# TUDHOE LEARNING TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

# ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 9
Governance statement	10 - 12
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	13
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	14
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	15 - 18
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	19 - 20
Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account	21 - 22
Balance sheet	23
Statement of cash flows	24
Notes to the accounts including accounting policies	25 - 46

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

### Members

B Hilton I Whitfield D Bowes

D Walker (appointed 01/02/2022)

Trustees

A Boustead (Resigned 1 October 2021)

D Bowes (Resigned 31 August 2022)

I Cochrane D Collins V Ingleton

J H Smith (Accounting Officer)

l Whitfield (Chair) R Coulson

D J Groark (Appointed 1 April 2022)

### Senior management team

Chief Exceutive OfficerDirector of Finance and Business

Development

J H Smith G Pigott

- Associate Headteacher T Cassap

Company secretary

G Pigott

### Company registration number

08270151 (England and Wales)

### Academies operated

Victoria Lane Academy Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery

Shield Row Primary School Dene House Primary School South Hetton Primary

**Tudhoe Colliery Primary School** 

Acre Rigg Academy

Location

Durham J Richardson
Durham T Page
Durham J Cooke
Durham D Turnbull
Durham L Griffiths
Durham J Smith
Durham J Craggs

**Principal** 

### Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services Wynyard Park House Wynyard Avenue

Wynyard TS22 5TB United Kingdom

### TRUSTEES' REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

Tudhoe Learning Trust operates seven academies for pupils aged 3-11 serving a catchment area in County Durham. It has a pupil capacity of 1886 and had a roll of 1676 in the school spring census 2022.

### Structure, governance and management

#### Constitution

The Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the Trust.

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

### Members' liability

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

#### Trustees' indemnities

Tudhoe Learning Trust has taken out insurance to protect Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, error or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. We also have professional indemnity insurance for Officers.

### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The management of the Trust is the responsibility of the directors who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

The membership of the Board is as follows

- · Up to three Directors appointed by the Members
- Staff Directors appointed by the Members provided the total number of Directors who are employees does not exceed on third of the total number of Directors.
- The Chief Executive
- Additional Directors if appointed under Articles 61, 61A or 67A
- · Further Directors if appointed under Article 62.

The Directors other than the Chief Executive Officer are appointed for a term of four years.

A review of the board was undertaken following a skills audit, a recruitment exercise followed which has ensured our board is made up in line with Education department recommendations. Currently we have two vacancies on the board.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The induction and training of new Directors and individuals school governors depends on their existing experience. Where necessary induction and training will be provided on charity, educational, legal and financial matters.

New Directors and governors will receive an induction, be given a tour of the schools and a chance to meet the staff. They will be provided with copies of policies procedures and other documents they will need to fulfil their role.

All Directors use of software called Governor Hub which gives them access to minutes, agendas, declaration of interests and other items. Policies are listed on the Trust website and Directors are made aware of these during their training.

Each Director undertakes training via The National Governing Association Website which the Trust subscribes to.

### Organisational structure

The Trust comprises seven schools, Tudhoe Colliery Primary School, Acre Rigg Academy, Dene House Primary, South Hetton Primary, Shield Row Primary, Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery and Victoria Lane Academy.

The Members oversee the workings of the Trust and ensure it meets its obligations. The strategy and governance working group proposes strategy to the Directors for approval. The Board of Directors are the decision makers. They are responsible for setting general policy, adopting the annual development plan and budget, monitoring the Trust by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the Accounting Officer for the Trust.

The chair of each local governing body meet termly to discuss and adopt best practice on governance between the schools.

The individual school heads meet half termly to share information and methods of implementation of strategy. Each individual school has its own local governing body with the remit to run the school according to the principals of the Trust. There is a scheme of delegation which clearly sets out roles and responsibilities within the Trust.

The Trust has developed and formulated a 5 Year strategic plan.

The CEO is responsible for implementing the policies laid down by the Directors and reporting back to them. He also line managers the head Teachers of the schools.

### Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Directors consider that they, together with the senior management team (detailed on page 1) comprise the key management personnel of Tudhoe learning Trust in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the Trust on a day to day basis.

Trust Directors will determine the pay range of the Trust Management Team for a vacancy prior to advertising it.

On appointment directors will determine the starting salary with that range to be offered to the successful candidate.

The Directors give their time freely and no Director other that the CEO and the deputy Head of Tudhoe Colliery Primary School receive a salary in year, however Directors are remunerated for expenses detailed in note 13 if they wish to claim.

As per Tudhoe Learning Trust pay policy all staff with responsibilities for teaching and learning are paid in line with the schools Teachers pay and Conditions (STPC) other personnel are paid in line with Durham County Council national pay scales and spinal column points.

The Trust's pay review committee reviews the pay and remuneration of CEO and Head teachers annually. The Committee ensures performance is evaluated against appraisal targets.

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

### Trade union facility time

		physics 4 (
Relevant	110101	OLONARRA
CERVAIN	246 641 744	CHARGINA

Number of employees who were relevant union officials

during the relevant period
Full-time equivalent employee number

1.00

Number of employees

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time

0% 1%-50%

51%-99% 100%

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time 108
Total pay bill 7,815,640
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facilty time -

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours

### Recruitment/selection and equal opportunities

The Trust has a Recruitment and selection Policy that takes into account safer recruitment and is fully inclusive. In applying the policy the Trust will not unlawfully discriminate in respect of any characteristic as defined under the Equality Act.

The Trust employs a Human Resource Manager who monitors the operation of all trust policies and procedures to ensure it is a fair and equitable framework in which it operates in.

### Communication

Within all Trust schools there would be various meetings held by the Head or Deputy Head Teacher to ensure all staff are communicated with. Each school has its own governing body who have termly meetings. Each Head teacher attends the Leadership team meeting. Chair of Governors attends the termly Chair of Governors meetings. All these meetings are discussed with Directors of the Trust at their meetings.

### Consultation

Communication takes place locally with each school via staff meetings and then extra meetings are called if there are any specific issues to be discussed or information that requires sharing.

### Performance Schemes

We have a very rigid and formal pay scale structure that does not allow for reward link remuneration. However the leadership team and teachers only progress through their pay scale with performance management.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### **Economic Factor affecting the Trust**

Our biggest risk is the reduction of pupil numbers which would currently reduce funding from the ESFA. The Trust is aware of the need to recruit and retain suitable staff members with succession planning in mind. Changes in government policy could also affect the trust.

Facilities and buildings are old and submission to grant funds such as the Condition Improvement fund are made where possible to assist with the cost of replacing. In 2021/22 we were successful in two CIF bids, one to replace the boiler at South Hetton Primary and another to fully replace cladding to the outside of the premises at Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery.

### Objectives and activities

### Objects and aims

Tudhoe Learning Trust is a family of schools in County Durham, each with its own identity and heritage with a collective aim — to work and learn together; always striving to ensure our pupils achieve their full potential, developing the skills and knowledge required for an ever-changing world. OUR CHILDREN COME FIRST — NO EXCUSES.

- 1. Our philosophy is to shout the name of the individual schools and whisper the name of the Trust.
- 2. We believe in celebrating the differences between our schools, sharing good practice and collaborative working.
- 3. All of our schools have a distinctive feel about them, but all of them buy into our collective Vision.
- School improvement is always focused upon the needs of our children first and foremost.
- 5. By tapping into the considerable skills and talents of the staff within our Trust, we support and challenge one another, ensuring the outcomes for our children are the best that they can possibly be.
- 6. We have a philosophy of leadership at all levels, with everyone within our Trust able to learn and improve together.

Our aspirations as a Trust are built upon these six pillars:

- Education To provide a world class education for every child in each of our academies.
- People The Trust will recruit, develop & retain a motivated workforce of the highest quality
- · Capacity To grow organically to ensure all our children get the best possible education.
- Governance Have efficient, effective, robust governance & business arrangements that maximise learning
- · Premises To ensure environments are vibrant, engaging and support a love for learning.
- Accountability Robust procedures which ensure cutting edge systems lead to continual improvement.

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

### Objectives, Strategies & Activities

The Priorities of the trust during this reporting period included the following:

- 1. To increase the numbers of pupils at/exceeding age related expectations in Reading by:
  - Developing a range of pupils' reading skills & resilience to ensure they have the confidence to interrogate a
    wide range of texts consistently.
  - · Developing a love of reading.
  - . Developing robust systems and procedures for reading in each school.
- 2. To continue to strengthen Governance at Director level and LGB level.
- 3. Ensure the Heateacher Board and Chair of Governor Board develop strategically to support the work of the Board of Directors.
- 4. To strengthen our capacity for future growth.
- 5. To focus upon recovery within our schools with regards to pupils and staff wellbeing following Covid disruptions.
- 6. Strengthen the Continuous Improvement Review process and train more staff.
- 7. Continue to reduce staff and pupil absence across the Trust.
- 8. Continue to centralise a wider range of policies and procedures.
- 9. Develop a more common approach to self-evaluation procedures, which clearly inform priorities for improvement.

### Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission 'Public benefit running a charity' (PB2) in setting objectives and aims and planning what activities the Trust should undertake. All charitable activities are undertaken to further the advancement of education to all students in its care and partnership organisations in the wider community.

### Strategic report

### Achievements and performance

The Pandemic created a number of issues that hampered school development and pupil progress for the last few years, but it also gave us the opportunity to reflect on working practices, consolidate and focus upon training and staff development. This was apparent as we emerged into a year that started with restrictions, but concluded as normal with residentials, sports' days, summer fayres and SATs! During the whole Covid period, collaborative working (remotely for long periods) strengthened across the Trust. During the year we achieved "Good" at Dene House Primary and are currently rated "Good" at Stephenson Way Academy by NLE, An inspection took place by Ofsted at Stephenson Way Academy in October 22 and was rated "Good". To help support our staff our HR department decided that we would participate in the Better Heath at work scheme, we have since achieved the Bronze Award.

### Key performance indicators

### **Key Performance Indicators**

- Year 6 Reading results improved from 2019 by 6% despite Covid restrictions
- · Procedures and systems for school improvement and finance are robust
- · Full time School Improvement Champion in place
- · Part Time EYFS Champion in place
- · The Board has been strengthened by Director recruitment and training
- · Finance Team/HR Team procedures and working practices well established
- · Year 1 phonic across the Trust 3% up on national results.
- · Capacity for growth is strong.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### Going concern

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

#### Financial review

Income and Expenditure

Most of the Trust's income is obtained for the DfE via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), in the form of General Annual Grant, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Early Year funding and SEN funding was received from Durham County Council.

We were successful in receiving a CIF grant for £132k for South Hetton Primary which enabled us to replace the boiler. We were also awarded a grant for Stephenson Way Academy to replace the cladding on the school however this work has not yet started and the funding will be recognised in 2022/23.

Total revenue income was £10,315,383 and expenditure funded by revenue grants was £10,221,463 giving a surplus of £93,920 excluding the movement on capital funds and the pension reserve the in year.

The provisions of FRS 102 relating to retirement benefits have been applied resulting in a decrease in the pension deficit of £6,376,000. The deficit is now £2,708,000.

All the expenditure in the year was in furtherance of the Trust's objectives.

At 31 August 2022 the net book value of fixed assets was £13,224,000 and the movement in the year are show in note 13. All the assets are used exclusively for providing education and associate support services to the pupils of the Trust.

At 31 August 2022 the Trust held fund balances (excluding the pension deficit) of £1,369,000 comprising of £717,000 restricted funds and £652,000 unrestricted funds.

### Reserves policy

The Directors review the reserve levels of the Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitment and the nature of reserves.

The main financial risk to the Trust is that of managing its short term cash flow efficiently. To mitigate this risk it has been agreed that an appropriate reserve balance would equate to 4 weeks worth of salary expenditure for each school being approximately £620k including HMRC and pension liabilities.

The Trust currently holds unrestricted funds of £652k and General Annual Grant of £717k (see note 18) included within unrestricted funds is £76k of designated funds which are pots held by the Trust for self insurance absence. This is explained in note 18.

Total free reserves (including the designated reserves) are £652k.

Total reserves are £11,884,000 which includes restricted fixed asset reserves of £13,223,000.

The Trust has a pension deficit of £2,708,000 but a recovery plan is in place. The Trust contributes a % to fund the deficit, which is added to the pension costs an this is recovered on a monthly basis through the payroll. No reserves will be used to fund the deficit.

### Investment policy

The Trust invests surplus funds in an interest bearing account. The return on the investee is reviewed before the investment is made to ensure there is a maximum return, whilst minimising risks to the sum invested. At the year end no funds were placed on deposit.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### Principal risks and uncertainties

Tudhoe Learning Trust has been through a process to assess its current and future risks and to identify and implement strategies for addressing risks. The risk register is reviewed by the Trust board of Directors on an annual basis.

#### Risks include:

- Physical Assets
- · Business Continuality
- Financial
- Technological
- · Third Parry Liability
- Environmental
- · Legal and compliance
- · Market and sector
- Personnel
- · Political
- · Increasing costs relating to staff pay and conditions.

Our biggest risk is the reduction of pupil numbers which would currently reduce funding from the ESFA. The Trust is aware of the need to recruit and retain suitable staff members and is considering succession planning for members of the leadership team.

Changes to government policy are kept unreview and risks to the organisation assessed. The Trust is aware of risk and is proactive.

The Trust considers that there are systems and internal controls in place to identify and minimise any risks, but however recognise there are a number of ongoing risks:

- Unable to continue to secure revenue to fund the ongoing business of the MAT and its academies
- · Being unable to increase the number of pupils in each school
- · Impact on pension liabilities on academies running cost
- Future changes to education legislation and ESFA funding
- · Achievement of a Good or Outstanding OFSTED grade
- · Continuing to secure and retain good quality teachers
- · Financial pressures resulting on having to set a deficit budget.
- The lack of capital funding and maintaining our buildings to a suitable standard.

### **Fundraising**

This is a minor part of the activities we undertake as a Trust, all fundraising is carried out in schools by Teachers and Teaching Assistants and is mostly aimed at parents and families. An example of what we would raise funds for would be 'Children in Need' or 'Non Uniform Day'. All funds raised are either for the benefit of charities where this would be paid over in fun. Where funds are raised for the school this is usually ring-fenced for a specific purpose.

We do not engage any professional fundraisers.

All fundraising is monitored by the Trust finance department.

Any complaints would fall under our complaints policy and would be handled under this policy.

All money raised is voluntary and no cold calling is undertaken.

### Plans for future periods

- . To continue to ensure our children have the world class education they deserve
- . To ensure all our schools continually strengthen and improve
- · To continue to support vulnerable schools
- · To welcome good schools that are aligned to our ethos and values.
- · Achieve better health work Silver award

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

#### Auditor

Insofar as the Directors are aware:

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

The Directors appointed Azets as the Trust's external auditors from February 2020. Clive Owen have been appointed as internal auditors.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 09 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

l Whitfield Chair

9.12.22

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### Scope of responsibility

As Directors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Tudhoe Learning Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and no absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

As Directors we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Directors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirement of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Tudhoe Learning Trust 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 supplements that described in the directors' report. The Board of Directors has formally met 3 times during the year however communication takes place outside of these meetings if decisions are to be made.

In the current year the committee discussed, reviewed and approved budgets, received and approved the annual accounts and discussed and approved a number of updated policies and procedures.

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
A Boustead (Resigned 1 October 2021)	0	0
D Bowes (Resigned 31 August 2022)	3	3
I Cochrane	2	3
D Collins	3	3
V Ingleton	3	3
J H Smith (Accounting Officer)	3	3
I Whitfield (Chair)	3	3
R Coulson	1	3
D J Groark (Appointed 1 April 2022)	0	1

Ad hoc meetings are held between the CEO and the Chair of the Trust to keep up to date with any developments. The board therefore feels it is not necessary to meet more frequently. Management Accounts are circulated to all Directors monthly.

The Trust top slices 5.1%% of income from our schools to fund central expenditure. A review is undertaken on an whenever the strategic management team meets, this is usually done on a termly basis to ensure the capacity within the Trust enables us to fulfil our strategic direction.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Audit Committee is a sub committee of the main board of directors. Its purpose is to work closely with the CEO and the Director of Business Finance and Development.

The committee is tasked with looking at governance, academy performance against targets, staff management and performance, financial management, academy procedures and premises and assets. They also review the risk register and receive any updates from internal and external audit,

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
J Smith (CEO and Accounting Officer)	3	3
I Whitfield	3	3
D Collins	3	3
D Bowes (Chair)	3	3

### Conflicts of interest

All Trustees have a legal duty to act in the interest of the Trust. Trustees personal and professional connections can result in conflict of interests. To ensure there is no conflict each Trustee must complete a declaration identifying any conflicts or pecuniary interests. We also do online searches on Companies House to ensure all Directorships are declared. No Trustees are paid for their role within the Trust and we avoid buying goods or serves from a company owed by a Trustee. At each meeting Trustees are asked to declare any conflicts of interests.

### Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Office understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider society outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Directors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate.

The Trust has carried out detailed benchmarking using "School Resources Management self-Assessment Dashboard tool" for all schools within the Trust. The Accounting Officer for the trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- · Reviewing the waste and recycling arrangements
- · Reviewing the electricity and gas arrangements within the schools
- Reviewed our management information system and changed from Capita Sims to Arbor, this resulted in a cost saving to the Trust.

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The system of internal control has been in place in Tudhoe Learning Trust for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

### Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Directors has reviewed the key risk to which the Trust is exposed together with the operation 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 Trust's significant risks that have been in place for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Directors.

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### The risk and control framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial I reports
  which are reviewed and agreed v the Board of Directors
- Regular reviews by the Audit committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecast and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- · Setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- · Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment)guidelines
- · Delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- · Identification and management of risks

The Board of Directors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and Clive Owen are engaged to provide their services to enable the Directors to carry out their responsibility for internal assurance.

The Directors of the Trust have set up a four year programme to enable the internal auditor to perform a range of checks throughout the Trust. In 2021/22 their programme included

- Asset Inventory
- GDPR

On an annual basis the internal auditors report will be presented to the audit committee with any actions recommended and what actions have been taken.

The programme of work was completed as planned and no significant issues where found. Minor improvements have been recommended and these will be implemented.

### **Review of effectiveness**

As Accounting Officer the CEO has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by

- · The work of the auditors
- The financial management and governance self assessment programme and school resource management self- assessment tool
- The work of the executive managers with within 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 audit committee and a plan to address weakness and ensure continuous improvement of tie system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 09 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

J H Smith

**Accounting Officer** 

l Whitfield Chair

### STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

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

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

S

J H Smith

Accounting Officer

09 December 2022

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

The trustees (who are also the directors of Tudhoe Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the trustees are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022:
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 09 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

I Whitfield Chair

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TUDHOE LEARNING TRUST

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Tudhoe Learning Trust for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

### In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022.

### **Basis for opinion**

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

### Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

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

### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting Irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we 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. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- · Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material
  effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- · Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of
  journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant
  transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of
  potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk 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.

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

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

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### Use of our report

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

Graham Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services

Azets Audit Services

**Statutory Auditor** 

Wynyard Park House Wynyard Avenue Wynyard United Kingdom TS22 5TB

3/12/2022

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

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 11 July 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Tudhoe Learning Trust during the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Tudhoe Learning Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Tudhoe Learning Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Tudhoe Learning Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Tudhoe Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 18 December 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

### Approach

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

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

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

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

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

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- · completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer
- . discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team
- · review of Internal Assurance reports
- · review of trustee and committee meeting minutes
- · review of finance and other relevant policies
- review of purchases, expenses and expense claims on a sample basis including the application of controls and tendering processes where applicable
- · review of gifts and hospitality transactions including the application of controls
- · review of credit and debit card transactions including the application of controls
- · review of payroll transactions on a sample bases including the application of controls
- · review of potential special payments to staff
- review of leases and consideration of areas where borrowing may have been incurred
- · consideration of transactions with related and connected parties
- · review of register of business interests for completeness and compliance with regulations
- · enquiries into transactions that may require disclosure under ESFA delegated authority rules
- · consideration of value for money and appropriateness of transactions

### Conclusion

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

Reporting Accountant Azets Audit Services

Azek Audit Services

Dated: 13/12/2022

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

		Unrestricted funds		icted funds: Fixed asset	Total 2022	Total 2021
	Notes	£	general £	Fixed asset	2022 £	2021 £
ncome and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	16,705	-	243,512	260,217	409,959
Funding for educational operations	4	95,573	9,978,099	-	10,073,672	9,465,692
Other trading activities	5	224,814	-	-	224,814	127,788
nvestments	6	192	-		192	173
Total		337,284	9,978,099	243,512	10,558,895	10,003,612
Expenditure on:					<del>}</del>	
Raising funds Charitable activities:	7	154,635	85,531	-	240,166	86,912
Educational operations	9	117,290	10,776,397	357,675	11,251,362	10,808,961
Fotal	7	271,925	10,861,928	357,675	11,491,528	10,895,873
Net income/(expenditure)		65,359	(883,829)	(114,163)	(932,633)	(892,261
Fransfers between funds	18	-	170,693	(170,693)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined						
penefit pension schemes	20	-	7,162,000	-	7,162,000	(422,000
Net movement in funds		65,359	6,448,864	(284,856)	6,229,367	(1,314,261)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		586,632	(8,439,883)	13,507,575	5,654,324	6,968,585
Total funds carried forward		651,991	(1,991,019)	13,222,719	11,883,691	5,654,324

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restri	cted funds:	Total
Year ended 31 August 2021		funds	General	Fixed asset	2021
•	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	10,530	-	399,429	409,959
- Funding for educational operations	4	57,401	9,408,291	-	9,465,692
Other trading activities	5	127,788	-	-	127,788
Investments	6	173	-	-	173
Total		195,892	9,408,291	399,429	10,003,612
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	86,912	-	-	86,912
Charitable activities: - Educational operations	9	58,011	10,394,140	356,810	10,808,961
Total	7	144,923	10,394,140	356.810	10,895,873
Total	•		====		
Net income/(expenditure)		50,969	(985,849)	42,619	(892,261)
Transfers between funds	18	-	634,710	(634,710)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	20	•	(422,000)	-	(422,000)
Net movement in funds		50,969	(773,139)	(592,091)	(1,314,261)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		535,663	(7,666,744)	14,099,666	6,968,585
Total funds carried forward		586,632	(8,439,883)	13,507,575	5,654,324

### **BALANCE SHEET**

### AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

		20	122	20	21
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets Tangible assets	13		12 224 000		40 474 404
Tallyble assets	15		13,224,006		13,471,481
Current assets					
Debtors	14	595,596		582,043	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,824,991		1,521,527	
		2,420,587		2,103,570	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one					
year	15	(1,000,458)		(795,090)	
Net current assets			1,420,129		1,308,480
Total assets less current liabilities			14,644,135		14,779,961
			17,011,100		14,773,301
Creditors: amounts falling due after more					
than one year	16		(52,444)		(41,637
Net assets before defined benefit pension	I				
scheme liability			14,591,691		14,738,324
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		(2,708,000)		(9,084,000
Total net assets			11,883,691		E 654 224
iotal liet assets			11,005,051		5,654,324
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	18				
Fixed asset funds			13,222,719		13,507,575
Restricted income funds			716,981		644,117
- Pension reserve			(2,708,000)		(9,084,000)
Total restricted funds			11,231,700		5,067,692
Jnrestricted income funds	18		651,991		586,632
Fotal funds			11,883,691		5,654,324

The accounts on pages 21 to 46 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 09 December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

I Whitfield Chair

Company registration number 08270151

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

		202		202	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	21		157,594		135,939
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investmen	nts	192		173	
Capital grants from DfE Group		233,361		301,223	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(100,050)		(125,473)	
Net cash provided by investing activities			133,503		175,923
Cash flows from financing activities					
New other loan		20,920		11,250	
Repayment of other loan		(8,553)		(7,054)	
Net cash provided by financing activities			12,367	-	4,196
Net increase in cash and cash equivalent reporting period	s in the		303,464		316,058
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of t	he year		1,521,527		1,205,469
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the	year		1,824,991		1,521,527
ogon and odon oguranemo at one or are	l				

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

### 1 Accounting policies

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

### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

### 1.2 Going concern

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

### 1.3 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, 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 period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

### Sponsorship income

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

### **Donations**

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

### Other income

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

#### Donated fixed assets

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

### 1,4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

### Expenditure on raising funds

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

### Charitable activities

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

### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

Leasehold land & buildings125 yearsLeashold improvements10 yearsComputer equipment5 yearsFixtures, fittings & equipment10 years

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

### 1.6 Liabilities

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

#### 1.7 Leased assets

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

### 1.8 Financial instruments

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

### Financial assets

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

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

### Financial liabilities

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

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

### 1.9 Taxation

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

### 1.10 Pensions benefits

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

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

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

### 1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

### Critical areas of judgement

Land and buildings

Some of the trust's land and buildings are occupied on a 125 year lease from the local authority. In the view of the trustees, the risks and rewards of occupying the site have been substantially transferred to the trust and therefore the land and buildings have been recognised as a donation on conversion and capitalised within the restricted fixed assets fund. The land and buildings are valued on the basis of valuations provided by the ESFA/local authority

### Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated as to write off the cost of an asset off over its useful economic life. The accounting policies are disclosed in the accounting policy above.

### 3 Donations and capital grants

, ,	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Donated fixed assets	-	10,151	10,151	98,206
Capital grants		233,361	233,361	301,223
Other donations	16,705	-	16,705	10,530
	16,705	<b>243</b> ,512	260,217	409,959

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 4 Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Offe/ESFA grants General annual grant (GAG)	-	7,757,854	7,757,854	7,106,765
Other DfE/ESFA grants: - UIFSM	_	102,187	102,187	146,740
- Pupil premium	_	1,046,024	1,046,024	975,275
- PE and sports premium	-	122,199	122,199	125,960
- Rates	-	27,648	27,648	27,252
- Teachers pension grants	-	9,567	9,567	248,505
- Teachers pay grants	40	3,386	3,386	77,831
- Others	-	209,692	209,692	132,190
	•	9,278,557	9,278,557	8,840,518
Other government grants	,			
Local authority grants		576,336	576,336	545,778
Special educational projects	-	15,000	15,000	-
		591,336	591,336	545,778
COVID-19 additional funding DfE/ESFA				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding Non-DfE/ESFA	-	108,206	108,206	-
Other COVID-19 funding				21,995
	-	108,206	108,206	21,995
Other funding				
Catering	67,786	_	67,786	57,401
Other incoming resources	27,787	_	27,787	
Other monning resources	21,707	,		
	95,573		95,573	57,401
Total funding	95,573	9,978,099	10,073,672	9,465,692

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Hire of facilities	Total	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted		Other trading activities
Hire of facilities	2021					
Catering income   390   - 390     390     390     Parental contributions   63,324   - 63,324     63,324     63,324       63,324	£	_	£	£		
Parental contributions	8,913	9,447	-	9,447		Hire of facilities
Other income	1,327	390	-	390		Catering income
Comparison of Content of Conten	18,014	63,324	-	63,324		Parental contributions
Investment income   Unrestricted   Restricted   Total   funds   funds   2022   £	99,534	151,653	-	151,653		Other income
Unrestricted funds	127,788	224,814	•	224,814		
Unrestricted funds		)				Investment income
## Short term deposits    192	Total	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted		
Short term deposits	2021	2022	funds	funds		
7 Expenditure    Staff costs   Premises   Other   2022	£	£	£	£		
Non-pay expenditure   Total	173	192		192		Short term deposits
Staff costs						Expenditure
Expenditure on raising funds - Direct costs 86,045 - 154,121 240,166 Academy's educational operations - Direct costs 6,376,656 - 763,776 7,140,432 6 - Allocated support costs 2,056,023 1,158,432 896,475 4,110,930 4	Total		expenditure			
Expenditure on raising funds - Direct costs 86,045 - 154,121 240,166 Academy's educational operations - Direct costs 6,376,656 - 763,776 7,140,432 6 - Allocated support costs 2,056,023 1,158,432 896,475 4,110,930 4	2021	2022			Staff costs	
- Direct costs 86,045 - 154,121 240,166 Academy's educational operations - Direct costs 6,376,656 - 763,776 7,140,432 6 - Allocated support costs 2,056,023 1,158,432 896,475 4,110,930 4	£	£	£	£	£	
Academy's educational operations - Direct costs 6,376,656 - 763,776 7,140,432 6 - Allocated support costs 2,056,023 1,158,432 896,475 4,110,930 4						
- Direct costs 6,376,656 - 763,776 7,140,432 6 - Allocated support costs 2,056,023 1,158,432 896,475 4,110,930 4  8,518,724 1,158,432 1,814,372 11,491,528 10  Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes: 2022  E  Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit 10,850 - Other services 3,600 Operating lease rentals 46,725	86,912	240,166	154,121	-	86,045	
- Allocated support costs 2,056,023 1,158,432 896,475 4,110,930 4  8,518,724 1,158,432 1,814,372 11,491,528 10  Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes: 2022  E  Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit 10,850 - Other services 3,600 Operating lease rentals 46,725	,648,298	7,140,432	763,776	_	6,376,656	
Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:  E Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit - Other services Operating lease rentals  2022 £ 10,850 3,600 46,725	,160,663		896,475	1,158,432	2,056,023	- Allocated support costs
Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit 10,850 - Other services 3,600 Operating lease rentals 46,725	,895,873	11,491,528	1,814,372	1,158,432	8,518,724	
Fees payable to auditor for:  - Audit  - Other services  Operating lease rentals  10,850  3,600  46,725	2021	2022		s:	year include:	Net income/(expenditure) for the
- Audit 10,850 - Other services 3,600 Operating lease rentals 46,725	£	£				F
- Other services 3,600 Operating lease rentals 46,725	10,850	10.850				
Operating lease rentals 46,725	3,600					
	52,365					
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets 357,675	356,810				3	
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability 151,000	132,000					

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### Central services 8

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

- Teaching staff (including time spent by CEO on running the Trust)
- · Finance and administrative staff
- · Early years leadership
- School Improvement Champion and advisory work

The Trust charges for these services via a recharge of 5.1% of budgeted income.

	The amounts charged during the year were as	follows:		2022 £	2021 £
	Victoria Lane Academy			58,733	50,810
	Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery			98,443	86,298
	Shield Row Primary School			46,319	47,741
	Dene House Primary School			80,332	74,879
	South Hetton Primary			57,674	56,712
	Tudhoe Colliery Primary School			55,533	49,679
	Acre Rigg Academy			81,033	68,905
				478,067	435,024
9	Charitable activities				
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2022	2021
		£	£	£	£
	Direct costs				
	Educational operations	-	7,140,432	7,140,432	6,648,298
	Support costs				
	Educational operations	117,290	3,993,640	4,110,930	4,160,663
		117,290	11,134,072	11,251,362	10,808,961
				2022	2021
				£	£
	Analysis of support costs			_	
	Support staff costs			2,056,023	1,889,875
	Depreciation			357,675	356,810
	Technology costs			123,041	102,727
	Premises costs			800,757	1,161,859
	Legal costs			2,065	2,461
	Other support costs			743,343	626,703
	Governance costs			28,026	20,228
				4,110,930	4,160,663

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 10 Staff

### Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

Stall costs during the year were.	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	5,806,931	5,701,013
Social security costs	558,287	543,824
Pension costs	1,935,437	1,770,902
Staff costs - employees	8,300,655	8,015,739
Agency staff costs	194,600	62,297
Staff restructuring costs	23,469	24,953
	8,518,724	8,102,989
Staff development and other staff costs	74,622	41,868
Total staff expenditure	8,593,346	8,144,857
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy payments	23,469	24,953

### Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £6,618 (2021; £nil). Individually, the payments were: £4,965 and £1,653.

### Staff numbers

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

2022	2021
Number	Number
84	83
139	140
2	2
225	225
	Number 84 139 2

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 10 Staff (Continued)

### **Higher paid staff**

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

	2022 Number	2021 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	5 2	5 2
£70,001 - £80,000 £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£130,001 - £140,000	1	1

### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £354.225 (2021: £348.798).

### 11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

J H Smith (Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer):

- Remuneration £130,001 £135,000 (2021: £130,001- £135,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £30,001 £35,000 (2021: £30,001-£35,000)

A Boustead (Deputy Head) - resigned 1 October 2021:

- Remuneration £5,001 £10,000 (2021: £60,001 £65,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £1 £5,000 (2021: £10,001-£15,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £150 (2021: £nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 trustee (2021: 0 trustees).

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

### 12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £588 (2021; £1,165). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

13	Tangible fixed assets	Leasehold	Leashold	Computer	Fixtures,	Total
		land & buildings	improvements	equipment	fittings &	
		Dunungs £	£	£	equipment £	£
	Cost	~		_	_	_
	At 1 September 2021	12,334,141	1,896,131	363,940	336,616	14,930,828
	Additions	-	-	97,882	12,319	110,201
	At 31 August 2022	12,334,141	1,896,131	461,822	348,935	15,041,029
	Depreciation					
	At 1 September 2021	716,138	436,809	122,229	184,171	1,459,347
	Charge for the year	98,673	151,568	74,643	32,792	357,676
	At 31 August 2022	814,811	588,377	196,872	216,963	1,817,023
	Net book value					
	At 31 August 2022	11,519,330	1,307,754	264,950	131,972	13,224,006
	At 31 August 2021	11,618,003	1,459,322	241,711	152,445	13,471,481
14	Debtors					
					2022	2021
					£	£
	Trade debtors				2,991	8,892
	VAT recoverable				46,314	30,326
	Other debtors				· -	1,328
	Prepayments and accrued income				546,291	541,497
					595,596	582,043
15	Creditors: amounts falling due with	in one year				
					2022	2021
					£	£
	Other loans				10,113	8,553
	Trade creditors				2,091	5,349
	Other taxation and social security				136,646	129,808
	Other creditors				160,728	142,629
	Accruals and deferred income				690,880	508,751
					1,000,458	795,090

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

16	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	0000	0004
		2022 £	2021 £
	Other loans	52,444	41,637
	Analysis of loans	2022 £	2021 £
	Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	62,557	50,190
	Less: included in current liabilities	(10,113)	(8,553)
	Amounts included above	52,444	41,637
	Instalments not due within five years	7,190	7,424
	Loan maturity Debt due in one year or less	10,113	8,553
	Due in more than one year but not more than two years	11,363	8,553
	Due in more than two years but not more than five years	33,891	25,660
	Due in more than five years	7,190	7,424
		62,557	50,190
		<del></del>	
17	Deferred income	2022	2021
		2022 £	£
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	139,618	113,105
	Deferred income at 1 September 2021	113,105	134,656
	Released from previous years	(113,105)	(134,656)
	Resources deferred in the year	139,618	113,105
	Deferred income at 31 August 2022	139,618	113,105

Deferred income includes rates relief, universal infant free school meals funding and trip income received in advance of the following academic year.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Funds					
	Balance at			Gains,	Balance at
	1 September			losses and	31 August
	2021	Income	Expenditure	transfers	2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	538,683	7,757,854	(7,844,612)	170,693	622,618
Start up grants	94,363	-	-	-	94,363
UIFSM	-	102,187	(102,187)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	1,046,024	(1,046,024)	-	-
Catch-up premium Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19	7,175	-	(7,175)	•	-
funding	-	108,206	(108,206)	-	_
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	209,692	(209,692)	-	_
Other government grants	3,896	591,336	(595,232)	_	_
Teacher pay grant	-	3,386	(3,386)	_	_
Teacher pension grant	_	9,567	(9,567)	_	_
PE and sports premium	_	122,199	(122,199)	_	
Rates		27,648	(27,648)	_	_
Pension reserve	(9,084,000)	-	(786,000)	7,162,000	(2,708,000
	(8,439,883)	9,978,099	(10,861,928)	7,332,693	(1,991,019)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	10,887,021	_	(106,216)	_	10,780,805
DfE group capital grants	2,286,466	233,361	(192,906)	(177,523)	2,149,398
Capital expenditure from GAG	250,556	200,001	(37,628)	6,830	2,149,356
Donated assets	83,532	10,151	(20,925)	- 0,030	72,758
	13,507,575	243,512	(357,675)	(170,693)	13,222,719
Total restricted funds	5,067,692	10,221,611	(11,219,603)	7,162,000	11,231,700
Unrestricted funds	<del>\$</del>				
General funds	479,397	337,284	(271,925)	31,454	576,210
Designated funds	107,235	-	(211,020)	(31,454)	75,781
	586,632	337,284	(271,925)	-	651,991
Total funds	5,654,324	10,558,895	(11,491,528)	7,162,000	11,883,691

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### 18 Funds (Continued)

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

The start up and improvement grants brought forward were additional funding supplied upon conversion to help with the costs of conversion and for the improvement of the schools.

Other DfE/ESFA grants include teachers' pay grant, universal free school meals income, PE grant, Covid catch-up and pupil premium received.

Other government grants include income for pupils with special educational needs, early years funding and pupil premium received from the local authority.

DfE/ESFA Capital Grants consist of the devolved capital grant and capital improvement fund which has been partly spent on asset additions in the year and partly spent on extensive building repairs that have been expensed for accounting purposes. A transfer between funds has been made where appropriate. The carried forward capital fund consists of £61,270 in capital grants less £62,557 in loans repayable..

The Inherited Fixed Asset Fund reflects the fixed assets acquired from Local Authorities on conversion. Depreciation on these assets is charged against this fund.

The designated fund relates to a staff absence allocation which each school has paid into to cover staff absence.

At 31 August 2022 the academy had restricted general and unrestricted funds of £1,368,972.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 18 Funds (Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	274,858	7,106,765	(7,491,240)	648,300	538,683
Start up grants	95,288	-	(925)	-	94,363
UIFSM	-	146,740	(146,740)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	975,275	(961,685)	(13,590)	-
Other Coronavirus funding	-	21,995	<del>-</del>	-	21,995
Other DfE/ESFA grants	1,110	611,738	(605,673)	-	7,175
Other government grants	-	<b>545,77</b> 8	(563,877)	-	(18,099)
Pension reserve	(8,038,000)		(624,000)	(422,000)	(9,084,000)
	(7,666,744)	9,408,291	(10,394,140)	212,710	(8,439,883)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	10,991,072	-	(104,051)	-	10,887,021
DfE group capital grants	3,009,606	301,223	(194,225)	(830,138)	2,286,466
Capital expenditure from GAG	98,988	_	(43,860)	195,428	250,556
Donated assets		98,206	(14,674)	_	83,532
	14,099,666	399,429	(356,810)	(634,710)	13,507,575
Total restricted funds	6,432,922	9,807,720	(10,750,950)	(422,000)	5,067,692
Unrestricted funds		-	>======================================		-
General funds	459,827	195,892	(144,923)	(31,399)	479,397
Designated funds	75,836	100,002	(144,820)	31,399	107,235
Designated funds			-	31,333	107,235
	535,663	195,892	(144,923)	-	586,632
Total funds	6,968,585	10,003,612	(10,895,873)	(422,000)	5,654,324

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

18	Funds		(Continued)
	Total funds analysis by academy		
	Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:	2022 €	2021 £
	Victoria Lane Academy	121,388	56,833
	Stephenson Way Academy and Nursery	293,547	379,400
	Shield Row Primary School	(76,435)	(50,762)
	Dene House Primary School	92,681	103,375
	South Hetton Primary	265,634	135,300
	Tudhoe Colliery Primary School	108,984	90,561
	Acre Rigg Academy	237,038	209,154
	Central services	326,135	306,888
	Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	1,368,972	1,230,749
	Restricted fixed asset fund	13,222,719	13,507,575
	Pension reserve	(2,708,000)	(9,084,000)
	Total funds	11,883,691	5,654,324

The deficit on Shield Row arose in a prior year.

The Trust is taking the following action to return the academy to surplus:

The Trust is holding £32,752 on a development grant for Shield Row, this will be used to offset the deficit. The Trust has also set a surplus budget for the next academic year on Shield Row, reducing the deficit next year.

#### Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and			Other costs		
	educational	Other support	Educational	excluding	Total	Total
	support staff	staff costs	supplies	depreciation	2022	2021
	3	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria Lane Academy Stephenson Way Academy	743,555	150,078	64,785	191,965	1,150,383	1,001,256
and Nursery	1,298,781	209,498	119,811	424,810	2,052,900	1,874,947
Shield Row Primary School	648,273	155,826	67,825	139,924	1,011,848	951,995
Dene House Primary						
School	1,114,615	284,830	90,075	172,961	1,662, <b>481</b>	1,488,748
South Hetton Primary	727,868	155,407	56,372	294,906	1,234,553	1,098,281
Tudhoe Colliery Primary						
School	719,437	158,835	117,734	170,299	1,166,305	1,060,640
Acre Rigg Academy	992,481	144,885	170,672	282,337	1,590,375	1,963,239
Central services	223,783	230,194	1,883	23,151	479,011	475,957
	6,468,793	1,489,553	689,157	1,700,353	10,347,856	9,915,063

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19	Analysis of net assets between funds				
		Unrestricted	Rest	tricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,224,006	13,224,006
	Current assets	651,991	1,707,326	61,270	2,420,587
	Current liabilities	-	(990,345)	(10,113)	(1,000,458)
	Non-current liabilities	-	-	(52,444)	(52,444)
	Pension scheme liability	-	(2,708,000)	-	(2,708,000)
	Total net assets	651,991	(1,991,019)	13,222,719	11,883,691
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets		-	13,471,481	13,471,481
	Current assets	586,632	1,430,654	86,284	2,103,570
	Current liabilities	-	(786,537)	(8,553)	(795,090)
	Non-current liabilities	-	_	(41,637)	(41,637)
	Pension scheme liability	-	(9,084,000)	-	(9,084,000)
	Total net assets	586,632	(8,439,883)	13,507,575	5,654,324

#### 20 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £145,863 (2021: £142,629) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 and are included within creditors.

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

#### Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academy trusts. 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.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £809,514 (2021: £772,959).

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

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

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 5.5% - 12.5% for employers and 22.5% 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 Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Total contributions made	2022	2021
	£	£
Employer's contributions	492,000	484,000
Employees' contributions	130,000	131,000
Total contributions	622,000	615,000

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

(	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued
ı	Principal actuarial assumptions	2022	202
		%	9
F	Rate of increase in salaries	3.7	3.
F	Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.7	2.
	Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.1	1.
I	Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7	2.
	The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:	for future improvements in morta	lity rates. Th
٠	assumed the expectations of retirement age of are.	2022	202
		Years	
p	Retiring today	iears	Year
	Males	22.1	22.3
	Females	24.2	24.
	Retiring in 20 years	24,2	24.
	Males	23.2	22
	Females	25.7 25.7	23.3 25.8
-	i enales	25.7	25.0
		2022 £	202 <sup>-</sup>
	Discount rate + 0.1%	10,325,000	16,785,00
	Discount rate - 0.1%	10,887,000	17,698,00
	Mortality assumption + 1 year	10,304,000	16,595,00
	Mortality assumption - 1 year	10,898,000	17,888,00
	CPI rate + 0.1%	10,834,000	17,612,00
(	CPI rate - 0.1%	10,378,000	16,871,00
1	The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2022	202
		Fair value	Fair value
		£	4
Ε	Equities	4,318,000	4,612,000
	Sovernment bonds	892,000	1,263,00
	Corporate bonds	347,000	1,410,00
	Cash	111,000	359,00
	Property	663,000	505,00
C	Other assets	1,562,000	
T	Total market value of assets	7,893,000	8,149,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £(815,000) (2021: £1,306,000).

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

20 Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	1,117,000	976,000
Past service cost	10,000	-
Interest income	(143,000)	(112,000)
Interest cost	294,000	244,000
Total operating charge	1,278,000	1,108,000
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2022	2021
onanges in the present value of defined bondin obligations	£	£
At 1 September 2021	17,233,000	14,331,000
Current service cost	1,117,000	976,000
Interest cost	294,000	244,000
Employee contributions	130,000	131,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(8,120,000)	1,616,000
Benefits paid	(63,000)	(65,000)
Past service cost	10,000	-
At 31 August 2022	10,601,000	17,233,000
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets		
	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September 2021	8,149,000	6,293,000
Interest income	143,000	112,000
Actuarial loss/(gain)	(958,000)	1,194,000
Employer contributions	492,000	484,000
Employee contributions	130,000	131,000
Benefits paid	(63,000)	(65,000)
At 31 August 2022	7,893,000	8,149,000

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

21	Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities	i	
		2022 £	2021 £
	Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial		
	activities)	(932,633)	(228,531)
	Adjusted for:		
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(243,512)	(399,429)
	Investment income receivable	(192)	(173)
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	635,000	492,000
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	151,000	132,000
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	357,675	356,810
	Decrease in stocks	_	14,968
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(13,553)	223,935
	Increase in creditors	203,809	208,089
	Net cash provided by operating activities	157,594	799,669
22	Analysis of changes in net funds		
	1 September 2021	Cash flows	31 August 2022
	£	£	£
	Cash 1,521,527	303,464	1,824,991
	Loans falling due within one year (8,553)	(1,560)	(10,113)
	Loans falling due after more than one year (41,637)	(10,807)	(52,444)
	1,471,337	291,097	1,762,434

### 23 Long-term commitments

### Operating leases

At 31 August 2022 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts due within one year	27,802	46,009
Amounts due in two and five years	59,596	69,848
Amounts due after five years	14,665	31,425
	102,063	147,282

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### 24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

EDK Psychology - a business in which V Ingleton's (a trustee) daughter-in-law has a majority interest.

- During the year the academy sought Psychology services from the daughter-in-law of V Ingleton (trustee), the total cost to the trust during the year totalled £1,000.
- The academy trust made the purchase at arms' length following a competitive tendering exercise in accordance with its financial regulations, which the trustee neither participated in, nor influenced
- In entering into the transaction, the academy trust has fully complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021 in that he ESFA was notified in advance of the transactions taking place

V Ingleton's (trustee) son is employed by the academy trust as an Associate Headteacher. T Cassap is part of the central function in a school improvement capacity. V Ingleton has had no involvement in any aspect of his terms, conditions or remuneration, which have been determined in line with the national agreements on leadership pay scales.

J Smith's (trustee and accounting office) daughter is employed by the academy trust. J Smith has had no involvement in any aspect of her terms, conditions or remuneration, which have been determined in line with the pay scales.

I Whitfield's (trustee) son is employed by the academy trust. I Whitfield has had no involvement in any aspect of his terms, conditions or remuneration, which have been determined in line with the national pay scales.

### 25 Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.