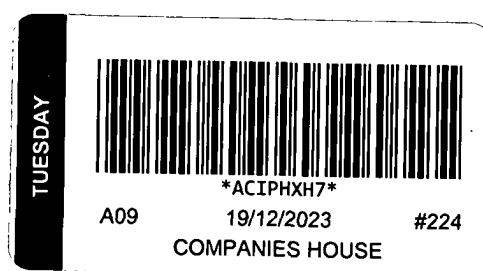


LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 AUGUST 2023



Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration Number: 09471525
(England & Wales)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, DIRECTORS AND ADVISORS

Members	Canon Jonathan Veasey Eric Kirwan Jacqui Francis Chris Loughran Peter Vella
Directors	P Vince (Chair) B O'Driscoll C Simmonds D Kenny D O'Reilly M Hill N Handel (appointed 26 May 2023) S Graham (appointed 16 January 2023)
Company Registration Number	09471525
Company Name	Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company
Principal and registered office	St Thomas Aquinas Catholic School Wychall Lane Birmingham B38 8AP
Company secretary	H Parrish
Senior management team	P Collins-Smith, Catholic Senior Executive Lead R Nash, Head of Standards A Carry, Principal - St Brigid's C Chapman, Vice Principal – St Brigid's L Southerton, Principal – St Columba's A Backen, Principal – St James' (Resigned 30 April 2023) M Ingram, Principal – St James' (Appointed 17 April 2023, previously Vice Principal – St James') L Rogers, Principal – St John Fisher R Musto, Vice Principal – St John Fisher P Greavy, Principal – St Joseph's N Damms, Principal – St Paul's (Resigned 12 March 2023) H Williams, Principal – St Paul's (Appointed 13 March 2023, previously Vice Principal – St Paul's) K Madia, Principal – St Thomas More (Resigned 16 April 2023) M McLoughlin, Principal – St Thomas More (Appointed 1 April 2023) M Breslin, Vice Principal – St Thomas More (Resigned 31 August 2023) C Martin, Principal – St Thomas Aquinas D Vince, Vice Principal – St Thomas Aquinas
Independent Auditor	UHY Hacker Young (Birmingham) LLP 9-11 Vittoria Street Birmingham B1 3ND
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson 103 Colmore Row Birmingham B3 3AG

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The directors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company (the Academy Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' reports and a Directors' report under company

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company operates seven primary schools (St. Brigid's and St. John Fisher - Northfield, St. Columba's and St. James - Longbridge, St. Joseph's and St. Paul's - Kings Norton), St Thomas More - Sheldon and one secondary school (St. Thomas Aquinas - Kings Norton) in the south-west of Birmingham. The potential roll of the secondary school (including sixth form) is 1,250, while four of the primaries (St. Columba's, St. Joseph's, St. John Fisher and St. James) can accommodate 210 pupils each. St. Brigid's is a two-form entry school with a nursery class which can accommodate 420 (452 with nursery places) pupils and St. Paul's is a one form entry school with a nursery class which can accommodate 210 (240 with nursery places) pupils. St. Thomas More Catholic Primary School, based in the Sheldon area of Birmingham has a capacity of 390 pupils. The total potential roll is therefore 3,110, whereas the combined actual pupil population was recorded as 2,911 (2021 census : 2,930) in the October 2022 school census (excluding Nursery pupils).

Lumen Christi primary schools draw pupils from the Northfield, Selly Oak and Yardley constituencies; St. Thomas Aquinas takes students from a wider catchment area across the south and south-west of Birmingham. Children are admitted according to each schools' published admission criteria, (published on each school's website link via www.lumenchristi.org.uk) and coordinated by Birmingham City Council.

The Academy currently serves schools in the parishes of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour (Rednal), Our Lady & St Brigid's (Northfield), St. Paul's (Kings Norton), St. John Fisher (West Heath), St. Joseph & St. Helen (Kings Norton) and St. Thomas More (Sheldon).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**Constitution**

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy company. Lumen Christi is one of the many such Catholic multi academy Companies that was formed within the umbrella charitable trust of the Birmingham Diocese of the Catholic Church. This umbrella charitable trust was known as the Barberi and Newman Academy Trust (Company number 08183803). Until 3 October 2019, Barberi and Newman Academy Trust was the sole member of Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company.

Barberi and Newman Academy Trust membership ceased on 3rd October 2019 Current members are Canon Jonathan Veasey, Eric Kirwan, Jacqui Francis, Chris Loughran and Peter Vella. His Grace the Most Reverend Bernard Longley remains a Person with Significant Control but is not a Member.

The charitable company is known as the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy. Details of the Directors who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative details on page 3. The Director responsibilities and objectives are set out within the Articles of Association and further clarified by the Master Funding Agreement and Scheme of Delegation.

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.

Directors' indemnities

The Multi Academy purchase indemnity insurance to cover Members, Directors, Academy Representatives and Officers from claims arising from errors or omissions whilst on Trust Company business. The insurance provider provides up to £5,000,000 per claim.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Directors**

Full details are set out within the Articles of Association which detail the type, number and process of appointing Directors. The minimum total number of Directors is three, but there is no maximum specified (Article 45). All Directors must, upon appointment or election, sign a written undertaking to the Trustees and the Catholic Diocesan Bishop (Article 45A) to uphold the Objects of the Academy Company.

Subject to Articles 48 to 49, the Company shall have the following Directors:

- Such number of Foundation Directors so as to constitute a majority of the Directors by at least two from time to time and shall be appointed under Article 50. No employee can be appointed as a Director of the company.
- A minimum of 2 Parent Directors appointed by the Directors whether after election or otherwise under Articles 53-56 in the event that no provision is made under Article 101, or is planned, for at least 2 Parent Representatives on each School Standards Committee established under Article 100(a);
- The Company may also have any Co-opted Director appointed under Article 58.

Directors shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these Articles. Foundation Directors are appointed by the Diocesan Bishop. In Lumen Christi, each School Standards Committee may comprise two Parent Representatives and as such there is no provision for Parent Directors to serve on the Board. There are two currently Co-opted Directors elected to serve on the Board in recognition of their specialist skills and knowledge that, in agreement with the members, are of benefit to the Board in the delivery of the objects and aims.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Directors

New Directors and Committee Representatives are formally written to on appointment and supplied with relevant details of Governance. A meeting is held between the new Director/s and Company Secretary who issues key documents including the Scheme or Delegation, Delegation Planner and an overview of the status of the company, key personnel and the Strategic Vision. Directors are also given access to all historic meeting documents on request and will soon be able to access information via a secure web portal; key documents and policies are published on the company's website. Further training is made available from both internal and external providers.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Board of Directors have responsibility for the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy. Where duties are delegated to Core or School Standards Committees, they are identified within Scheme of Delegation and related delegation planner and Committee Terms of Reference which is reviewed annually.

The position of Catholic Senior Executive Lead (CSEL) was created in September 2018. The CSEL is also the Accounting Officer and holds accountability for standards and financial operations and control across Lumen Christi. Delegation of financial responsibility is set out within the Company's Financial Regulations and specifically the Scheme of Financial Delegation.

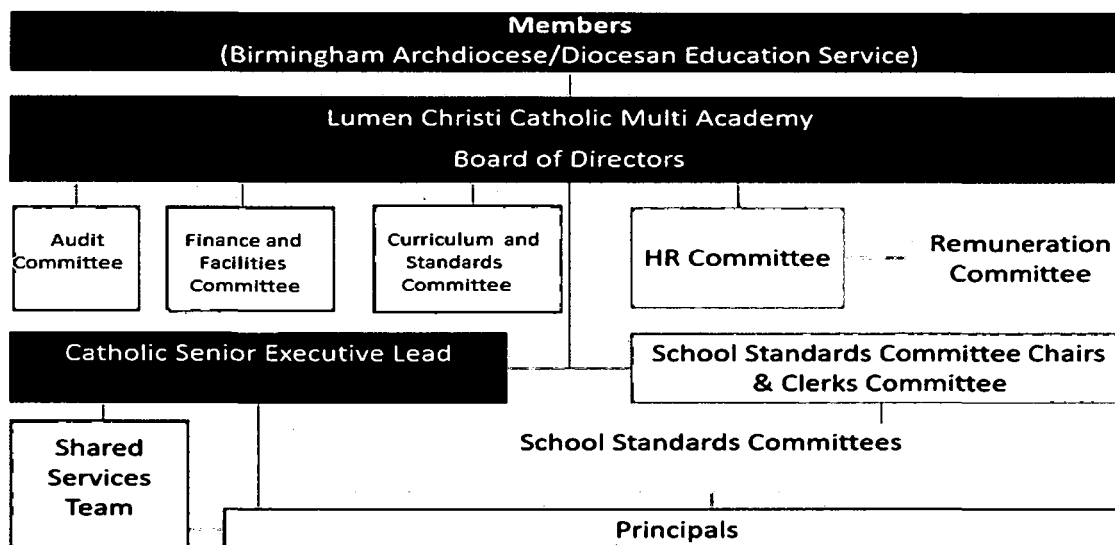
The Board of Directors maintains overall control for:

- Preserving and developing the Lumen Christi's Catholic character at all times.
- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic vision.
- Holding the Catholic Senior Executive Lead to account for the educational performance of the schools, safeguarding of pupils and students and the appraisal and wellbeing of employees.
- Overseeing the financial performance of Lumen Christi, making sure its money is spent well.
- The activities and performance of the Company.
- The appointment of CSEL, Executive Headteachers, Principals, Heads of School, Vice Principal, School Chaplain and Head of Religious Education (secondary).
- The approval of Annual Financial Statements and Budgets.
- Ratifying policies and procedures implemented within the Company.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE (cont'd)

Structure

**Arrangement for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel.**

In May 2023 the Lumen Christi Board issued a statement on executive pay. The statement on executive pay is designed to attract and retain good quality senior leaders to the company whilst ensuring compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook (in adherence to our funding agreement). The Handbook sets out the financial management, control and reporting requirements that apply to all academy trusts. It provides for a remuneration package, which reflects the organisation's education outcomes and attainments performance against stretching educational targets, operational and financial objectives. This statement applies to the Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CSEL) and the Executive Team (where appropriate) and includes the approach to pay, how it is determined and reviewed. The full statement is available on the Lumen Christi website.

Trade union facility time**Relevant union officials**

There are no employees who were relevant union officials during the accounting period.

Connected Organisations, including Related Party Relationships

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is connected to Birmingham Diocesan Education Service (BDES) by virtue of the Chief Operating Officer at BDES also being a member. The Chair of the Lumen Christi Board is also a Trustee of the Diocese.

The Board, in the performance of its duties, pays due regard to the advice and information provided by the supporting committees and School Standards Committees.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**Objectives and aims**

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is restricted in its principal object and in its aims through a number of funding agreements with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) including leases with the Catholic Church.

The Company's object is specifically restricted to the following:

- to advance for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Catholic schools designated as such offering a broad and balanced curriculum;
- to provide Key Stages 1-4 and 16 to 19 provision offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students;
- and in each case, conducted as Catholic Schools in accordance with the Code of Canon Law of the Latin Church and the doctrinal, social and moral teachings of the Catholic Church from time to time and following the directives and policies issued by the Diocesan Bishop to ensure that the formation, governance and education of the Academies is based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and at all times serving as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Objectives and aims (cont'd)****Our Mission**

The agreed mission statement of Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is:

An ambitious and thriving partnership of inclusive Catholic schools, serving our communities, providing an exceptional experience in education for the holistic formation of our children and young people aged 3 to 19.

This statement succinctly articulates the vision that Lumen Christi schools will provide outstanding Catholic education and enrichment opportunities, for children from age 3 to 19 in accordance with our core purpose and strategic plan. Our chosen values are Compassion, Integrity and Service to Others.

Our Strategic Vision**1 An ambitious and thriving partnership of inclusive Catholic schools, serving our communities...**

- a. As beacons of Gospel values, we accept co-responsibility within our schools and across our parishes, giving witness by our actions and communications.
- b. Successful growth and wider collaborations secure our future.
- c. Engagement in local and national partnerships and initiatives increases both our profile and our opportunities.

2 ...providing an exceptional experience in education ..

- a. Continuous improvements in learning, teaching and enrichment encourage aspirational academic and life outcomes for pupils and innovative professional development for staff.
- b. Excellent support services enable our schools to focus on teaching and learning.
- c. Our safe and stimulating environments support high quality learning, personal development and the well-being of pupils, students and staff alike.

3 ...for the holistic formation of our children and young people aged 3 to 19.

- a. Families choose to make a lifelong commitment to Lumen Christi and Catholic education.
- b. God's call to compassion and love of neighbour frames our drive to protect, safeguard and improve the life chances of our children and families.
- c. Sharing God's love, we work to transform and enrich lives through the Light of Christ and the mission of the Church. We celebrate diversity and strive for genuine equality of opportunity for all as children of God.

Public Benefit

The Directors confirm that they have complied with the duty in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regards to the Charity Commissioner's general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers and duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Company's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

Strategic report**Achievements and Performance****Key Performance Indicators**

The attainment of pupils against national expectations are considered to be the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's primary performance indicator.








Key Stage 2 Results 2023

Due to the uneven impact of the pandemic on 2022/23 school and college performance data no primary test or assessment data will be published for Primary schools in 2023. The DFE advises against making direct comparisons with data from previous years or between schools. Instead they encourage reflecting on the factors that may have influenced these results and consider a range of information when forming a view on how well a school or college is doing.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

Achievement and Performance

KS2 Progress (Provisional Data)

	St Brigid's Catholic Primary School 	St Columba's Catholic Primary School 	St James Catholic Primary School 	St John Fisher Catholic Primary School 	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School 	St Paul's Catholic Primary School 	St Thomas More Catholic Primary School 
Reading Progress	1.77	1.75	2.41	1.34	0.96	-1.75	-1.93
	Above Average	Average	Above Average	Average	Average	Average	Below Average
	Top 25%	Top 25%	Top 25%	Top 40%	Top 40%	Bottom 25%	Bottom 25%
Writing Progress	0.10	1.24	0.72	0.90	0.15	0.29	1.47
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
	Median	Top 25%	Median	Top 40%	Median	Median	Top 40%
Maths Progress	1.67	0.38	3.33	-0.28	3.31	1.01	-0.69
	Above Average	Average	Well Above Average	Average	Well Above Average	Average	Average
	Top 40%	Middle	Top 25%	Middle	Top 25%	Top 40%	Bottom 40%

- Most of the progress in our schools is in line with or better the national picture.
- The only area that was significantly below the national is Reading at St Thomas More.

KS2 Attainment

Students meeting the Expected and Higher Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths									
Provisional 2023	St Brigid's Catholic Primary School	St Columba's Catholic Primary School	St James Catholic Primary School	St John Fisher Catholic Primary School	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	St Paul's Catholic Primary School	St Thomas More Catholic Primary School	Birmingham	National
Expected	72%	66%	90%	63%	80%	61%	55%	58%	59%
Higher	8%	7%	13%	7%	13%	0%	10%	7%	8%

- Most of the attainment in our schools is better the national picture for meeting the expected standard.
- Most of the attainment in our schools is better than or close too the national picture for meeting the higher standard.

KS4 Results

	St Thomas Aquinas				National 2023
Cohort	2018/2019	2020/21	2021/22	2022/2023	
KS4 Progress 8	0.04	0.08	0.35	0.17	0
	Average	Average	Above Average	Average	Average
Attainment 8	4.9	5.1	5.0	4.8	4.6
Grade 4 or above in English & maths	67.0	73.5	73.2	71.0	65.0
Grade 5 or above in English & maths	43.0	52.0	53.7	47.0	45.0

- St Thomas Aquinas outperformed in all national headline measures when compared to the averages.
- Due to the pandemic and the different circumstances for examinations during those years; year on year comparisons are not valid for estimating school improvements.
- 2023 results were expected to be in line with 2019 results, so St Thomas Aquinas has shown improved Student outcomes from 2019 to 2023.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Achievement and Performance (cont'd)****KS5 Results**

Attainment	L3 Overall		A Level		Academic		Applied General		Tech Level	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Students included in L3 Overall Cohort	47	100	44	93.6	44	93.6	11	23.4	2	4.3
L3 Overall Average Points per Entry	29.52	-	29.84	-	29.89	-	27.25	-	30	-
L3 Overall Average Grade	C=	-	C=	-	C=	-	Merit+	-	Dist-	-
L3 Overall Total Entries	144.3	-	122	-	122.3	-	20	-	2	-
L3 Overall Average Points per Pupil	90.64	-	82.73	-	83.07	-	49.55	-	30	-
Best 3 A Levels	Students included in Best 3 A Levels	-	-	34	72.3	-	-	-	-	-
	Best 3 A Levels Average Total Points	-	-	92.06	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Best 3 A Levels Average Points	-	-	30.69	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Best 3 A Levels Average Grade	-	-	C=	-	-	-	-	-	-
AAB	Students Included in AAB	-	-	34	72.3	-	-	-	-	-
	Students Achieving AAB Including 2 Facilitating	-	-	2	5.9	-	-	-	-	-
	Students Achieving AAB Including 3 Facilitating	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-

Review of Activities 2022/23**Notable Achievements**

- Ofsted inspections at St Brigid's and St Joseph's confirmed that both schools continue to be judged as Good schools
- Good KS2 results across the MAC
- KS 4 results culminating in a Progress 8 score of 0.17
- Further development of the Shared Services team with IT joining Finance, HR, Management Information, Estates and Standards functions providing unified services to all Lumen Christi schools

Going Concern

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

The Board also recognises the current financial funding crisis affecting schools and are therefore taking active measures to reduce costs without a detrimental impact on the quality of performance or education. This includes implementation of the following measures:-

- Increased centralised functions and processes
- Continued review of all non-essential posts
- Reviewing and rationalising shared services function
- Collaborative purchasing
- Continued review of external contracting arrangements
- External income generation

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**FINANCIAL REVIEW****RESERVES POLICY**

The Finance and Facilities Committee expect that Schools are to hold contingency reserves from their annual GAG funding or other income.

The Directors require a revenue reserve to be created to fund future expenditure related to the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Development Plan's strategic long-term aims and developments. The policy of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is to carry forward a prudent level of resources designed to meet the long-term cyclical needs of renewal and any other unforeseen contingencies.

Under Accounting Standard FRS102 it is necessary to charge projected estimate on the Local Government Pension Scheme that is provided for non-teaching staff to a specific restricted reserve. As at 31 August 2023 the deficit on this reserve amounted to £2,684,000 (2022: £6,076,000). It is anticipated that the deficit reduction payments that have been agreed in relation to this scheme could place financial strain on the academy trust and impact on the amount of reserves held in future years. Deficit reduction payments have been built into the 2023-24 annual budget approved by the Board.

At 31 August 2023 the unrestricted general reserve balance was £1,187,000 (2022: £1,133,000) the restricted income funds were £818,000 (2022: £453,000) and the restricted fixed asset funds were £3,116,000 (2022: £2,230,000).

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy had net increase in funds of £4,697,000 (2022: £12,302,000). However, this is inclusive of non-operational and non cash items such as the actuarial gain, FRS102 pension charge and fixed asset funds. Excluding the impact of these items the MAC has reported an in-year operational surplus of £419,000 (2022: £180,000).

The impact of the above performance has seen total revenue reserves increase to £2,005,000 (2022: £1,586,000) at 31 August 2023.

The cash balance has decreased to £4,088,000 (2022: £5,817,000). The 2022 cash balance was higher than in prior years as the Academy's payroll provider had not collected payroll related costs for three months. The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy continues to make use of (but not exceed) the credit offered by suppliers. Amounts due to trade creditors have increased to £452,000 compared to £339,000 last year. This increase is due to an increased level of capital works taking place during the 2023 summer holiday period.

PENSION DEFICIT

The pension reserve remains in deficit £2,684,000 (2022: £6,076,000). The value is driven by the actuarial valuation of the local government pension scheme. Since April 2023 a monthly 5% secondary employer contribution rate has been applied to all Lumen Christi schools to reduce the deficit position. This replaces the previous approach of making annual lump sum deficit reduction payments.

MATERIAL INVESTMENTS POLICY

For the 2022/23 financial year the MAC have moved towards a streamlined banking process. Available funds have also been placed on short term deposit. The following objectives as detailed within the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company investment policy were met which include:-

- to achieve best financial return available whilst ensuring that security of deposits takes precedence over revenue maximisation;
- only invest funds surplus to operational need based on all financial commitments being met without the Academy bank account's becoming overdrawn;
- all investment decisions should be exercised with care and skill and consequently be in the best interests of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company, commanding broad public support.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Board of Directors of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company regularly review the Strategic Risk and Reputational Risk register. This covers the following areas:-

- Premises and physical security, which covers the risks associated with loss of buildings, health and safety non-compliance, security breach and critical incident;

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES (cont'd)**

- Strategic and business risks - this includes reputational risk, falling roll, recruitment and retention of staff and the potential effects of employment relation claims;
- Duty of care, which covers the area of safeguarding and associated risks;
- I.T. risks, including network down time and cyber attacks;
- Finance risks, including change in funding formulas and loss of income;
- External risks, including the change of government policy.

There are a number of procedures and control mechanisms put in place in order to mitigate the potential risks faced. This includes regular training of staff on areas highlighted as risks, policy development, clearly defined roles and expectations for staff.

During 2022-23 a number of estate focused reviews have been undertaken across school sites, including condition surveys, fire risk assessments and asbestos management reviews. The programmed of reviews will be completed for all schools during 2023-24. This will facilitate the development of a comprehensive forward looking estate management and maintenance programme.

In recent years Department for Education (DfE) guidance for the identification of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) within school sites has been followed. New surveys were commissioned for all school sites during 2022-23 which resulted in the identification of RAAC in one school, St John Fisher. RAAC was found in the roof of the school hall, which required the closure of the school hall. Education has continued on the school site. The DfE are expected to reimburse the cost of works to make the school hall safe to use. The costs of the works are estimated to be £84,000 and have been included in a Contingent Liability note within the financial statements.

FUNDRAISING

In line with our ethos and Gospel values, pupils raise charitable donations for a number of local and national charities, through events such as raffles, coffee mornings non-uniform days. Details of different events and named charities can be found locally at each school. The company continues to support B30 foodbank through donations of non-perishable items collected across all schools and there have been other collections of food and finance organised to support the most disadvantaged families during COVID-19 and the current cost of living crisis.

Funds raised for external charities are deposited in the former school fund accounts and from here cheques are written and dispatched to the appropriate receiving charitable organisation. Letters and certificates received from charitable organisations detailing support are displayed in books within school reception areas and reported in school newsletters. Charitable funds are not deposited into the main school bank account. Where schools ask for a voluntary contribution to school fund this is used to pay for additional items to benefit the pupils within the individual school.

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company has received no complaints in relation to charitable fundraising events and continues to protect all pupils/students from any unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches either from within the academy or from external organisations. For example, pupils can elect to wear own clothes on a specified day defined by the individual school with a voluntary contribution of between 50p - £1.00 the funds are then directed to the school's chosen charity which is specified when advising parents of the event.

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company does not use professional fundraisers and always gives due consideration to ensuring that potential donors are not placed under pressure to donate.

Plans for future periods**FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The Board of Directors launched a new strategic plan during 2021-22, with a key focus on Community. This will continue to be a focus for the coming years.

In line with the Diocesan wide strategy Lumen Christi will be working more closely with other local schools. It is anticipated that an additional primary school will join Lumen Christi during the next year.

Significant capital investments are planned across school sites, moving to greener operating models where possible.

DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT**

Employees have been consulted with on issues of concern to them by means of regular staff meetings, surveys and focused consultation. Our staff have been kept informed on specific matters through annual staff conferences and by the Leadership Team providing an update on the journey and direction of the Lumen Christi strategic plan. Lumen Christi undertakes exit interviews or surveys for all staff leaving the organisation and has adopted a procedure of upward feedback for senior leaders and the Directors.

The MAC has developed and implemented a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of personnel matters including:

- Equality statement & objectives
- Staff & volunteer code of conduct
- Carers policy
- Employment policies
- Whistleblowing policy
- Bereavement policy
- Menopause policy
- Safer Recruitment Policy

EMPLOYMENT OF THE DISABLED

In accordance with the MAC's Equality Statement, Lumen Christi has long established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff. Full details of these policies are available from the MAC's offices or website www.lumenchristi.org.uk.

In line with our policies, Lumen Christi confirms that we are committed to:

- i. Full and fair consideration of applications for employment made by all individuals including disabled persons, having regard to their particular aptitudes and abilities.
- ii. Continuing the employment of and arranging training for employees who have become disabled persons while employed.
- iii. Providing access to training, career development and promotion of all staff, including disabled persons.

We achieve delivery of this commitment by ensuring there is adherence to our employment policies, scrutinising practice across our schools via Core Committees of the Board and CSEL reporting and by providing opportunities for staff to feedback experiences via surveys, staff briefings, one to one supervision and performance management sessions.

FUNDS HELD AS A CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE

During the 2022-23 accounting period the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy have acted as Custodian Trustee on behalf of the Birmingham SEMH Pathfinder. All funds held in trust were transferred to the newly formed Pathfinder CIC during the 2022-23 accounting period.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

Insofar as the Directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that Directors have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Director in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

The auditor, UHY Hacker Young (Birmingham) LLP, are willing to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the next board meeting.

Directors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of directors as the company Directors, on 13 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



P Vince

Chair

13 December 2023

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**Scope of Responsibility**

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

The Board of Directors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Catholic Senior Executive Lead, 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 Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Directors' Report and in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities. The Board of Directors has formally met 7 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Directors was as follows:

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Graham	3	4
N Handel	1	1
M Hill	7	7
D Kenny	4	7
B O'Driscoll	6	7
D O'Reilly	5	7
C Simmonds	5	7
P Vince	7	7

The Board of Directors has benefitted from the ongoing commitment of Directors and Peter Vince has remained in position as Chair of the Board. Committee membership is small but attendance is consistent. Stephen Graham and Neil Handel joined the Board during the past year.

We are currently seeking to appoint Directors with expertise in school improvement and marketing/communications fields.

In addition to board meetings, effective oversight of the academy trust funds also is maintained by:

- Termly meetings of the Finance and Facilities Committee;
- Termly meetings of the Audit Committee;
- Review of monthly management accounts by the Chair of the Board and Chair of the Finance Committee;
- Regular meetings between the CSEL and Principal Business Manager.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Directors. The work of the Audit Committee has included preparation for the annual Regulatory Audit, ensuring ongoing compliance with the Academies Financial Handbook and the continued review of any potential risks to the company.

Having been merged with the Finance and Facilities Committee in recent years, the Audit Committee was reconstituted as a standalone committee in 2022-23.

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Graham	1	1
D Kenny	3	3
D O'Reilly	1	3
C Simmonds	3	3

Finance and Facilities Committee

The Finance and Facilities Committee operates as a subcommittee of the main Board of Directors. The focus for the committee continues to be the drive towards long term financial stability. The key function of the Committee is ensuring the MAC continues to be compliant with the Academy Trust Handbook and in-meeting-all-prescribed-ESFA-reporting-deadlines.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**Finance and Facilities Committee (cont'd)**

The Committee has continued to support schools in providing clarity and direction in relation to the current financial position and medium term financial planning. In 2022-23, key areas of work for the committee has been, the continued move towards centralisation of business functions within Lumen Christi, on-going scrutiny of budget setting by schools across the MAC, cashflow monitoring and considering the effectiveness of financial monitoring and reporting at all levels. Facilities and Health and Safety compliance is included within the work programme for this committee.

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
D Kenny	4	4
D O'Reilly	2	4
C Simmonds	4	4
P Vince	4	4

HR Committee

The HR Committee met three times during 2022-23 to relaunch the work of the committee, review the terms of reference and consider the work plan introduced by the HR Manager. The newly re-formed committee expects to focus work on overarching strategy, scrutiny of activity relating to HR including staffing ratios, performance indicators and turnover, recruitment, retention, pay appraisal and CPD.

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Graham	1	1
M Hill	1	3
D Kenny	3	3
B O'Driscoll	3	3
P Vince	2	2

CURRICULUM & STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Curriculum & Standards Committee was relaunched in May 2022 following a period of absorption into the main Board meeting due to the limited number of Directors. The newly formed committee has revised the terms of reference and been briefed on Ofsted and Catholic School Inspection frameworks, the current position of each school in respect of standards, strengths and areas for development, curriculum offers, pastoral and safeguarding arrangements. In addition to this, safeguarding assurance is reported to the Board on an annual basis.

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Hill	1	1
D O'Reilly	1	1
C Simmonds	1	1

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee was formed in 2022-23. The committee advises the Board on executive pay.

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Hill	1	1
B O'Driscoll	1	1
D O'Reilly	1	1

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer, the Catholic Senior Executive Lead has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy 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 and reports to the Board of Directors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Academy has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Increasing opportunities for collaborative purchasing and procurement
- Negotiation of favourable rates for required services for professional services and subscriptions
- Increasing collaborative training for staff and directors

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**Review of Value for Money (cont'd)**

- Ongoing review of contract renewal dates and costs.
- Added value (specialist multi-agency staff) in pastoral provision for schools through engagement with Pathfinder project
- Appointment of an Estate Manager to work with Directors and Senior Leaders to oversee investment in the Academy estate to improve sustainability measures, improve health and safety across sites and general estate management effectiveness
- Utilisation of Government procurement frameworks

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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy 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 Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

A thorough review of the statement of Internal Control has been completed by the Board.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board of Directors has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Directors is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

The Risk and Control Framework

The Academy'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 Directors;
- reviews by the Local Governing Bodies of financial reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Directors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint an Independent Reviewing Officer to carry out the programme of internal checks.

The reviewers' role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. Three areas were reviewed during 2022-23, Risk Management, Procurement and Cyber Security. The findings from the reviews have been considered by the Audit Committee.

As a result of any findings a system of regular updates to the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Financial Procedures manual is completed to address any potential area of weaknesses.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**Review of Effectiveness**

The Accounting Officer 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 reviewer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Directors 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 Directors on 13 December 2023 and signed on their behalf,



.....
P Vince
Chair
13 December 2023



.....
P Collins-Smith
Accounting Officer
13 December 2023

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

As accounting officer of Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of directors and the Education and Skills Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

I confirm that I and the multi academy trust board of directors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the multi academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the multi academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022 including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that the following instance of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance discovered to date has been notified to the board of directors and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of directors and ESFA

Financial issues

- the MAC has not obtained prior approval from the ESFA for a related party transaction of £26,514 as required by section 5.42 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

Actions have been put in place post year end to address the point of non-compliance and ensure future compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook.

Paul Collins-Smith

.....
P Collins-Smith
Accounting Officer

13 December 2023

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The directors (who act as directors of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards FRS102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the academy will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy 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 directors are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy 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 ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The directors 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 directors on 13 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
P Vince
Chair

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company (the charitable company) for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statement, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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 Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including 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 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statement 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 Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The directors are responsible for the other information contained within the financial statements. 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

- the information given in the directors' report (incorporating the Strategic Report, and the Directors Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report. We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 18, the directors 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 directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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:

Based on our understanding of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company and the industry in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the acts by the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company, which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations including fraud, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to inflated revenue and the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's net income for the year.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

Audit procedures performed included: review of the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation, review of correspondence with and reports to the regulators, including correspondence with the Education and Skills Funding Agency review of correspondence with legal advisors, enquiries of management and review of internal audit reports in so far as they related to the financial statements, and testing of journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

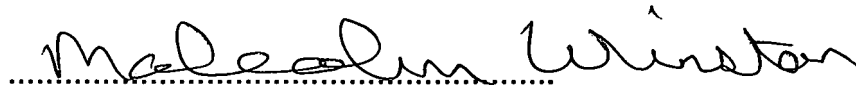
There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the academy trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the academy trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Use of our report**

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

**Malcolm Winston****Senior Statutory Auditor****UHY Hacker Young (Birmingham) LLP, Statutory Auditor****9-11 Vittoria Street****Birmingham****B1 3ND****13 December 2023**

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 6 July 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether, the expenditure disbursed and income received by the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company and the ESFA in accordance with our engagement letter. Our review has been undertaken so that we might state to the governing body and the ESFA those matters we are required to state to it in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 March 2012, and the Academy Trust Handbook extant from 1 September 2022 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 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether, anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

Summary of the work undertaken was as follows:

- Analytical review of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's general activities are within the multi academy trusts framework of authorities;
 - Consideration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance;
-

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY COMPANY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Approach (cont'd)**

- Review of the general control environment for the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company on financial statements and on regularity;
- Sample testing of expenditure transactions to ensure the activity is permissible within the multi academy trust's framework of authority;
- Confirmation that a sample of expenditure has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the multi academy trust's delegated authorities;
- Formal representations obtained from the board of directors and the accounting officer acknowledging the responsibilities including disclosing all non compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework;
- Confirmation that any extra contractual payments such as severance and compensation payments have been appropriately authorised;
- Review of credit card expenditure for any indication of personal use by staff, principal or directors;
- Review of specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement;
- Review of related party transactions for connections with the principal/finance manager or directors;
- Review of income received in accordance with the activities permitted within the multi academy trust's charitable objectives.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Financial issues

- the MAC has not obtained prior approval from the ESFA for a related party transaction of £26,514 as required by section 5.42 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

UHY Hacker Young (Birmingham) LLP

Reporting Accountant
UHY Hacker Young (Birmingham) LLP
9-11 Vittoria Street
Birmingham
B1 3ND

13 December 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

		Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Note	Funds	General	Fixed	2023	2022
		£'000	£'000	Asset	£'000	£'000
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	36	-	578	614	862
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	4	-	20,061	-	20,061	18,447
Other trading activities	5	308	-	-	308	292
Investment income	6	24	-	-	24	1
Total		368	20,061	578	21,007	19,602
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	12	-	-	12	60
Charitable activities:						
- Academy trust's educational operations	7	-	19,997	215	20,212	19,992
Total		12	19,997	215	20,224	20,052
Net income/(expenditure)		356	64	363	783	(450)
Transfers between funds	17	(302)	(221)	523	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes	28	-	3,914	-	3,914	12,752
Net movement in funds		54	3,757	886	4,697	12,302
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	17	1,133	(5,623)	2,230	(2,260)	(14,562)
Total funds carried forward	17	1,187	(1,866)	3,116	2,437	(2,260)

All of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's activities derive from acquisitions and continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	<u>3,343</u>	<u>2,345</u>
		<u>3,343</u>	<u>2,345</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	600	1,186
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>4,088</u>	<u>5,817</u>
		<u>4,688</u>	<u>7,003</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(2,879)</u>	<u>(5,521)</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,809</u>	<u>1,482</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>5,152</u>	<u>3,827</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(31)	(11)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>5,121</u>	<u>3,816</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	28	(2,684)	(6,076)
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)		<u><u>2,437</u></u>	<u><u>(2,260)</u></u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
- Fixed asset fund	17	3,116	2,230
- Restricted income fund	17	818	453
- Pension reserve	17	<u>(2,684)</u>	<u>(6,076)</u>
Total Restricted Funds		<u>1,250</u>	<u>(3,393)</u>
Unrestricted income fund	17	<u>1,187</u>	<u>1,133</u>
Total Unrestricted Funds		<u>1,187</u>	<u>1,133</u>
Total Funds		<u><u>2,437</u></u>	<u><u>(2,260)</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 25 to 48 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 13 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



.....
P Vince
Chair

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	21	(1,138)	2,225
Cash flows from investing activities	22	(611)	(328)
Cash flows from financing activities	23	20	(2)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>(1,729)</u>	<u>1,895</u>
 Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September	24	 5,817	 3,922
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	24	<u><u>4,088</u></u>	<u><u>5,817</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**1 Statement of Accounting Policies**

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Conversion to an Academy Trust

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £nil consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from St John Fisher Catholic Primary School to the academy trust in the previous financial year ended 31 August 2022 have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Donations – transfer from local authority on conversion in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds.

Going Concern

The directors 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 company to continue as a going concern. The directors 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.

Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Income (cont'd)**

- **Sponsorship income**

Sponsorship income provided to the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable, where receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

- **Donated goods, facilities and services**

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

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

- **Transfers on conversion**

Where assets are received by the trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within donations and capital grant income.

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.

- **Expenditure on Raising Funds**

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

- **Charitable Activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**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.

Where academies are operating under a licence to occupy, the land and buildings are not recognised as fixed assets in the financial statements. This applies to the majority of the land and buildings occupied by Lumen Christi Multi Academy Company whereby it does not own any of the sites.

The schools sites are owned by Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees and are made available to the schools by a Church Supplemental Agreement. Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the multi academy company less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the land and buildings. In these instances the land and buildings are not recognised as fixed assets in the financial statements.

The multi academy company occupies some land (playing fields) under 125 year leases with Birmingham City Council. Depreciation on the land is charged directly to the restricted fixed assets fund in the Statement of Financial Activities over the life of the leasehold.

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis (except for motor vehicles which is on a reducing balance basis) on the cost of tangible fixed assets, to write them down to their estimated residual values over their expected useful lives. The principal annual rates used for assets are:

Leasehold land	0.8%
Site improvements	2%
Fixtures and fittings	10%
Computer equipment and software	33.33%
Motor vehicles	20% reducing balance

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

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

Leased assets

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

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instrument, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 15 and 16. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**Taxation**

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company 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 multi academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Pensions Benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company 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 a 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 multi funded employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income/(expenditure) are the current service costs and the costs of the 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.

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)***Critical accounting estimates and assumptions***

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost/(income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 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 2023. 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. Details of sensitivity analysis is disclosed in note 28.

Critical areas of judgement

The critical judgements that the Directors have made in the process of applying the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the statutory financial statements are discussed below:

The critical areas of judgement are made in accounting for government grants. Government grants are accounted for as restricted funds when there is entitlement, further details of the entitlement of grants are included on page 28.

In assessing whether there have been any indicators of impairment assets, the Directors have considered both external and internal sources of information such as market conditions, counterparty credit ratings and experience of recoverability. There have been no indicators of impairments identified during the current financial year.

Agency arrangements

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments are received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds.

The Company can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed within the short-term creditors note as other creditors.

Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company acted as an agent for the Police and Schools Panel South, until the arrangements ceased during the year ended 31 August 2023. It held cash on behalf of the Panel and settles its expenses using this cash; it also sent out the Panel's sales invoices and collected the remittances. Amounts collected for the Panel did not belong to the MAC and were accounted for separately to the MAC's income, along with its expenditure. The Panel's cash was held with the MAC's but did not belong to the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company. The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company did not have any liability to settle the Panel's debts.

Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company acted as an agent for Pathfinder, until the arrangements ceased during the year ended 31 August 2023. It held cash on behalf of Pathfinder and settles its expenses using this cash; it also sent out Pathfinder's sales invoices and collected the remittances. Amounts collected for Pathfinder did not belong to the MAC and were accounted for separately to the MAC's income, along with its expenditure. Pathfinder's cash was held with the MAC's but did not belong to the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company. The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company did not have any liability to settle Pathfinder's debts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

2 GENERAL ANNUAL GRANT (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2023 (see note 17).

3 DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
DfE/ESFA capital grants	-	578	578	812
Other Donations	36	-	36	50
	36	578	614	862

The income from donations and capital grants was £614,000 (2022: £862,000) of which £36,000 (2022: £50,000) was unrestricted, £0 (2022: £0) restricted and £578,000 (2022: £812,000) restricted fixed assets.

4 FUNDING FOR ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG) (note 2)	-	15,309	15,309	14,768
Post 16-19 core grant	-	742	742	630
Rates relief grant	-	76	76	55
Other DfE/ESFA grants				-
Universal infant free school meals grant	-	195	195	198
PE and sports grant	-	129	129	129
Pupil premium grant	-	1,425	1,425	1,383
Teachers pay grant	-	1	1	12
Teachers pension grant	-	29	29	31
Supplementary grant	-	475	475	201
Mainstream additional schools grant	-	238	238	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	26	26	22
Post 16 tuition fund grant	-	6	6	8
National tutoring programme	-	71	71	74
	-	18,722	18,722	17,511
Other Government grants				
Special educational needs		538	538	338
Local authority grants	-	213	213	144
	-	751	751	482
Exceptional Government funding				
COVID-19 DfE/ESFA additional funding				
Catch up premium	-	238	238	168
	-	238	238	168
COVID-19 Non DfE/ESFA additional funding				
Other COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	2
	-	-	-	2
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations:				
Other	-	88	88	29
Pupil catering income	-	262	262	255
	-	350	350	284
	-	20,061	20,061	18,447

The income from the academy's educational operations was £20,061,000 (2022: £ 18,447,000) of which £Nil (2022: £7,000) was unrestricted and £20,061,000 (2022: £18,447,000) restricted.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

5 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Hire of facilities	33	-	33	30
Other income	275	-	275	262
	<u>308</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>292</u>

The income from the academy trusts' other trading activities was unrestricted for both 2023 and 2022.

6 INVESTMENT INCOME	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Bank interest received	24	-	24	1
	<u>24</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>1</u>

The income from the academy trusts' investment activities was unrestricted for both 2023 and 2022.

7 EXPENDITURE		Non Pay Expenditure		Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
	Staff Costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other Costs £'000		
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	-	-	-
- Allocated support costs	-	-	12	12	60
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>60</u>
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	13,613	-	1,044	14,657	14,169
- Allocated support costs	2,354	1,421	1,780	5,555	5,823
	<u>15,967</u>	<u>1,421</u>	<u>2,824</u>	<u>20,212</u>	<u>19,992</u>
	<u>15,967</u>	<u>1,421</u>	<u>2,836</u>	<u>20,224</u>	<u>20,052</u>

The expenditure was £20,224,000 (2022: £20,052,000) of which £12,000 (2022: £60,000) was unrestricted, £19,997,000 (2022: £19,801,000) restricted and £215,000 (2022: £191,000) restricted fixed assets.

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Net (income)/expenditure for the year includes:		
Operating leases rentals	18	26
Depreciation	215	191
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- audit	22	21
- other services	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

8 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Direct costs - educational operations	14,657	14,169
Support costs - educational operations	5,555	5,823
	<u>20,212</u>	<u>19,992</u>

	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Analysis of Support Costs		
Support staff costs	2,354	3,282
Depreciation	215	191
Technology costs	180	214
Premises costs	1,206	806
Legal costs - conversion	5	-
Other support costs	1,371	1,127
Governance costs	224	203
	<u>5,555</u>	<u>5,823</u>

9 STAFF COSTS

a Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Wages and salaries	11,492	11,085
Social security costs	1,157	1,152
Pension costs	3,134	4,356
	<u>15,783</u>	<u>16,593</u>
Agency staff costs	184	84
Staff restructuring costs	-	-
	<u>15,967</u>	<u>16,677</u>

b Staff severance contractual and non contractual payments

The academy trust paid no severance payments in the year (2022: £nil)

c Special staff severance non contractual payments

Included in staff restructuring costs there are no non statutory/non contractual special severance payments (2022: £nil).

d Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including School Leadership Team) employed by the Academy during the year ended 31 August 2023 expressed as whole persons was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Charitable Activities		
Teachers	135	138
Administration and support - including Teaching Assistants	234	229
Management	35	33
	<u>404</u>	<u>400</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

9 STAFF COSTS (cont'd)**e Higher paid staff**

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

	No	No
£60,001 - £70,000	6	10
£70,001 - £80,000	2	1
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	2	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£120,001 - £130,000	1	-

f Key management personnel

The key management of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the Senior Leadership Team as listed on page 3. 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 £1,502,041 (2022: £1,500,737).

10 CENTRAL SERVICES

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

- management
Christi strategy, operations and performance;
- Governance and Strategic Direction
- costs as pre-
- School development and improvement service
- Centralised Data Management and Reporting service
- Centralised HR service
- Leadership development programmes
- Reporting to regulatory bodies on behalf of all schools
- Insurance
- Safeguarding and Pathfinder Oversight
- Pathfinder support staff in primary schools
- Project Management
- Website/Communications
- Licensing costs of financial software and forecasting tools (all schools) and data management systems (primary schools only)
- Regulatory Audit and Teachers Pensions Audit
- Bespoke Collaborative Training
- IT strategy
- Collaborative Subscriptions
- Premises management
- Diocesan Education Service Subscriptions

Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company charges 8.14% for primary schools and 6.88% for secondary schools (2022: 4.48% for all schools but for reduced services) of total GAG income for these services.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
St Brigid's Catholic Primary School	158	82
St Columba's Catholic School	85	47
St James Catholic Primary School	81	44
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	81	43
St Paul's Catholic Primary School	88	47
St Thomas Aquinas Catholic School	512	311
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School	127	72
St John Fisher Catholic Primary School	80	44
	1,212	690

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

11 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - CHIEF EXECUTIVE REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The Accounting Officer has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company. The Accounting Officer only receives remuneration in respect of services provided undertaking the roles of Accounting Officer under their contract of employment. The value of CEO remuneration and other remuneration was as follows:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
P Collins Smith (Accounting Officer)		
Remuneration	£120,000 - £125,000	£105,000 - £110,000
Employers pension contributions	£25,000 - £30,000	£20,000 - £25,000

During the year ended 31 August 2023, there were no expenses reimbursed to the CEO undertaking their role as accounting officer.

Other related party transactions including directors are set out in note 29.

12 DIRECTORS' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy has purchased insurance to protect directors' and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim. It is not possible to quantify the Governors and Officers indemnity from the overall cost of the insurance premium. The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

13 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold Land & Buildings	Site Improve- ments	Furniture & Equipment	Computer Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Assets Under Construction	Total
Cost	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
At 1 September 2022	54	775	683	778	50	1,001	3,341
Additions	-	189	217	376	-	431	1,213
Transfers	-	1,432	-	-	-	(1,432)	-
At 31 August 2023	54	2,396	900	1,154	50	-	4,554
Depreciation							
At 1 September 2022	3	46	259	638	50	-	996
Charged in year	-	16	73	126	-	-	215
At 31 August 2023	3	62	332	764	50	-	1,211
Net book value							
At 31 August 2023	51	2,334	568	390	-	-	3,343
At 31 August 2022	51	729	424	140	-	1,001	2,345

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
14 DEBTORS		
Trade debtors	12	9
VAT recoverable	112	690
Prepayments and accrued income	476	475
Other debtors	-	12
	600	1,186

15 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Trade creditors	452	339
Other creditors	1,174	3,404
Salix loans	3	3
Taxation & social security	267	813
Accruals	865	837
Deferred income	118	125
	2,879	5,521
Deferred Income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	125	175
Resources deferred in the year	118	125
Amounts recognised as income during the year	(125)	(175)
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	118	125

At the balance sheet date the academy was holding funds received in advance for Universal Free School Meals £118,000 (2022: £117,000), and other grants £Nil (2022: £8,000).

16 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE IN GREATER THAN ONE YEAR

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Salix loans	31	11
	31	11

A Salix loan of £11,552 was taken out during 2017/18 is interest free and is repayable in equal installments over 8 years. Further Salix loans have been taken out for £8,480 and £22,576 on 19 June 2020 and 18 November 2022 respectively and are also interest free and repayable in equal installments over 8 years.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

17 FUNDS

The income funds of the academy applied for specific purposes are as follows:

	Balance at 1 September 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains, Losses & Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2023
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Restricted general funds	453	16,051	(15,493)	(221)	790
General annual grant (GAG) (note i)	-	76	(76)	-	-
Rates relief grant (note iii)	-	195	(195)	-	-
UIFSM grant (note iii)	-	129	(101)	-	28
PE and sports grant (note iii)	-	1,425	(1,425)	-	-
Pupil premium grant (note ii)	-	1	(1)	-	-
Teachers pay grant (note iii)	-	29	(29)	-	-
Teachers pension grant (note iii)	-	6	(6)	-	-
Post 16 tuition fund grant (note iii)	-	538	(538)	-	-
Special educational needs grants LA	-	213	(213)	-	-
Local authority grants (note iv)	-	238	(238)	-	-
ESFA covid recovery premium	-	71	(71)	-	-
National tutoring programme grants (note x)	-	475	(475)	-	-
Supplementary grant (note iii)	-	328	(328)	-	-
Self generated income (note xi)	-	238	(238)	-	-
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	26	(26)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants (note iii)	-	22	(22)	-	-
Non government grants	-				
Total general funds	453	20,061	(19,475)	(221)	818
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA capital grants (note vii)	1,353	578	(79)	(1)	1,851
Fixed assets donation - (note vii)	55	-	(2)	-	53
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds (note vii)	772	-	(95)	524	1,201
ESFA donated assets	50	-	(39)	-	11
Total fixed asset funds	2,230	578	(215)	523	3,116
Restricted pension scheme liability					
Pension reserve (note viii)	(6,076)	-	(522)	3,914	(2,684)
	(6,076)	-	(522)	3,914	(2,684)
Total restricted funds	(3,393)	20,639	(20,212)	4,216	1,250
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted funds (note ix)	1,133	368	(12)	(302)	1,187
Total unrestricted funds	1,133	368	(12)	(302)	1,187
Total funds	(2,260)	21,007	(20,224)	3,914	2,437

Notes

- i) GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it would carry forward at 31 August 2023 (see note 2).
- ii) Pupil premium grant has been used to support children from low income families placed in the MAC.
- iii) Grants received from the ESFA used to support expansion of the academy trust, teaching pay increases, free school meals, rates costs and PE costs.
- iv) Local authority grant has been used to support enhanced learning for children with special educational needs.
- v) Other grants relate to corona virus cleaning cost claims.
- vi) School funds are contributions received from parents which are used to support the MAC's activities.
- vii) Restricted fixed asset additions were funded by DfE/ESFA grants and transfers from unrestricted funds.
- viii) The pension reserve represents the deficit on the LGPS (see note 28).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

17 FUNDS (cont'd)

- ix) Unrestricted funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objectives of the academy trust at the discretion of the directors.
- x) Grants received from the ESFA used to support the Trust with additional costs incurred as a result of COVID-19.
- xi) Catering and other income generated from pupils which is restricted in its application.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £'000	Incoming Resources £'000	Resources Expended £'000	Gains, Losses & Transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £'000
Restricted general funds	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General annual grant (GAG) (note i)	320	15,398	(15,284)	19	453
Rates relief grant (note iii)	-	55	(55)	-	-
UIFSM grant (note iii)	-	198	(198)	-	-
Conversion grant (note iii)	-	-	-	-	-
PE and sports grant (note iii)	-	129	(129)	-	-
Pupil premium grant (note ii)	-	1,383	(1,383)	-	-
Teachers pay grant (note iii)	-	12	(12)	-	-
Teachers pension grant (note iii)	-	31	(31)	-	-
Post 16 tuition fund grant (note iii)	-	8	(8)	-	-
Local authority grants (note iv)	-	485	(485)	-	-
ESFA covid-19 grants (note x)	-	242	(242)	-	-
Supplementary grant (note iii)	-	201	(201)	-	-
Self generated income (note xi)	-	276	(276)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants (note iii)	-	22	(22)	-	-
School fund (note vi)	-	-	-	-	-
Total general funds	320	18,440	(18,326)	19	453
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA capital grants (note vii)	614	812	(72)	(1)	1,353
Fixed assets donation - (note vii)	56	-	(1)	-	55
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds (note vii)	625	-	(78)	225	772
ESFA donated assets	90	-	(40)	-	50
Total fixed asset funds	1,385	812	(191)	224	2,230
Restricted pension scheme liability					
Pension reserve (note viii)	(17,353)	-	(1,475)	12,752	(6,076)
	(17,353)	-	(1,475)	12,752	(6,076)
Total restricted funds	(15,648)	19,252	(19,992)	12,995	(3,393)
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted funds (note ix)	1,086	350	(60)	(243)	1,133
Total unrestricted funds	1,086	350	(60)	(243)	1,133
Total funds	(14,562)	19,602	(20,052)	12,752	(2,260)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

17 TOTAL FUND ANALYSIS BY ACADEMY

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
St Brigid's Catholic Primary School	154	128
St Columba's Catholic School	(29)	(119)
St James Catholic Primary School	222	133
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	78	92
St Paul's Catholic Primary School	(124)	(159)
St Thomas Aquinas Catholic School	1,573	1,308
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School	(114)	(87)
St John Fisher Catholic Primary School	166	204
Lumen Christi	79	86
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	2,005	1,586
Restricted fixed assets fund	3,116	2,230
Pension reserve	(2,684)	(6,076)
Total	2,437	(2,260)

Deficit recovery of St Columba's, St Paul's and St Thomas More Catholic Primary Schools will be managed by;

- The development of school level plans using integrated curriculum and financial planning tools to match curriculum delivery models to the financial resources available;
- Focus on marketing to maximise admissions and return to full capacity as soon as possible;
- Realignment of staff numbers through natural turnover, recruitment freeze and restructuring to match curriculum need;
- Reduction in non-staffing expenditure by centralising procurement in key expenditure areas and restricting spending within each academy;
- Improved monitoring through central processing and decision making;
- Review of long-term maintenance plans and funding of plans;
- Engagement all of the Senior Leadership Team and other senior staff in the delivery of these savings.

St Columba's is expected to return to a cumulative positive financial position within two years. St Paul's and St Thomas More will move to an in-year breakeven position within the next two years.

TOTAL COST ANALYSIS BY ACADEMY

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £'000	Other Support Staff Costs £'000	Educational Supplies £'000	Other Costs (excluding Deprec'n) £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
St Brigid's	1,736	375	159	341	2,611	2,590
St Columba's	857	146	117	234	1,354	1,388
St James	807	143	52	167	1,169	1,290
St Joseph's	826	153	70	228	1,277	1,272
St Paul's	978	146	50	233	1,407	1,537
St Thomas Aquinas	5,553	705	458	1,064	7,780	7,871
St Thomas More	1,391	207	59	247	1,904	1,999
St John Fisher	819	184	61	193	1,257	1,236
Lumen Christi	646	295	18	291	1,250	678
Total	13,613	2,354	1,044	2,998	20,009	19,861

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

18 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted	Pension	General	Fixed	
	Funds	Restricted	Restricted	Assets	Total
	£'000	Funds	Funds	Restricted	£'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	Funds	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	3,343	3,343
Current assets	1,187	-	3,694	(193)	4,688
Current liabilities	-	-	(2,876)	(3)	(2,879)
Non current liabilities	-	-	-	(31)	(31)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,684)	-	-	(2,684)
	<u>1,187</u>	<u>(2,684)</u>	<u>818</u>	<u>3,116</u>	<u>2,437</u>

18 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:

	Unrestricted	Pension	General	Fixed	
	Funds	Restricted	Restricted	Assets	Total
	£'000	Funds	Funds	Restricted	£'000
	£'000	£'000	£'000	Funds	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	2,345	2,345
Current assets	1,133	-	5,985	(115)	7,003
Current liabilities	-	-	(5,521)	-	(5,521)
Non current liabilities	-	-	(11)	-	(11)
Pension scheme liability	-	(6,076)	-	-	(6,076)
	<u>1,133</u>	<u>(6,076)</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>2,230</u>	<u>(2,260)</u>

19 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	<u>£Nil</u>	<u>434</u>

20 COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023	2022
	Other	Other
	£'000	£'000
Amounts due within one year	19	2
Amounts due between one and five years	52	-
Amounts due more than five years	-	-
	<u>71</u>	<u>2</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

21 RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	783	(450)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation (note 13)	215	191
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(578)	(812)
Interest receivable	(24)	(1)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 28)	261	1,179
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (note 28)	261	296
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	586	(426)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(2,642)	2,248
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(1,138)	2,225
22 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	2023	2021
	£'000	£'000
Interest received	24	1
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,213)	(1,141)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	578	812
Net cash used in investing activities	(611)	(328)
23 CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	2023	2021
	£'000	£'000
Repayments of borrowing	(3)	(2)
Cash inflows from new borrowing	23	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	20	(2)
24 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	At 31 Aug	At 31 Aug
	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Cash in hand and at bank	4,088	5,817
Total cash and cash equivalents	4,088	5,817

25 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 Sept 2022 £'000	Cash Flows £'000	At 31 Aug 2023 £'000
Cash at bank	5,817	(1,729)	4,088
Overdraft	-	-	-
	5,817	(1,729)	4,088
Loans within one year	(3)	-	(3)
Loans within more than one year	(11)	(20)	(31)
	5,803	(1,749)	4,054

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**26 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

During the period of the funding agreement between the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company and the Secretary of State, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a Government capital grant was received, the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company is required either to re-invest the proceeds or to repay to the Secretary of State for Education the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the funding agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company serving notice, the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company is obliged to repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- a) the value at that time of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's sites and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company; and
- b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the funding agreement.

On 31 August 2023, the DfE announced that any building that had RAAC identified within their structure should be closed with immediate effect. At St John Fisher school, RAAC was identified in the school's hall roof. As a result the hall is unavailable for use, but has not effected the ability for the school to remain open. The Trust is now working with the DfE to develop a solution to the issue. The costs of mitigation have been established at £84,000 with a tender exercise having been carried out in September 2023. It is expected that the costs of refurbishment will be reimbursed by the DfE, however, no formal confirmation has been received. There is therefore a potential cost to the Trust estimated at £84,000.

27 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company undertakes to contribute to its assets 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.

28 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff which is managed by West Midlands Pension Fund. Both are defined multi employer benefit schemes.

As described in note 26 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company, 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 period. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the multi academy trust at the balance sheet date.

The total pension cost to the Academy during the year ended 31 August 2023 was £3,134,000 (2022: £4,356,000) of which £1,566,000 (2022: £1,651,000) relates to the TPS and £1,568,000 (2022: £2,705,000) relates to LGPS.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £304,803 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £849,657) and are included within other creditors.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)**28 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (cont'd)****Teachers' Pension Scheme****Introduction**

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 30 October 2023. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% 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 £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million
- the SCAPE discount rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI, and is based on the Office for Budget Responsibility's forecast for long-term GDP growth

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,566,000 (2022: £1,651,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the [Teachers' Pensions website](#).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with the assets held in a separate trustee administered funds. The total contributions made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £1,340,000 (2022: £1,473,000) of which employers contributions totalled £1,046,000 (2022: £1,230,000) and employees contributions totalled £294,000 (2022: £243,000).

The agreed contributions for future years is an average of 21.1% (2022: 21.1%) for employers and a minimum of 5.5% to 7.5% (2022: 5.5% to 7.5%) for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding local government pension liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK..

Principal Actuarial Assumptions

The major assumptions used by the actuary were:

	2023	2022
	2022	2021
	% per	% per
	annum	annum
Discount rate	5.2%	4.3%
Salary increases	4.0%	4.1%
Pension increase	3.0%	3.1%

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

28 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (cont'd)

Principal Actuarial Assumptions (cont'd)

Sensitivity analysis for the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities were as follows:

	At 31 August 2023 Approx Change to Employers Liability £'000	At 31 August 2022 Approx Change to Employers Liability £'000
Discount rate reduced by 0.1% per annum	337	398
Salary increase rate increased by 0.1%	38	59
Pension increase rate increased by 0.1%	306	342

The mortality assumptions used were as follows:

	At 31 August 2023 years	At 31 August 2022 years
Longevity at age 65 retiring today		
- Men	20.4	21.2
- Women	22.8	23.6
Longevity at age 65 retiring in 20 years		
- Men	20.2	22.9
- Women	24.6	25.4

Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	Fair value at 31 August 2023 £'000	At 31 August 2022 £'000
Equity instruments	8,208	7,768
Debt instruments	2,536	2,434
Property	845	927
Cash and other liquid assets	483	464
Total market value of assets	12,072	11,593
Present value of scheme liabilities:		
- Funded	12,072	11,593
- Unfunded	2,684	6,076
Total liabilities	14,756	17,669
Deficit in the scheme	(2,684)	(6,076)

The actual return on the scheme assets in the year was a deficit of £703,000 (2022: £343,000 deficit).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd)

28 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (cont'd)

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	1,307	2,409
Interest income	(517)	(186)
Interest cost	778	482
Total amount recognised in the SoFA	1,568	2,705

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Changes in deficit during the year:		
Balance at 1 September 2022	6,076	17,353
Balance at admission date	-	-
Movement in year:		
- Employer service cost (net of employee contributions)	1,307	2,409
- Employer contributions	(1,046)	(1,230)
- Expected return on scheme assets	(517)	(186)
- Interest cost	778	482
- Actuarial gains	(3,914)	(12,752)
Deficit in the scheme at 31 August 2023	2,684	6,076

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:		
Balance at 1 September 2022	17,669	27,956
Scheme liabilities at admission date	-	-
Current service cost	1,307	2,409
Past service cost	-	-
Interest cost	778	482
Contributions by scheme participants	294	243
Benefits paid	(158)	(140)
Actuarial gains	(5,134)	(13,281)
Scheme liabilities at 31 August 2023	14,756	17,669

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Changes in the fair value of the Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company's share of scheme assets:		
Balance at 1 September 2022	11,593	10,603
Expected return on scheme assets	517	186
Actuarial losses	(1,220)	(529)
Contributions by employer	1,046	1,230
Benefits paid	(158)	(140)
Contributions by scheme participants	294	243
Fair value of scheme assets at 31 August 2023	12,072	11,593

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2024 is £1,142,000 (2023: £1,204,000).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023 (cont'd) .**29 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the Board of Directors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which Directors 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.

No related party transactions took place during the period with the Directors. No amounts are owed to or due from the Directors as at 31 August 2023.

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is connected to the Barberi and Newman Academy Trust (Company number 08183803) by virtue of it being a member during the period. There were £6,790 (2022 : £Nil) transactions between the two entities during the year and no balances outstanding.

The Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy is connected to Diocese of Birmingham Education Services Limited (08217071) through common control of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. During the year the MAC purchased services of £26,514 (2022: £11,671), with no balance outstanding.

30 AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2023 the trust received £23,199 (2022: £20,188) and disbursed £22,160 (2022: £23,309) from the fund. An amount of £5,286 (2022: £4,247) is included in other creditors relating to the undistributed funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

During the year Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company acted as an agent for the Police and Schools Panel South. It holds cash on behalf of the Panel and settles its expenses using this cash; it also sends out the Panel's sales invoices and collects the remittances. At 31 August 2023 the Academy Company held £Nil (2022: £79,568) of cash on behalf of the Panel; a matching liability is included within other creditors. During the year £Nil (2022: £Nil) of sales and £79,568 (2022: £Nil) of expenses/reimbursements were administered for the Panel.

During the year Lumen Christi Catholic Multi Academy Company acted as an agent for The Birmingham Pathfinder Charity. It holds cash on behalf of the Charity and settles its expenses using this cash; it also sends out the Charity's sales invoices and collects the remittances. At 31 August 2023 the Academy Company held £Nil (2022: £358,173) of cash on behalf of the Charity; a matching liability is included within other creditors. During the year £Nil (2022: £450) of sales and £358,173 (2022: £117,746) of expenses were administered for the Charity.

31 EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

There are no material adjusting or non adjusting events arising after the balance sheet date.