Evans-Evans, Audit Chair C E Flintoff, CEO/Accounting Officer B D Gostling, Finance Chair M C B Mattinson, Chair of Governance Waveney (resigned 11 October 2022) P Mutumburi (appointed 22 June 2022) J J Pentreath, Principal Director G R Stevens, Operations Chair E P Whitehead S Wilkinson
Company registered number	09434926
Company name	ASSET Education
Principal and registered office	St Helen's Primary School Woodbridge Road Ipswich Suffolk IP4 2LT
Chief executive officer	C E Flintoff
Senior management team	C Flintoff, Chief Executive Officer G Andrews, Executive Headteacher, Castle Hill Infant School & Junior School C Broom, Head of School, Cliff Lane Primary School (appointed 01/09/2021) S Capper, Headteacher, The Beeches Community Primary School A Chambers, Headteacher, Bungay Primary School (appointed 01/09/2021) R Dedicoat, Headteacher, Shotley Community Primary School (resigned 31/12/2021) C Edwards, Headteacher, Stutton C of E Primary School (appointed 01/05/2022) C Heath, Interim Chief Finance Officer (appointed 01/06/2022) D Herbert, Chief Finance Officer (resigned 31/05/2022) K Hodgetts, Headteacher, St Helens Primary School J Gough, Headteacher, Ringshall School K Milk, Headteacher, Edgar Sewter Community Primary School R Newton, Headteacher, Shotley Community Primary School (appointed 01/01/2022) P Palmer, Joint Headteacher and Deputy CEO, The Oaks Primary School G Parfitt, Headteacher, Stutton C of E Primary (resigned 30/04/2022) J Pentreath, Joint Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead, The Oaks Primary School C Starkl, Headteacher, Holton Saint Peter Community Primary C Stone, Headteacher, Wenhaston Primary School (appointed 01/09/2021) S Winter, Director of Operations and Headteacher, Ilketshall St Lawrence Primary School

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Independent auditors	Price Bailey LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Anglia House, 6 Central Avenue St Andrews Business Park Thorpe St Andrew Norwich Norfolk NR7 0HR
-----------------------------	--

Bankers	Lloyds Bank 13 Cornhill Ipswich Suffolk IP1 1DG
----------------	---

Solicitors	Stone King LLP 3rd Floor Bateman House 82-88 Hills Road Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB2 1LQ
-------------------	--

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates 14 academies serving a catchment area in Suffolk. Excluding the 7 nurseries, the academies had a combined capacity of 3,710 and a roll of 3,124 in the Autumn 2021 census.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The academy trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing document of the academy trust. The Trustees of ASSET Education are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The terms trustee and director are interchangeable. The charitable company is known as ASSET Education.

The charitable company includes the following academies:

Bungay Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/05/2017
Castle Hill Junior School	transferred to the trust on 01/03/2019
Castle Hill Infant School	transferred to the trust on 01/03/2019
Cliff Lane Primary School	transferred to the trust on 01/03/2019
Edgar Sewter Community Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/05/2017
Holton St Peter Community Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/05/2017
Ilketshall St Lawrence School	converted and joined the trust on 01/05/2017
Ringshall Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/10/2019
St Helen's Primary School	converted on 01/03/2015
Shotley Community Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/09/2018
Stutton Church of England Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/06/2018
The Beeches Community Primary School	converted on 01/03/2015
(formerly Whitton Community Primary School renamed from 01/01/2020)	
The Oaks Primary School	converted on 01/03/2015
Wenhaston Primary School	converted and joined the trust on 01/05/2017

The operation of the trust's academies and employment of staff are the responsibility of the trustees. The trust retains control of academy budgets and finances, and monitors these through its finance committee.

Throughout this report, the board of trustees is referred to as the main governing body (MGB). Each academy has appointed local governing bodies (LGB) who have delegated authority to administer their academy within agreed budgets.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1. Within this report, the term trustee refers to a member of the MGB and the term governor to a member of an LGB.

b. 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.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

c. Trustees' indemnities

The trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise; this scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The arrangements are as set out in the articles of association and funding agreement.

Trustees are appointed for a fixed term. The chief executive officer is an ex officio member of the MGB. Other trustees are elected to office by members or appointed by trustees. The articles of association make provision for:

- up to 12 directors appointed by members
- up to 2 co-opted directors appointed by trustees

Trustees are appointed for the skills and expertise they bring to the board. The board undertakes a regular skills audit and trustees and members seek suitable appointments to any perceived gaps. Two parent members of LGBs are required and elected to post (see ASSET governance handbook).

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The trust is committed to providing adequate opportunities for trustees and governors to undertake and receive suitable training to enable them to perform their role effectively. There is an induction programme including training from the trust executive for new trustees and local governors. A governance handbook includes role briefs and codes of conduct that must be adhered to, and signed, by new governors. New governors and trustees complete an application form, two satisfactory references are required and full DBS and de barring checks are carried out. The induction programme includes a tour of the relevant academy, meetings with students and staff and provision of policy and procedures documents that are appropriate to the particular role they will undertake in the school.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

f. Organisational structure

The governance of the trust is defined in the memorandum and articles of association together with the funding agreement with the Department of Education.

The MGB met formally six times during the year, four meetings were held virtually and 2 were hybrid with some trustees physically present. All sub committees also continued to meet virtually in year. The sub committees included are Audit and Risk Committee (4 meetings), Education Committee (4 meetings), Finance Committee (4 meetings) Operations Committee (3 meetings), Remuneration Committee (2 meetings). The MGB is responsible for the strategic direction of the trust. The trustees are responsible for setting strategic policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the trust by the use of those budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The scheme of delegation sets out the levels of delegation to committees of the board, LGBs and the trust executive (the chief executive officer, the chief finance officer and headteachers).

The governors within their LGBs are responsible for providing the necessary support and challenge to the school in order to implement strategic policy effectively, ensuring the appropriateness of annual budgets and capital expenditure projects for their academy and monitoring performance against that budget and authorised capital limits. The chairs of the LGBs report to the board's area governance committee on their effectiveness in undertaking their role against ASSET excellence statements.

The senior leadership teams (SLTs) control the academies at an executive level implementing policies and reporting to the chief executive officer and their LGB. Each SLT is responsible for the day to day operation of their academy, in particular organising staff, resources and students. They are responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and for the appointment of staff following vetting and safeguarding recruitment processes.

The senior management team (SMT) looks across the trust and ensures that the strategic aims of the trust as a whole are implemented locally.

The trust's chief executive officer is the accounting officer.

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel include trustees and those staff to whom the trustees have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day to day running of the trust.

The trust adheres to the latest version of the school teachers' pay and conditions document (STPCD) and single status salary ranges agreed nationally. The pay of key management personnel is decided by a variety of contributory factors, such as the school group size, the ISR, the level of experience of the staff member and the level of challenge in the role. In addition, pay levels may be affected by nationally agreed pay awards, the ability to recruit and retain in post, all of which are in accordance with the trust's appointment and pay policies.

All pay awards of key management posts (i.e. headteacher, central executive staff) are approved by the remuneration Committee and ratified by the MGB.

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Owing to the nature of the trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time to time transactions will take place with organisations in which members of the MGB may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the trust's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where the trustee may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academy Trust Handbook.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

i. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trustees recognise that our employees are fundamental and core to our business and delivery of high quality education. Our success depends on attracting, retaining and motivating employees. The Trustees factor the implications of decisions on employees and the wider workforce, where relevant and feasible. Where appropriate, the Trust consults on matters such as policy, pay, health, safety and welfare with the relevant support staff and teaching trades unions.

The Trust provides information to employees generally by way of email, memoranda, staff meetings and staff intranet (ASSET HQ). Information is channelled via leadership meetings and staff briefings. Employees are encouraged to familiarise themselves with Ofsted reports, available from the Trust website and student progress and attainment statistics, when they are made available.

ASSET Education is committed to ensuring that we are mindful of equality in all that we do. As an equal opportunities employer we seek to offer disabled members of staff the same conditions of service, employment rights, promotion and training opportunities as other members of staff in similar roles.

The Equality Act 2010 requires us to publish information that demonstrates that we have due regard for the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

We seek to ensure that disabled staff, disabled persons who apply for a job within the organisation, or those that have a disability recognised whilst in our employment, have equality of opportunity. In the event of employees becoming disabled then every effort is made to retrain them in order that their employment within the Trust may continue.

ASSET Education are committed to ensuring that all staff, regardless of their background or circumstances, receive equal opportunities and rights throughout our trust. We have due regard for the Equalities Act 2010 as per our remit under the public sector equality duty.

We seek to make ASSET Education buildings accessible to all.

Full details of these policies are available from the academy trust's offices.

j. Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the academy trust

The Trustees have implemented clear policies and procedures for dealing fairly with suppliers. Formal orders are placed and agreed payment terms always adhered to.

The Trustees consider pupils and parents to be their "customers". Whilst pupils encounter engagement on a daily basis, engagement with parents is carried out through regular newsletters and face to face meeting.

k. Trade union facility time

ASSET Education had one employee who was a union official during the year. No time or costs were incurred on facility time or trade union activities.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The principal object and aim of the charitable company is the operation of a number of academies to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities within its local community between the ages of 3 and 11.

ASSET Vision...

We seek to equip and empower the next generation of children to create a more compassionate, equitable and sustainable world where they personally and collectively thrive.

ASSET Mission...

As a group of schools working in collaboration as one entity, we focus on achieving high standards and excellent practice across all schools, so that every individual has the skills, knowledge, behaviours, values and support they need in order to be the best they can be and to make their contribution to the benefit of all.

We aim to be the best provider of primary education in the east of England tackling social injustice and inequality in education and giving every child the opportunity to be successful and fulfilled in their lives.

Humans are social beings and their wellbeing is dependent on social institutions that allow them to flourish. Our children are our future and we want them to be the best they can be, to have confidence and a sense of service, and to be empowered to make their valuable contribution. Our people are at the heart of what we do; we support one another, valuing connections and relationships, because we believe that when people are cared for, learning happens and humans flourish. We have a strong moral purpose and duty to achieve our aims for the benefit of all and the future of our world.

ASSET Values...

Excellence - We strive for excellence in every aspect of school life and achievement, tackling disadvantage and inequality with determination and a desire for success. We relentlessly pursue improvement keeping the highest expectations of all and for all. We work with professionalism and efficiency and are self-disciplined, resilient and innovative in order to achieve our aims.

Empowerment - With a shared commitment to our vision and aspirations we empower individuals to be the best they can be. We balance ownership with accountability and build on strengths providing opportunities with positivity and optimism. We encourage trust by delegation and develop energetic, enthusiastic and committed leadership for improvement at all levels.

Engagement - Seeking out partnerships with others we value collaboration, cooperation and inclusion for the benefit of all. We take responsibility, acting with commitment, care and respect. We balance support with challenge to seek out the best. We commit to share, innovate and celebrate and require reflection and optimism.

Equity - Recognising that starting points and barriers to learning are individual and unique to every learner we seek to provide whatever support, guidance and intervention we can in order to tackle disadvantage and discrimination wherever it exists. We strive to do everything within our capacity to remove the barriers to social mobility, working towards social justice.

b. Public benefit

The trustees believe that by working towards the objects and aims of the trust as detailed above, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Overall performance

The overall performance of schools across the trust is the responsibility of the CEO who is accountable to the trust board. A key factor is the provision of support for schools to enable them to succeed. All services, support and challenge provided for schools is measured by impact on school performance. School performance is linked to pay decisions for the CEO and headteachers in the trust.

School performance

Each school's performance is judged against a range of criteria and reported through the ASSET Data Dashboard. This is a live document which trustees and chairs of governors can access at any time. In addition to this, a standard suite of reporting templates are used to report to LGBs termly. These cover: pupil attainment and progress, quality of teaching and learning, pupil related data including attendance, behaviour, SEND and safeguarding. Extra financial metrics are starting to be introduced with ICFP ratios used for setting the budgets and measuring performance of schools over a financial year. These are also reported back to the LGBs and the CEO. The overall performance of a school is the responsibility of the headteacher who is accountable to the CEO.

Analysis

This academic year has been one of recovery and catch-up following the global covid-19 pandemic. All schools have continued to be impacted by staff and pupil illness with attendance not yet returning to pre-pandemic levels. The social and emotional needs of our pupils have taken priority as we have sought to establish school routines and reinforce good learning behaviours. We have also learnt lessons from the pandemic and have continued to offer remote learning at times.

During the 2021/2022 academic year Ofsted visits took place at Holton St Peter (October 2021) and Ilketshall St Lawrence (November 2021). Both schools were judged 'good'.

The Beeches extended early years provision opening in September 2021 with 82 places available for two and three year olds. A successful significant change application was made to expand Edgar Sewter to a two form entry school and building work was completed during the year.

The headteacher recruitment programme ensured successful appointments were made at several trust schools with a full induction programme and coaching support in place.

Central executive appointments for a Director of Operations and Interim CFO were made and the central team fully developed for future growth.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

a. Key performance indicators

A. Review of performance targets for 2022

Target	Review
Standardised score test results in July 2022 are in line with, or exceed national averages in reading and maths.	Average scores in standardised tests (national average is 100)
The number of pupils who are reading below their chronological age has reduced by 50%.	In summer 21, 36% of pupils were reading below their chronological age. This figure is now 33%.
90% of Y1 pupils (without SEND) have passed their phonics tests and on average at least 82% of all pupils across the trust.	86% of pupils without SEND passed the phonics test. 80% of all pupils across the trust passed the test.
Recovery programme interventions have had demonstrable success in terms of pupil outcomes in test results.	Full analysis of tutoring and interventions will be carried out. It is clear that there is some success from tutoring, particularly where pupils are known to staff and the tutoring sessions are well matched to curriculum content.
Teachers report that Learning Impact Discussions (LIDs) have improved their delivery, planning and pupil outcomes in classrooms.	Learning Impact Discussions are now widely used across the trust. Schools are finding out about what children know and remember about their learning; there is more work to do to make sure this translates into improved outcomes.
School attendance is above 96% in all schools.	For the academic year up to 1 July, school attendance was 93%. The only national comparison available so far comes from the Autumn term, where attendance was 93.1%.
Ofsted inspections judge all areas to be at least good with an overall judgement of good or better.	Ilkeshall and Holton both received good judgements.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Policies are up to date on school and trust websites.	Policies were followed up regularly in monthly meetings with HTs to ensure they are up to date and there is a set of rolling reminders on ASSET Headlines.
Accountability framework and internal trust checks assess risks as low in all schools.	The education risk register has been established this year to complement the Headteacher Accountability Framework and a full system of internal trust checks.

Performance Management

The performance of headteachers and senior trust leaders is managed by the CEO and reported to the trustees' remuneration committee with decisions about pay made by the committee. In 2021/2022 targets were set in line with the trust and school's priorities. All targets were reviewed in July 2022 and pay decisions approved by the Remuneration Committee in October 2022. Headteachers are responsible for setting school level targets for all staff in line with the same priorities and their pay recommendations for teachers are made to the CEO for final approval. All pay and performance review cycles were complied with including the performance review of all school and trust support staff which were undertaken in April and May 2022.

Ofsted inspection outcomes

The current Ofsted judgements on ASSET schools are listed below:

School name	Current Ofsted Judgement	Date of inspection	Comment
Bungay	Good	May-21	
Castle Hill Infants	Good	Feb-19	pre-transfer
Castle Hill Juniors	Requires Improvement	Feb-20	
Cliff Lane	Requires Improvement	Jan-20	
Edgar Sewter	Requires Improvement	Feb-20	
Holton St Peter	Good	Oct-21	
Ilketshall St Lawrence	Good	Nov-21	
Ringshall	Good	Jun-19	pre-conversion
St Helen's	Good	Jan-18	
Shotley	Inadequate	Nov-17	pre-conversion - school was sponsored by trust
Stutton	Good	Jan-18	pre-conversion
The Oaks	Outstanding	Sep-18	
Wenhaston	Good	Jan-20	

Pupil attendance

The trust monitors attendance of pupils over the year and this is broken down by schools as well as giving the trust an overall picture. This allows the trust to target any schools where more work may be needed to ensure good attendance. Overall pupil attendance in July 2022 was 93%.

Across the trust pupil numbers have risen - 3,082 in summer 2021 to 3,160 in summer 2022. Capacity has improved from 83% to 85%.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Human Resources

The Trust has agreed a set of data to monitor staff absence. Since June 2021 we have been collecting this data and reviewing the impact on our staff performance. This data is reported back to the Trust Operations Committee. For teachers the data is also measured against the DfE's School Workforce Report 2021. The average number of sickness absence days per teacher across the Trust's 14 schools for the academic year 2021/22 was 6.5. This compares favourably with The School Workforce Report (2020-21) which found the average number of teachers taking sickness absence was 8.6. However this is a rise in the teacher sickness absence rate nationally compared to 2018/19 when 4.1 days per teacher and 4.0 in 2017/18, but demonstrates the impact of Covid on teacher absence.

Staff survey

Staff wellbeing and opinions are measured during the annual staff survey. The information from this is analysed both at trust level as well as individual reports which are sent to schools. The results of this survey show how we are doing as a trust when engaging our staff and give an indication into the wellbeing of our colleagues. They are used to show any areas we need to focus on improving for the welfare of our staff. The cycle of the survey has now moved from the summer to the autumn term and therefore a survey has not been completed since last year's report, with the next one planned during the Autumn term 2022.

Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning/Schools Resource Management Self Assessment

The trust continues to review key performance indicators covering financial activities which includes balancing the budget and reporting on the salary costs as a percentage of income. The Schools Resource Management Self-Assessment Tool is completed as required by the ESFA which includes data to benchmark with similar schools and trusts. The benchmark data is then fed back to LGBs and forms the basis of the financial data dashboard entry for the school which is overseen by the MGB. The information from the 'View My Financial Insights' website is now also reviewed and fed back to trustees and school on an annual basis.

Schools are continuing to use ICFP benchmarking when setting their budget, utilising an in-house tool the trust has created to easily compare and summarise between schools. A summary of their results compared to similar schools is presented to LGBs and is also presented to the finance committee when recommending the budget for approval. The schools have improved in their use of this over the past two years and are now able to start identifying areas of concern which influences their decision making.

The finance committee also receive an Academies Benchmarking report each year comparing the trust with other trusts in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Premises

The trust has continued to monitor energy consumption throughout the year, allowing us to forecast future energy demands, as well as ensuring that energy is used most effectively. We are also able to measure the impact of our capital project spend on our energy consumption.

Many of the above KPIs are listed on the trust data dashboard - a central document which provides oversight of all schools within the trust and shows a RAG rating for different areas of the trust. This is updated regularly and will gain further value over the next year when audits for different areas such as HR and Finance will also feed into this. The trustees receive regular information at each committee meeting to enable them to monitor the performance of the trust compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. 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 they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

c. Promoting the success of the company

The Trustees have a legal responsibility under section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 to act in a way most likely to promote the success of the Charitable Company to achieve its charitable purposes. Details regarding engagement with employees, suppliers, parents, pupils and other connected parties have been covered in separate notes within the Trustees' Report. The obligation to assess the likely consequences of decisions in the longer term is noted within the reserves policy below as Trustees balance the needs of current and future cohorts.

The Trustees have identified reputational and ethical areas as key risks and their actions in these areas are covered within Principal risks and uncertainties later within this Strategic Report.

Financial review

Following the lockdown periods of previous years, the trust has continued to incur additional costs. This has partially been down to staff sickness during the year due to isolation for Covid-19. This has resulted in additional supply costs, however most schools have been able to mitigate this better in 2021/22 by upskilling existing staff to be able to step-up should they be required. Schools have also continued to make use of the Covid Catch Up Premium Grant and Recovery Premium grant in year to help support lost learning during the pandemic. There have been additional costs for tutoring in-year which has been part funded (75%) by the School-Led Tutoring grant.

Schools in the Ipswich area received funding of £118,414 from the Ipswich Opportunity Area in-year. This was used towards specific projects in individual schools and the funding was granted based on these projects being proposed. The Ipswich Opportunity Area scheme has now come to an end and we do not expect any further funding for this next year. Two schools are also receiving funding from Suffolk County Council for capital projects - Wenham Primary School are in receipt of Section 106 funding up to £92,724 and Castle Hill Primary are in receipt of funding for a canopy for an outdoor area for an amount of £19,495.

Principal financial risks for the trust include the increasing costs of staffing and resources and the reliance on government funding to meet this, the need for the trust to grow to remain sustainable and the risk of internal controls if these are not sufficient which could lead to issues such as fraud. Details on these risks and mitigations put in place for these can be found in the principal risks and uncertainties section below.

Key factors which could affect the trust moving forward include the large increase in energy costs currently seen in the market. The trust has a fixed rate energy contract until April 2023 and schools have budgeted based on this increased rate which we have been paying since April 2022. This partially mitigates the risk, however there is a risk if when reviewed, the fixed-rate increases from April 2023 which is a possibility. Budgets will be monitored closely through the year and virements completed where necessary to reflect this.

Salary increases are also a risk to the trust at present. The 5% minimum rise for teachers proposed by the STRB is higher than the 3% minimum originally proposed and by which the trust budgets were set. It is also likely that a support staff pay award will be announced at a higher percentage with current proposals looking at a sliding scale starting at 10% for the lowest grades and moving down to 3% for the highest. This is again much higher than our budgeted increase of 2.5%. At present no additional funding has been announced by the Government

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

for this increase. If this remains the case it will result in our schools needing to utilise their reserves to meet the costs. Budgets for each school will need to be continually closely monitored to ensure these budgets are balanced as this continues. Plans for the growth of trust will bring additional costs but should also bring additional funding to the trust to manage these such as the Trust Capacity Fund (TCaF). Any such plans will be closely evaluated to ensure financial stability before any decision is made.

The principal source of funding for the trust is the General Annual Grant (GAG) and other grants that it receives from the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA). For the year ended 31 August 2022, the trust received £19,901,171 (2021: £19,639,720) of GAG and other funding. There was no income relating to conversion or transfers (2021: £nil). A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the trust's primary objective of the provision of education. During the year, the trust spent £21,908,988 (2021: £20,073,890) on expenditure with transfers to capital of £131,268 (2021: £156,830) to support capital new build and improvement projects on the various academy sites. The trust brought forward from 2020/21, £554,672 restricted revenue funds and £933,754 unrestricted revenue funding. The carry forward for 2021/22 is £657,202 restricted revenue funding and £968,940 unrestricted revenue funding.

The trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA and other government bodies. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, such grants are shown as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned. In the year, the trust received school condition allocation funding totalling £615,091 (2021: £820,121). At 31 August 2022, the value of unspent capital grants was £1,221,680 (2021: £1,851,746).

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the trust is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £1,160,000 (2021: £11,083,000). This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises and such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

a. Reserves policy

The trustees are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs and aim to build and maintain a revenue reserve to provide flexibility and certainty in forward planning. The current reserves policy is for each academy within the trust to hold revenue reserves equivalent to 3% of their General Annual Grant (GAG) income with a minimum reserve of £20,000. At 31 August 2022 this equated to a minimum required reserve level of £421,489 (2021: £395,088). The actual reserves held by the 14 schools totalled £1,335,942 with a further £290,200 held as central trust reserves. All revenue reserves are controlled by the trust board including those transferred in upon conversion and cannot be spent without the approval of the board.

At 31 August 2022, the trust had the following reserves: unrestricted £968,940 (2021: £933,754), GAG £361,179 (2021: £353,729), other restricted £296,023 (2021: £200,943). This has been built up from a mixture of local activities and balances transferred from the predecessor schools. At 31 August 2022, all schools were holding revenue reserves of at least 3% of their GAG income or £20,000.

The balance of other restricted reserves represents approved funds carried forward for costs that will be incurred in 2022/23.

At 31 August 2022, the Trust had £32,644,868 (2021: £32,783,401) in the restricted fixed asset fund and this includes £31,423,188 of fixed assets.

The trustees monitor estimated year end carry forward figures via monthly reports generated by the academy business managers and collated by the chief finance officer. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

The trustees monitor cash flow as part of the finance and audit committee agenda. The trust cash balance at 31 August 2022 was £3,831,580 (2021: £4,218,593).

b. Investment policy

Reserve funds will be held on deposit in an interest bearing account in a UK regulated bank or in other instruments and investments as agreed from time to time by the MGB.

The trust will take a very prudent approach to any deposits or investments that it makes by:

- ensuring financial security takes precedence over revenue maximisation;
- avoiding any types of investment that may be considered novel, contentious or potentially lacking in broad public support;
- taking professional advice where appropriate.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

A central risk register is maintained, identifying the major risks, to which the trust is exposed, and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. This register is approved and monitored by the MGB via the trust board committees with a formal review of the process undertaken on an annual basis and reported to the Audit & Risk Committee which was formed in spring 2021. The internal control systems and the exposure to identified risks are monitored on behalf of the trustees at each committee meeting. The principal risks facing the trust are outlined below; those facing the academies at an operational level are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls.

The trustees report that the trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

As a group of academy schools, the level of financial risk is lower than if schools operated independently. Cash flows can be reliably forecast, monitored and reported. Staff costs make up the majority of expenditure and are relatively stable with contingencies in place to cover such items as sickness and maternity.

The trustees assess the other principal risks and uncertainties facing the trust as follows:

- Reputational - the continuing success of the individual academies is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards and ensuring the trust ethos, values and vision is evident in all schools. To mitigate this risk trustees ensure that student progress and outcomes are closely monitored and reviewed;
- Growth - the trust needs to grow in order to support an adequate central team that could lack the capacity to handle the growth. To mitigate this risk the trustees keep the composition of the central team under regular review and ensure that the trust buys in external expertise when needed in order to carry out thorough due diligence when necessary;
- Each academy within the trust has considerable reliance on continued government funding through the ESFA and there is no assurance that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms;
- Failures in governance and/or management - the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the trust's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, etc. The trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks and ensure that trustees and governors are appointed with the expertise needed to fully support and challenge the trust;
- Safeguarding and child protection - the trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline;
- Staffing - the success of the academies is reliant on the quality of its staff and the trustees monitor and review policies and procedures and recruitment to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning;
- Fraud and mismanagement of funds - the trust has appointed M+A Partners LLP to carry out independent and external checks on financial systems and records through their internal audit service as required by the academy financial handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep up to-date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The trust and each academy have continued to strengthen the risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness.

The trust consider cash flow, credit and liquidity risks that are inherent in any organisation not to be a principal risk, this has been determined by monitoring the cash flow, liquidity and credit on a monthly basis.

Fundraising

The trust only held small fundraising events during the year including non uniform days. The trust does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

The academy trust's greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are as follows:

	2022	2021
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	919,885	1,039,681
Energy consumption breakdown (kWh):		
Gas	177,281	183,553
Electricity	702,620	833,188
Transport fuel - owned transport	1,316	1,711
Transport fuel - employee vehicles	38,668	21,229
Scope 1 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Gas consumption	32.68	33.62
Owened transport	0.32	0.41
Total scope 1	<u>33.00</u>	<u>34.03</u>
Scope 2 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Purchased electricity	<u>135.87</u>	<u>176.91</u>
Scope 3 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Business travel in employee-owned or rental vehicles	<u>10.62</u>	<u>5.86</u>
Total gross emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	<u>179.49</u>	<u>216.80</u>
Intensity ratio:		
Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil	<u>0.06</u>	<u>0.07</u>

The academy trust has followed and used the following quantification and reporting methodologies:

- the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines;
- the GHG Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard; and
- the 2020 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

The chosen intensity ratio is total gross emissions in tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Plans for future periods

ASSET's 10 Strategic Aims

1. Empower our pupils to achieve the highest standards in every aspect of learning and life and, in particular, lifting up the vulnerable and disadvantaged.
2. Provide high quality teaching all day, every day, using evidenced based pedagogical expertise and a relentless focus on the classroom experience for pupils.
3. Deliver a highly engaging and interesting curriculum that builds social and cultural capital, a love of learning in all areas, and a commitment to making the world a better place.
4. Embed and communicate the Trust's vision, mission, values and aims so that they are widely understood, embraced and embodied in all aspects of our work.
5. Grow the Trust to extend our influence in Suffolk with full and inclusive schools, excellent services and capacity to support others.
6. Be an employer of choice where staff are empowered to be the best they can be, expertise is shared, motivation is high and relationships and wellbeing are prioritised.
7. Have strong internal and external quality assurance and risk management systems to consistently maintain the best practice and highest standards in all areas.
8. Maximise, and make the best use of, all funding streams, ploughing savings back into learning, with efficient, centralised services and procurement, and additional funding bids.
9. Achieve our aims through highly effective, and accountable, leadership and governance providing clarity, direction and resources to enable success in all areas.
10. Reach out to our families and communities to drive social cohesion and long term educational improvement through research, collaboration, system leadership, and civic partnerships.

A new five year strategy came into effect in summer 2022 and now provides all schools with a direction and collective approach to planning improvement as we seek to work towards achieving our vision. The strategy and vision has been worked on by staff, governors and trustees with input from pupil and parent surveys. The annual Trust Development Plan is subject to regular review by the trust executive, the board and its committees. New improvements/actions are added to the Annual Cycle for Governance and the Annual Cycle for Executive to ensure continual review. It is based on a thorough risk assessment which is re-visited at trustee meetings.

A whole self-evaluation framework has been developed for ASSET schools which is based on our values of excellence, empowerment, engagement and equity. It forms the central core of school improvement and is designed to link with school activities without creating additional work. It is based on self-assessment against statements of excellence that have been written collaboratively and are open to constant refinement and improvement. All school staff are involved in the self-evaluation process and are responsible for identifying what they need to develop and improve both personally and within their phase or school. As a whole, our self-evaluation process provides a complete picture of the school which helps us to define our main priorities, keeps us on track towards them, improves our accuracy in knowing where the key risks are and enables school leaders, governors and the trust board to know our schools well. Internal monitoring is an essential part of this process.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Plans for future periods (continued)

Trustees agree that we need to take a holistic, humanistic view of personal development and growth over the next couple of years and that we will aim to:

- Develop the personal resilience, capacity and agency of our staff and pupils
- Develop and expand our collective capacity, recognising the contextual nature of leadership
- Actively promote democracy and choice to develop active citizens
- Embrace learning in all its forms and especially the influence of the family
- Overcome barriers especially in IT and language (i.e. home language of parents)
- Be really good at developing the social and cultural capital of our pupils
- Evaluate our success by looking at how we develop the autonomy of the 'whole person'

Priorities for 2022/2023.

- **Tackling disadvantage head on**
 - building social and cultural capital within our communities and with our children
 - being champions and advocates for our people and communities
 - demanding the services and support or looking to provide it ourselves
 - making sure we positively advantage children e.g. private tuition for every child on pupil premium
- **Providing a curriculum that is fit for the 21st century**
 - learning designed around what our children need to know for the future
 - clear promotion of equality, inclusion, tolerance and diversity
 - understanding about the environment and climate change
 - prioritising reading and the skills that children will need in order to be successful in the future
- **Empowering our people to deliver and create the change that is needed**
 - looking after wellbeing and workload and making the job possible
 - having the highest expectations and providing the best training and support
 - making sure that the services that sit around the school and each classroom support and enable the changes needed

Our mantra this year:

- High expectations and consistently good practice in all places at all times
- We identify, define and model how we want things to be at every level
- Good learning will result in good pupil outcomes
- Every child a reader
- We empower to raise achievement through coaching and training

Future Growth and development of the group

There is more we could do to make a much bigger difference to the lives of our children. We have invested in a new post - a Trust Lead for Families and Communities as we seek to prioritise work in our communities.

We are open and seeking additional schools to join us in our mission.

We aim to continue to grow the trust to a size that is viable and sustainable both financially and in order to continue to secure improvement. Growth plans include developing our services to schools, maximising pupil numbers in schools and improving our marketing and communications. We have the central capacity to be able to take on at least one larger primary school and several small schools in the next two years.

Trustees are pleased that ASSET Education has been a key player in the Ipswich Opportunity Area and now supports the development of the Ipswich Social Mobility Alliance.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

NCTL Schools Direct Salaried (SDS) Programme

The trust distributes SDS funding as an agent for the Department for Education. In the year, the trust received £63 and disbursed £63 from the fund. No amounts were held at the year end (2021: £Nil).

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that 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 auditors are 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 5 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

S J P Evans-Evans

S J P Evans-Evans
Signed on behalf of the Trustees on 5 December 2022,
Chair of Trustees

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that ASSET Education 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 ASSET Education and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year as a full board and held committee meetings in addition to this.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Professor J H West-Burnham, Chair of Trustees	5	6
E Casey, Vice Chair, Chair of Area Governance Ipswich	3	6
G H Clarke	5	6
N Denny	4	4
S J P Evans-Evans, Audit Chair	5	6
C E Flintoff, CEO/Accounting Officer	6	6
B D Gostling, Finance Chair	3	6
M C B Mattinson, Chair of Governance Waveney	6	6
P Mutumburi	2	2
J J Pentreath, Principal Director	6	6
G R Stevens, Operations Chair	2	6
E P Whitehead	5	6
S Wilkinson	5	6

There is good separation between layers of governance with four out of five members with no connection with other layers of governance and each Member connected to the wider communities the trust serves.

The Trust Board has been further strengthened with one additional appointment to fill a gap identified by the board in a skills audit.

The Trust Board delegates decision making to its committees as set out in the Scheme of Delegation.

In 2021 the Finance and Audit functions were separated so this year has seen a full year of committee meetings of both the Finance Committee and the Audit & Risk committee.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Terms of Reference for all committees are reviewed annually in the autumn term. Reports on safeguarding are given to the main board as well as two committees - education and operations.

Self-evaluation processes are built into governance at all levels. This year trustees commissioned an external governance review, following their internal review into local governance in July 2021. A full report on this internal review, including recommendations, was considered by the trust board in December 2021. Trustees agreed to clarify and update the role of the Local Governing Body, terms of reference were updated and these were reflected in the Scheme of Delegation and the ASSET Governance Handbook. During the autumn term 2021 the Scheme of Delegation was reviewed against the latest guidance from the Confederation of School Trusts (CST) and changes were approved in December 2021. CST has been appointed to undertake the external review in the autumn term 2022.

Governor recruitment procedures were improved last year and this has resulted in some new appointments at local level. An annual checklist completed by all governors and trustees ensures compliance with training and safeguarding requirements. Governor training sessions run by trust staff have covered: Pupil Premium, SEND, and Named Safeguarding Governor, with online training modules provided through the National Governance Association (NGA) and other providers. The CEO meets all new local governors in an induction session which runs termly or according to need.

Managing conflicts of interest

To ensure conflicts of interest are managed effectively, a register of interests is held centrally and maintained throughout the year to ensure any potential conflicts can be identified quickly and dealt with appropriately. The list of specific related parties is also shared with the finance team so that the team processing transactions are aware of any potential related party transactions arising and can report these to the CFO as appropriate. The CFO also completes a regular check for related party transactions to ensure these are reported both to the ESFA and Trustees as appropriate and for further discussion if necessary.

Local governance and delegated responsibilities

Trustees have clarified the role of the local governing body especially in relation to their attendance at an Ofsted inspection which they are expected to do on behalf of the board of trustees. The ASSET Governance Handbook provides full information. Essentially the local governing body acts on behalf of the trustees and works in partnership with senior trust leaders in order to 'provide additional support, scrutiny and challenge to school leaders' and 'talk knowledgeably about the school to Ofsted inspectors'. They also act as ambassadors for the school in the wider community and seek to bring both school and community together to enhance the experience for young people. At an Ofsted inspection both local governors and the trust executive leaders will explain how the trustees hold them to account in regard to these tasks.

Local governors have attended schools in person this year, following a year in which they undertook most of their monitoring duties remotely due to restrictions in place. Monitoring visits and meetings are tied into the school's development plan and reported back at clerked meetings.

The vast majority of trustee meetings took place online and this is likely to continue for the foreseeable future. Two in person strategy planning days for trustees, chairs of governors and the executive took place in 21/22.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees and its remit has remained unchanged. During the year the committee noted the financial health of the trust and its improved reserves position. The committee approved 3 year budget plans for schools and the trust central budget and noted the challenges that schools face with increased costs.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
B D Gostling (Chair)	4	4
E Casey	3	4
N Denny	2	3
C E Flintoff	4	4
C Johnson	2	2
P Mutumburi	0	2

The Audit and Risk Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees and it has met three times (plus one meeting shared with the finance committee), appointed internal auditors, agreed a cycle of work and will receive reports directly from the auditors thus strengthening this function.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S J P Evans-Evans (Chair)	4	4
G H Clarke	4	4
N Denny	1	2
B D Gostling	2	4

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the academy 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:

- consolidating academy contracts
- joint procurement
- further developing distributed leadership roles

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 ASSET Education for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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 ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 Board, Finance and other trust committees 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
- identification and management of risks, and the delegation of authority and segregation of duties;

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ M&A Partners as internal auditor.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Risk Management
- HR Compliance
- Budgeting and management information

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees through the audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.

The internal auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned and there were no material control issues arising as a result of the internal auditor's work.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

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

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

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the audit and risk committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 5 December 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

S J P Evans-Evans

S J P Evans-Evans
Simon Evans-Evans Dec 7, 2022,
Chair of Trustees

Clare Flintoff

Clare Flintoff (Dec 7, 2022, 9:24pm)

C E Flintoff
Accounting Officer

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of ASSET Education I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

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.



Clare Flintoff (Dec 7, 2022, 9:24pm)

C E Flintoff

Accounting Officer

Date: 5 December 2022

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report and Directors' Report) and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 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 financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgments 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the Education & Skills Funding Agency and Department for Education have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 5 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

S J P Evans-Evans

Simon Evans-Evans (Dec 7, 2022,

S J P Evans-Evans

Chair of Trustees

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ASSET EDUCATION

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of ASSET Education (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2022 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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements 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 financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ASSET
EDUCATION (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion 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 Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our 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 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ASSET EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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:

- We reviewed systems and procedures to identify potential areas of management override risk. In particular, we carried out testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of any large or unusual transactions to determine whether they were significant to our assessment.
- We reviewed key controls, authorisation procedures and decision making processes for any unusual or one-off transactions.
- We reviewed minutes of Trustee meetings and other relevant sub-committees of the Board and agreed the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- We have made enquiries of the Accounting Officer and senior management team to identify laws and regulations applicable to the Trust. We assessed details of any breaches where applicable in order to assess the impact upon the Trust.
- We reviewed the risk management processes and procedures in place including a review of the Risk Register and Board assurance reporting and the Internal Scrutiny Reports.
- We have reviewed any correspondence with the ESFA / DfE and the procedures in place for the reporting of incidents to the Trustees including reporting of any serious incidents to the Regulator if necessary.

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

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

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ASSET
EDUCATION (CONTINUED)**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the academy trust'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 academy trust's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the academy trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

John Warren BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Anglia House, 6 Central

Avenue St Andrews Business

Park Thorpe St Andrew

Norwich

Norfolk

NR7 0HR

Date: 13 December 2022

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ASSET
EDUCATION AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 19 July 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by ASSET Education during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 ASSET Education and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to ASSET Education 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 ASSET Education and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of ASSET Education's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of ASSET Education's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated April 2017 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. 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 year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

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.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusions includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance.
- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officers statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and how the Trust.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Academy Trust, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity, propriety and compliance.
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, in order to support the regularity conclusion, including governance, internal controls, procurement and the application of income.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant
Price Bailey LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Anglia House, 6 Central Avenue
St Andrews Business Park
Thorpe St Andrew
Norwich
Norfolk
NR7 0HR

Date: 13 December 2022

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	32,728	900	744,453	778,081	1,733,858
Other trading activities		94,915	76	-	94,991	85,391
Investments	6	2,200	-	-	2,200	4,070
Charitable activities		597,120	18,428,779	-	19,025,899	17,816,401
Total income		726,963	18,429,755	744,453	19,901,171	19,639,720
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		691,777	20,202,957	1,014,254	21,908,988	20,073,890
Total expenditure		691,777	20,202,957	1,014,254	21,908,988	20,073,890
Net income/(expenditure)		35,186	(1,773,202)	(269,801)	(2,007,817)	(434,170)
Transfers between funds	20	-	(131,268)	131,268	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		35,186	(1,904,470)	(138,533)	(2,007,817)	(434,170)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	28	-	11,930,000	-	11,930,000	(2,676,000)
Net movement in funds		35,186	10,025,530	(138,533)	9,922,183	(3,110,170)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		933,754	(10,528,328)	32,783,401	23,188,827	26,298,997
Net movement in funds		35,186	10,025,530	(138,533)	9,922,183	(3,110,170)
Total funds carried forward		968,940	(502,798)	32,644,868	33,111,010	23,188,827

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 37 to 67 form part of these financial statements.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 09434926

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	31,423,188	30,931,655
		<u>31,423,188</u>	<u>30,931,655</u>
Current assets			
Stocks	16	9,606	5,318
Debtors	17	469,301	521,629
Cash at bank and in hand		3,831,580	4,218,593
		<u>4,310,487</u>	<u>4,745,540</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(1,439,797)	(1,377,851)
Net current assets		<u>2,870,690</u>	<u>3,367,689</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>34,293,878</u>	<u>34,299,344</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(22,868)	(27,517)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>34,271,010</u>	<u>34,271,827</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	28	(1,160,000)	(11,083,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>33,111,010</u></u>	<u><u>23,188,827</u></u>
Funds of the academy trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	20	32,644,868	32,783,401
Restricted income funds	20	657,202	554,672
		<u>33,302,070</u>	<u>33,338,073</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	20	33,302,070	33,338,073
Pension reserve	20	(1,160,000)	(11,083,000)
Total restricted funds	20	<u>32,142,070</u>	<u>22,255,073</u>
Unrestricted income funds	20	<u>968,940</u>	<u>933,754</u>
Total funds		<u><u>33,111,010</u></u>	<u><u>23,188,827</u></u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 09434926

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

The financial statements on pages 33 to 67 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 05 December 2022 and are signed on their behalf, by:

S J P Evans-Evans

S J P Evans-Evans, 2022,
3:37pm)
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 37 to 67 form part of these financial statements.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	22	370,230	95,442
Cash flows from investing activities	24	(749,660)	319,822
Cash flows from financing activities	23	(7,583)	(6,251)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(387,013)	409,013
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		4,218,593	3,809,580
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	25, 26	<u>3,831,580</u>	<u>4,218,593</u>

The notes on pages 37 to 67 form part of these financial statements

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic 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 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

ASSET Education meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

ASSET Education is a private company limited by shares incorporated in England and Wales under the Companies Act 2006. The address of its registered office is St Helen's Primary School, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 2LT. The place of business is at each of the individual school sites within the Trust.

The accounts have been prepared in pounds sterling and rounded to the nearest pound.

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

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

- **Grants**

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

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

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

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the academy trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

• **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Redundancy and termination payments

Redundancy and termination costs are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Activities and a liability on the Balance Sheet at the point the Trust is demonstrably committed to either:

- terminate the employment of an employee or a group of employees before normal retirement date; or
- provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made in order to encourage voluntary redundancy.

The Trust is considered to be demonstrably committed only when it has a detailed formal plan for the termination and is without realistic possibility of withdrawal from the plan.

1.7 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.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Leasehold land	- Over lease term
Leasehold buildings	- Over estimated useful life per the valuation or a maximum of 50 years
Furniture and equipment	- 10% - 20% straight line
Plant and machinery	- 4% straight line
Computer equipment	- 33% straight line

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.

All school premises are leased from the council under long term leases. No rent is paid on these properties. The leasehold land and buildings were valued on conversion / transfer of each school into the Trust, and are depreciated as noted in the depreciation bases above.

1.9 Stock

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Liabilities

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

1.13 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 bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.14 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 Pensions

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.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. 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 recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

1.16 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing School Direct Salaried funding on behalf of the Department for Education. The Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 32.

1.17 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.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 28, 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 2022. 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.

Critical areas of judgment:

There were no areas of judgment used in the preparation of these financial statements.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	32,728	900	32,330	65,958	100,273
Capital Grants	-	-	712,123	712,123	1,633,585
Total 2022	32,728	900	744,453	778,081	1,733,858
Total 2021	38,360	-	1,695,498	1,733,858	

In 2021, income from donations was £100,273 of which £38,360 was unrestricted and £61,913 was restricted. Capital grants of £1,633,585 were in relation to restricted fixed assets.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

4. Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Provision of Education				
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	14,049,635	14,049,635	13,169,611
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Rates Reclaim	-	63,530	63,530	63,267
Pupil Premium	-	1,154,520	1,154,520	1,065,675
UFSM	-	377,906	377,906	387,030
PE Sports Grant	-	250,270	250,270	250,700
Teachers Pay Grant	-	9,293	9,293	157,264
Teachers Pension Grant	-	26,262	26,262	471,683
FSM Supplementary Grant	-	-	-	60,750
Schools Supplementary Grant	-	178,324	178,324	-
Other	-	158,116	158,116	9,150
	-	16,267,856	16,267,856	15,635,130
Other Government grants				
Local Authority Grants	-	1,960,729	1,960,729	1,543,334
	-	1,960,729	1,960,729	1,543,334
Other income from the academy trust's provision of education	597,120	82,227	679,347	387,417
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	250,520
Recovery Premium	-	117,967	117,967	-
	-	117,967	117,967	250,520
Total Provision of Education	597,120	18,428,779	19,025,899	17,816,401
	597,120	18,428,779	19,025,899	17,816,401
Total 2021	317,876	17,498,525	17,816,401	

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

4. Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities (continued)

GAG income and business rates expenditure has been grossed up for the full value of business rates paid by ESFA on behalf of the trust.

Other income from the academy trust's provision of education contains £179,930 (2021: £119,528) of pupil catering income and £499,417 (2021: £267,889) of other income which includes income in respect of nursery care, wrap-around care/clubs, apprenticeship levy and educational trips/visits.

In 2021, income from DFE/ESFA grants was £15,635,130 which all was restricted. Income from other government grants was £1,543,334 which was all restricted. Other income from the academy trust's educational operations amounted to £387,417 of which £317,876 was unrestricted and £69,541 was restricted.

The academy received £nil (2021: £250,520) of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £89,685 (2021: £160,835). No amounts remained unspent at the year end. The academy received £117,967 (2021: £nil) of funding for recovery premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £117,947, with the remaining £20 to be spent in 2022/23.

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Hire of facilities	46,711	-	46,711	28,915
Sale of goods, catering, music income and consultancy	25,676	76	25,752	21,316
Insurance income	22,528	-	22,528	35,160
Total 2022	94,915	76	94,991	85,391
Total 2021	85,391	-	85,391	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Bank interest	2,200	2,200	4,070
Total 2021	4,070	4,070	

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Provision of Education:					
Direct costs	15,131,191	-	1,203,378	16,334,569	15,176,199
Allocated support costs	2,074,256	748,596	2,751,567	5,574,419	4,897,691
Total 2022	<u>17,205,447</u>	<u>748,596</u>	<u>3,954,945</u>	<u>21,908,988</u>	<u>20,073,890</u>
Total 2021	<u>16,115,130</u>	<u>736,696</u>	<u>3,222,064</u>	<u>20,073,890</u>	

In 2021, direct expenditure consisted of £14,302,948 staff costs and £873,251 other costs. Support expenditure consisted of £1,812,182 staff costs, £736,696 premises costs and £2,348,813 other costs.

In 2022, of the total expenditure, £691,777 (2021: £370,924) was to unrestricted funds, £20,202,957 (2021: £18,757,311) was to restricted funds and £1,014,254 (2021: £938,565) was to restricted fixed asset funds.

8. Charitable Activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Direct costs - educational operations	16,334,569	15,176,199
Support costs - educational operations	5,574,419	4,897,691
	<u>21,908,988</u>	<u>20,073,890</u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Analysis of support costs

	2022 £	2021 £
Support staff costs	2,074,256	1,812,039
Depreciation and loss on disposal	1,014,256	938,568
Technology costs	133,821	122,593
Premises costs	748,596	736,696
Legal costs - other	32,006	9,252
Other support costs	1,538,553	1,247,311
Governance costs	32,931	31,232
	<u>5,574,419</u>	<u>4,897,691</u>

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals	31,358	32,055
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,013,615	936,978
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	638	1,591
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	15,015	14,300
- other services	11,865	10,835
	<u>11,518</u>	<u>25,730</u>

10. Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to the academy trust's auditor and its associates for the audit of the academy trust's annual accounts	15,015	14,300
Fees payable to the academy trust's auditor and its associates in respect of:		
Audit-related assurance services	2,780	3,650
All non-audit services not included above	6,335	5,035
	<u>9,130</u>	<u>12,985</u>
Fees payable to the academy trust's auditor and its associates in connection with the academy trust's pension scheme(s) in respect of:		
The auditing of accounts of the scheme(s)	2,750	2,150
	<u>2,750</u>	<u>2,150</u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

11. Central services

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

- Human Resources
- Legal and Professional Services
- Financial Services
- Educational Support Services
- Payroll Services
- Health and Safety Services
- Premises Services
- Audit

The academy trust charges for these services on the following basis:

5% of GAG income, plus IT, planned preventative maintenance, school business manager and reading advocate charges where applicable.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Bungay Primary School	54,001	53,642
Castle Hill Infant School	71,389	65,190
Castle Hill Junior School	108,080	100,401
Cliff Lane Primary School	117,630	113,677
Edgar Sewter Community Primary School	82,758	63,744
Holton St Peter Community Primary School	34,574	29,467
Ilketshall St Lawrence School	34,801	31,206
Ringshall Primary School	48,032	40,140
St Helen's Primary School	128,060	118,885
Shotley Primary School	54,394	49,340
Stutton Church of England Primary School	32,265	23,742
The Beeches Community Primary School	94,380	86,700
The Oaks Primary School	125,403	116,658
Wenhaston Primary School	35,068	31,084
Total	<u><u>1,020,835</u></u>	<u><u>923,876</u></u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

12. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	11,623,594	11,402,069
Social security costs	1,034,538	974,588
Pension costs	4,453,537	3,635,361
	<u>17,111,669</u>	<u>16,012,018</u>
Agency staff costs	91,571	102,969
Staff restructuring costs	2,207	-
	<u><u>17,205,447</u></u>	<u><u>16,114,987</u></u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Other restructuring costs	<u><u>2,207</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>
---------------------------	---------------------	-----------------

b. Staff numbers

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	205	205
Administration and support	362	362
Management	16	15
	<u><u>583</u></u>	<u><u>582</u></u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	5
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	5	4
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	<u><u>1</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12. Staff (continued)

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,375,455 (2021 - £1,350,441). This includes employers national insurance of £124,181 (2021: £119,106) and employer pension costs of £238,764 (2021: £231,856).

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2022 £	2021 £
C E Flintoff, CEO/Accounting Officer	Remuneration	90,000 -	90,000 -
		95,000	95,000
	Pension contributions paid	20,000 -	20,000 -
J J Pentreath, Principal Director		25,000	25,000
	Remuneration	70,000 -	70,000 -
		75,000	75,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 -	15,000 -
		20,000	20,000

During the year, retirement benefits were accruing to 2 Trustees (2021 - 2) in respect of defined benefit pension schemes.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, expenses totalling £613 were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees (2021 - £472 to 3 Trustees) for travel costs.

14. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold land & buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Plant and machinery £	Computer equipment £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2021	32,405,985	935,840	314,923	548,193	183,095	34,388,036
Additions	848,484	246,927	16,990	125,661	267,824	1,505,886
Disposals	-	(1,475)	-	(9,912)	-	(11,387)
Transfers between classes	154,290	9,134	-	9,072	(172,496)	-
At 31 August 2022	<u>33,408,759</u>	<u>1,190,426</u>	<u>331,913</u>	<u>673,014</u>	<u>278,423</u>	<u>35,882,535</u>
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2021	2,706,395	448,278	7,651	294,057	-	3,456,381
Charge for the year	709,037	147,295	12,884	144,399	-	1,013,615
On disposals	-	(737)	-	(9,912)	-	(10,649)
At 31 August 2022	<u>3,415,432</u>	<u>594,836</u>	<u>20,535</u>	<u>428,544</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,459,347</u>
Net book value						
At 31 August 2022	<u>29,993,327</u>	<u>595,590</u>	<u>311,378</u>	<u>244,470</u>	<u>278,423</u>	<u>31,423,188</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>29,699,590</u>	<u>487,562</u>	<u>307,272</u>	<u>254,136</u>	<u>183,095</u>	<u>30,931,655</u>

16. Stocks

	2022 £	2021 £
Uniform	4,141	2,457
Fuel	5,253	2,438
Stationery	212	423
	<u>9,606</u>	<u>5,318</u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

17. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	8,242	12,668
Other debtors	3,060	9,575
Prepayments and accrued income	393,885	445,137
VAT recoverable	64,114	54,249
	<u>469,301</u>	<u>521,629</u>

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	290,105	201,268
Other loans	4,192	7,086
Other taxation and social security	228,459	218,622
Other creditors	306,673	296,497
Accruals and deferred income	610,368	654,378
	<u>1,439,797</u>	<u>1,377,851</u>

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	400,231	410,644
Resources deferred during the year	422,104	400,231
Amounts released from previous periods	(400,231)	(410,644)
	<u>422,104</u>	<u>400,231</u>

At 31 August 2022, the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for Universal Infant Free School Meals, rates relief, early years funding and trip income.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	22,868	27,517

The five salix loans included in Other Loans are to be repaid over a maximum period of 8 years on a straight line basis. There is no interest due on the loans.

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Between one and two years		
Salix loan	4,040	4,497
Between two and five years		
Salix loan	12,111	12,273
Over five years		
Salix loan	6,717	10,747

20. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted	899,527	726,963	(685,862)	-	-	940,628
Designated	34,227	-	(5,915)	-	-	28,312
	<u>933,754</u>	<u>726,963</u>	<u>(691,777)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>968,940</u>
Restricted general funds						
GAG	346,639	14,049,635	(13,941,539)	(93,556)	-	361,179
Pupil Premium	-	1,154,520	(1,154,520)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	63,530	(63,530)	-	-	-
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	377,906	(377,906)	-	-	-
PE Sports grant	84,405	250,270	(289,631)	(19,772)	-	25,272
Teachers Pay Grant	-	9,293	(9,293)	-	-	-

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Teachers Pension Employer Contribution Grant	-	26,262	(26,262)	-	-	-
Schools Supplementary Grant	-	178,324	-	-	-	178,324
Recovery Premium	-	117,967	(117,947)	-	-	20
School-Led Tutoring	-	108,956	(92,266)	-	-	16,690
Other (DfE/ESFA)	-	49,159	(48,759)	-	-	400
Catch-Up Premium	89,685	-	(89,685)	-	-	-
Local Authority Funds	24,013	1,960,729	(1,922,786)	-	-	61,956
Other restricted funds	9,930	83,204	(61,833)	(17,940)	-	13,361
Pension reserve	(11,083,000)	-	(2,007,000)	-	11,930,000	(1,160,000)
	<u>(10,528,328)</u>	<u>18,429,755</u>	<u>(20,202,957)</u>	<u>(131,268)</u>	<u>11,930,000</u>	<u>(502,798)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Assets on conversion	19,213,776	-	(631,205)	-	-	18,582,571
Assets on transfer	6,473,005	-	-	-	-	6,473,005
DfE/ESFA grants	6,092,261	707,123	(185,259)	131,268	-	6,745,393
Capital expenditure from GAG	360,612	-	(100,230)	-	-	260,382
Other capital donations and grants	643,747	37,330	(97,560)	-	-	583,517
	<u>32,783,401</u>	<u>744,453</u>	<u>(1,014,254)</u>	<u>131,268</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,644,868</u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

20. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Total Restricted funds	22,255,073	19,174,208	(21,217,211)	-	11,930,000	32,142,070
Total funds	23,188,827	19,901,171	(21,908,988)	-	11,930,000	33,111,010

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

Designated funds

Designated funds have been set aside as a contingency pot for replacement of large items of kitchen equipment as and when needed.

General Annual Grant

This represents funding from the ESFA to cover the costs of recurrent expenditure.

The transfers to and from GAG relate to a contribution from GAG funding towards the purchase of capital assets during the year.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

Pupil Premium

This represents funding to help raise achievement and improve outcomes for pupils from low income families who are eligible for free school meals.

Other DfE/ESFA grants

This represents PE Sports Premium, Rates Relief, Teachers Pay Grant, Teachers Pension Grant, FSM Supplementary Grant, UIFSM, Schools Supplementary Grant, Recovery Premium, School-Led Tutoring, COVID catch-up premium and other income from DfE / ESFA received in the period. These funds are used to raise achievement and improve outcomes for pupils, or to provide support for pupils from low income families.

The COVID Catch-up Premium, is to be utilised to help pupils catch-up on missed learning, as a result of the impact of COVID.

Local authority funds

This represents other funding received from other bodies towards a specific purpose.

Other restricted funds

This represents funding received from other bodies towards a specific purpose.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Pension reserve

This fund represents the Trust's share of the deficit in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) transferred to the Trust on conversion from state controlled schools.

The restricted pension fund is materially in deficit and plans to eliminate the liability on the defined benefit pension scheme are set out in note 27 based on the period end actuarial valuation.

Restricted fixed asset fund

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the DfE where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose. Included within the balance at 31 August 2022 is the net book value of fixed assets totalling £31,423,188, current assets of £1,436,149, creditors of £187,405, and salix loans of £27,060.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted	826,052	442,399	(368,924)	-	-	899,527
Designated	32,929	3,298	(2,000)	-	-	34,227
	<u>858,981</u>	<u>445,697</u>	<u>(370,924)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>933,754</u>
Restricted general funds						
GAG	724,918	13,169,611	(13,440,606)	(107,284)	-	346,639
Pupil Premium	-	1,065,675	(1,065,675)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	63,267	(63,267)	-	-	-
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	387,030	(386,030)	(1,000)	-	-
PE Sports grant	26,670	250,700	(187,810)	(5,155)	-	84,405
Teachers Pay Grant	-	157,264	(157,264)	-	-	-
Teachers Pension Employer Contribution Grant	-	471,683	(471,683)	-	-	-
FSM supplementary Grant	-	60,750	(60,750)	-	-	-

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Other (DfE/ESFA)	3,000	9,150	(12,150)	-	-	-
Catch-Up Premium	-	250,520	(149,276)	(11,559)	-	89,685
Local Authority Funds	63,040	1,543,334	(1,582,361)	-	-	24,013
Other restricted funds	3,750	69,541	(31,529)	(31,832)	-	9,930
Pension reserve	(7,251,000)	-	(1,156,000)	-	(2,676,000)	(11,083,000)
	<u>(6,429,622)</u>	<u>17,498,525</u>	<u>(18,764,401)</u>	<u>(156,830)</u>	<u>(2,676,000)</u>	<u>(10,528,328)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Assets on conversion	19,734,111	-	(520,335)	-	-	19,213,776
Assets on transfer	6,473,005	-	-	-	-	6,473,005
DfE/ESFA grants	5,298,048	897,930	(116,244)	12,527	-	6,092,261
Capital expenditure from GAG	305,430	-	(89,121)	144,303	-	360,612
Other capital donations and grants	59,044	797,568	(212,865)	-	-	643,747
	<u>31,869,638</u>	<u>1,695,498</u>	<u>(938,565)</u>	<u>156,830</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,783,401</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>25,440,016</u>	<u>19,194,023</u>	<u>(19,702,966)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,676,000)</u>	<u>22,255,073</u>
Total funds	<u><u>26,298,997</u></u>	<u><u>19,639,720</u></u>	<u><u>(20,073,890)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(2,676,000)</u></u>	<u><u>23,188,827</u></u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Bungay Primary School	146,718	130,555
Castle Hill Infant School	122,262	98,333
Castle Hill Junior School	192,832	156,604
Cliff Lane Primary School	133,219	122,283
Edgar Sewter Community Primary School	81,333	54,953
Holton St Peter Community Primary School	110,564	75,496
Ilketshall St Lawrence School	42,935	28,922
Ringshall Primary School	69,047	32,906
St Helen's Primary School	110,430	122,134
Shotley Primary School	68,231	57,909
Stutton CE Primary School	47,755	44,150
The Beeches Community Primary School	60,640	133,657
The Oaks Primary School	78,912	125,674
Wenhaston Primary School	71,063	59,494
ASSET Education	290,201	245,356
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	1,626,142	1,488,426
Restricted fixed asset fund	32,644,868	32,783,401
Pension reserve	(1,160,000)	(11,083,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	33,111,010	23,188,827
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Bungay Primary School	715,165	134,558	53,188	103,204	1,006,115	1,073,638
Castle Hill Infant School	956,485	88,066	77,065	86,571	1,208,187	1,082,688
Castle Hill Junior School	1,448,088	133,329	116,674	131,066	1,829,157	1,761,911
Cliff Lane Primary School	1,450,834	144,496	116,638	149,850	1,861,818	1,820,949
Edgar Sewter Community Primary School	1,142,405	152,319	58,758	159,294	1,512,776	1,383,744
Holton St Peter Community Primary School	347,060	59,197	52,087	69,526	527,870	483,607
Ilketshall St Lawrence School	369,148	67,193	33,376	65,357	535,074	554,273
Ringshall Primary School	474,887	65,264	24,720	86,659	651,530	631,273
St Helen's Primary School	1,523,482	235,608	96,358	276,360	2,131,808	2,005,748
Shotley Primary School	534,993	52,615	56,186	102,212	746,006	696,913
Stutton CE Primary School	301,942	31,477	22,834	44,247	400,500	356,451
The Beeches Community Primary School	1,267,225	255,505	79,901	259,674	1,862,305	1,835,131
The Oaks Primary School	1,792,407	261,626	123,901	182,184	2,360,118	2,245,966
Wenhaston Primary School	375,676	57,234	30,082	50,951	513,943	485,418
ASSET Education	328,708	534,674	13,100	2,871,043	3,747,525	2,717,614
Academy trust	13,028,505	2,273,161	954,868	4,638,198	20,894,732	19,135,324

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	31,423,188	31,423,188
Current assets	1,004,696	1,869,646	1,436,145	4,310,487
Creditors due within one year	(35,756)	(1,212,444)	(191,597)	(1,439,797)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(22,868)	(22,868)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(1,160,000)	-	(1,160,000)
Total	968,940	(502,798)	32,644,868	33,111,010

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	30,931,655	30,931,655
Current assets	964,200	1,750,625	2,030,715	4,745,540
Creditors due within one year	(30,446)	(1,195,953)	(151,452)	(1,377,851)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(27,517)	(27,517)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(11,083,000)	-	(11,083,000)
Total	933,754	(10,528,328)	32,783,401	23,188,827

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

22. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(2,007,817)	(434,170)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,013,615	936,978
Capital grants from DfE	(712,123)	(1,633,585)
Interest receivable	(2,200)	(4,070)
Increase in stocks	(4,288)	(2,619)
Decrease in debtors	46,478	192,394
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	28,927	(117,077)
Loss on sale of fixed assets	638	1,591
Pension adjustment	2,007,000	1,156,000
Net cash provided by operating activities	370,230	95,442

23. Cash flows from financing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Repayments of borrowing	(7,583)	(6,251)
Net cash used in financing activities	(7,583)	(6,251)

24. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Interest receivable	2,200	4,070
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,505,886)	(1,508,273)
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets	100	-
Capital grants from DfE	753,926	1,824,025
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(749,660)	319,822

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

25. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand and at bank	3,831,580	4,218,593
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,831,580	4,218,593

26. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	4,218,593	(387,013)	3,831,580
Debt due within 1 year	(7,086)	2,894	(4,192)
Debt due after 1 year	(27,517)	4,649	(22,868)
	4,183,990	(379,470)	3,804,520

27. Capital commitments

	2022 £	2021 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	113,345	770,091

28. Pension commitments

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 Suffolk County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £292,634 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021 - £283,691) and are included within creditors.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £1,647,163 (2021 - £1,626,581).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx>).

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.

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £1,247,000 (2021 - £1,219,781), of which employer's contributions totalled £996,374 (2021 - £984,781) and employees' contributions totalled £ 250,626 (2021 - £235,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23% from 1 April 2021 and 22% from 1 April 2022 for employers and 5.5 - 12.5% for employees.

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

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.75	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.05	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65
Inflation assumption (CPI)	3.05	2.90
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	25.00	25.00

The commutation rate for Suffolk County Council was 25% (2021: 25%) pre April 2008 and increased to 63% (2021: 63%) for post April 2008 service.

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.9	22.1
Females	24.3	24.5
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.9	23.2
Females	26.1	26.4

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(76)	(129)
Discount rate -0.1%	76	129
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	101	172
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(101)	(172)
CPI rate +0.1%	76	129
CPI rate -0.1%	(76)	(129)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Equities	7,830,880	6,900,960
Bonds	2,533,520	2,614,000
Property	1,151,600	731,920
Cash and other liquid assets	-	209,120
Total market value of assets	<u>11,516,000</u>	<u>10,456,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £(93,000) (2021 - £1,424,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	(2,807,000)	(2,002,000)
Interest income	182,000	144,000
Interest cost	(379,000)	(276,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	<u>(3,004,000)</u>	<u>(2,134,000)</u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	21,539,000	15,151,000
Interest cost	379,000	276,000
Employee contributions	250,000	235,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(12,205,000)	3,956,000
Benefits paid	(94,000)	(81,000)
Current service cost	2,807,000	2,002,000
At 31 August	<u>12,676,000</u>	<u>21,539,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	10,456,000	7,900,000
Interest income	182,000	144,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(275,000)	1,280,000
Employer contributions	997,000	978,000
Employee contributions	250,000	235,000
Benefits paid	(94,000)	(81,000)
At 31 August	<u>11,516,000</u>	<u>10,456,000</u>

29. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the academy trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	26,727	33,578
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	14,322	26,080
	<u>41,049</u>	<u>59,658</u>

ASSET EDUCATION
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

30. Members' liability

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

31. 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 trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

During the year, dance sessions totalling £1,410 (2021: £733) were provided to the academy trust by Dance East, of which Brendan Keaney (member) is the CEO. There were no amounts outstanding at 31 August 2022 (2021: £Nil).

A Pentreath, spouse of J Pentreath, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a Midday Supervisor. A Pentreath's appointment was made in open competition and J Pentreath was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. A Pentreath is paid within the normal pay scale for her role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship to a trustee.

E Pentreath, son of J Pentreath, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a Teacher. E Pentreath's appointment was made in open competition and J Pentreath was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. E Pentreath is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of his relationship to a trustee.

In addition to this, certain trustees received remuneration and expenses which are disclosed in note 13.

No other related party transactions took place during the year (2021: Nil).

32. Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes Schools Direct (Salaried) funding as an agent for the Department for Education (DfE). During the year ended 31 August 2022, the trust received £63 (2021: £63,340) and paid out £63 (2021: £63,340). There was no outstanding balance (2021: £Nil) due to or from ASSET Education at the year end.