# THE LEGACY LEARNING TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Trustees' report	3 - 17
Governance statement	18 - 22
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	23
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	24
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	25 - 28
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	29 - 30
Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account	31 - 32
Balance sheet	33
Statement of cash flows	34
Notes to the accounts including accounting policies	35 - 55

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

## Members

T Grieveson R Broad L Longstaff M McTague I Lone

Trustees A Crawshaw (Resigned 4 October 2021)

C Jones (Chair)
L Longstaff
M J Pout
S J Sarwar
N Worth
J A Park
H U Rashid

## Senior management team

The Legacy Learning Trust

CEO/Executive Headteacher A Crawshaw
 DCEO/ Headteacher S Lymer
 CFO/ Director of Corporate Services N Flint

## **Acklam Grange School**

- Headteacher M Laidler

L Gowland
- Deputy Headteacher A Hassack
- Lead Assistant Headteacher J Pacey
- Assistant Headteacher C Beaumont
- Assistant Headteacher P Flint
- Assistant Headteacher S King
- Assistant Headteacher A Gika

- Assistant Headteacher D Kerr-Morgan

## **Linthorpe Community Primary School**

- Headteacher
 - Deputy Headteacher
 - Assistant Headteacher
 - Assistant Headteacher
 - N Wilkinson

Company secretary P H Daniels

Company registration number 11281425 (England and Wales)

Registered office Acklam Grange School

Lodore Grove Acklam

Middlesbrough TS5 8PB

United Kingdom

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Academies operated

Acklam Grange School

Linthorpe Community Primary School

Location

Acklam

Linthorpe

**Principal**Mr M Laidler
Mrs S Lymer

Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services Wynyard Park House Wynyard Avenue

Wynyard Billingham TS22 5TB United Kingdom

**Bankers** 

Lloyds Bank plc 83 Linthorpe Road Middlesbrough TS1 5BU United Kingdom

**Solicitors** 

Browne Jacobson LLP Manchester Office Spinningfields Manchester M3 3EB United Kingdom

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

The Trust is a Multi-Academy trust (MAT) which during the period operated two schools; Acklam Grange Secondary School and Linthorpe Community Primary School, both serving the catchment of Middlesbrough in North East England.

## It has a capacity of:

Nursery	118	
5-16	2,100	٦

## The roll in January 2021 census was:

Nursery	105	
5-16	2,055	

## Structure, governance and management

#### Constitution

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

The charitable company is known as The Legacy Learning Trust (TLLT).

The trustees of The Legacy Learning Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on pages 1 and 2.

#### Members' liability

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

#### Trustees' indemnities

Trustees are covered by the Education and Skills Funding Agency's Risk Protection Arrangements. As part of this scheme Trustees and Governors receive unlimited indemnity.

## Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Each Trustee's role is linked to a core strand of business e.g. primary/secondary education, finance/business, human resources, marketing/PR. Recruitment activity is driven by a recruitment and selection process which includes formation of role profiles and role specifications which are linked to required skill sets or areas of expertise or need as laid out in the DfE Governance Competency Framework.

Positions or vacancies are advertised externally, for example through the Academy Ambassadors programme. Applicants are required to submit their skills focussed CV and be interviewed by a selection panel A competitive recruitment process helps to ensure that the strongest candidates are considered for vacant posts, with the intention of adding value to the skills of the Trust Board.

Subject to the Articles of Association, the constitution of the Trust Board is as follows:

- Up to 9 trustees appointed by ordinary resolution by Members
- The total number of Trustees, including the Chief Executive Officer, who are employees of the Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees
- The Trust will ensure parent participation, utilising Parent Governors on our Local Councils
- We will ensure a minimum of two Parent Governors will sit on each Local Council, with suitable procedures in place for the conduct of Parent Governor elections.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

The Trust is provided with support from the Middlesbrough Governor Development Service through a Service Level Agreement. The provision of individual training for Trustees and members of the Local Council through an annual course directory which is reviewed annually to reflect any changes in practice and legislation. Training has also been provided by the Trust and by Azets focusing on trustee induction, roles, responsibilities and financial duties.

## Organisational structure

The trust's governance structure consists of three levels:

#### Members

Trustees with two committees – Standards and Resources, Employment and Finance Local Councils of each academy

The Members have ultimate control over the Trust and are responsible for:

- Approving the Articles of Association
- Appointment and removal of Trustees
- Securing the highest standards of accountability from Trustees for the provision of all learners in the Multi Academy Trust (MAT)
- · Appointment of the Trust's auditors and receipt of the trust's audited annual accounts.

The Trustees have overall responsibility for strategic planning and setting the Trust's policy as well as responsibility for all matters relating to finance and personnel matters. The Trustees have the power to direct change when required.

The Trust Board focuses its monitoring activity through two committees:

- Standards, focusing on matters relating to standards and quality of teaching and learning, personal development, welfare, behaviour including safeguarding.
- · Resources, Employment and Finance, focusing on finance, resourcing and personnel matters.

Powers are delegated from the Trust Board via a Scheme of delegation, which is reviewed annually.

The overall responsibility for holding school leaders to account and driving forward improvements in performance, attainment, progress in each academy/school is delegated to the Local Councils with their impact overseen and monitored and challenged by the Board of Trustees. Local Councils discharge their functions in line the Trust's Scheme of Delegation.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that the academy/school Local Councils fulfil their statutory obligations and principal aims and objectives, ensuring that procedures are in place to ensure regularity, propriety and value for money, setting general policy, adopting the Trust Development Plan and budget, monitoring use of budgets, external and internal review reports and enabling them to make major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and key Trust and Headteacher appointments.

The members of the Local Councils are responsible for adopting an annual School Development Plan, implementing policies laid down by the Board of Trustees.

Through the Trust reporting mechanisms, the Trust Board will receive at least termly CEO/Headteacher reports and school dashboards on outcomes of work in each school/academy.

During the year under review the Executive Team responsibilities were as follows: (CEO, CFOO and DCEO)

Chief Executive Officer: responsibility for setting the overall direction of the Academy Trust; leading the development and execution of long-term strategies, managing resources, risk management and communicating, on behalf of the Trust, with both internal and external stakeholders.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Chief Finance and Operations Officer: responsibility for leading and managing the operational aspects of the Academy Trust. Providing strategic and operational leadership in all aspects of business activities within the Academy Trust's schools, and being accountable for the operation, maintenance and development of systems, processes and procedures relating to budget, finance, administration, HR, IT, facilities and health and safety.

The Headteachers are responsible for the day to day running of their school (assisted by the school's senior leadership team).

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

The pay and remuneration of the CEO, Deputy CEO and CFO is decided by the Trust Board. The trust has delegated responsibility to Local Councils of each academy for all other staff, including senior leadership teams in each academy. Local councils make pay related decisions having regard to the national framework of School Teacher's Pay and Conditions Document and the Trust's Pay Policy which takes into account the extent to which staff have achieved their performance objectives.

## Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials	
Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period Full-time equivalent employee number	
Percentage of time spent on facility time	
Percentage of time	Number of employed

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time Total pay bill Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time -

Paid trade union activities

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

## Engagement with employees

Employees are provided with appropriate and relevant information at different stages throughout the year. This includes Trust and individual school policies, statutory training updates and information related to staff pay. In addition, communication from Headteachers and senior leaders is frequent, relevant, clear and concise enabling an informed workforce who are well placed to undertake their roles efficiently and effectively.

Staff voice and staff consultation are regular features of leadership at the trust. In the period ended 31 August 2021, this was particularly prevalent as staff were consulted on the re-introduction of systems, processes and activities post Covid restrictions, ready for September 2021. It was pleasing to note that whilst staff strongly agreed that were in favour of some activities returning to the pre-Covid approach, many new systems and processes that had been introduced because of the restrictions were thought to be worthy of consideration to be continued. As a result of this staff consultation a hybrid approach was taken in some areas and staff feedback suggests that the new ways allow greater flexibility and efficiency across the trust.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Employees are aware of their significant involvement in the performance of individual schools and the trust as a whole. This awareness comes from information sharing, presentations, team meetings and individual meetings, led by senior and executive leaders of the trust. The use of layered performance management acts as a tool to promote the common goals of the company, with each individual contributing to this. The TLLT model of financial leadership reflects a culture of value for money and ensures financial ownership at all levels which enhances the company's financial performance.

In the same way, employees also share a common awareness of the factors that affect performance and understand how their contribution serves to enhance the positive and mitigate the negative factors to have the best possible impact on all outcomes.

In accordance with our policy on equal opportunities in employment, The Legacy Learning Trust will provide equal opportunities to any employee or job applicant and will not discriminate either directly or indirectly because of race, sex, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief, marital or civil partnership status, age, disability, or pregnancy and maternity.

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

Executive and senior leaders promote positive relationships with all stakeholders which is permeated at every level and trust wide.

Through these relationships suppliers understand the needs of the trust and are able to deliver quality goods and services to meet those needs, adapting where necessary to keep up to date with how those needs may change. Examples include adaptable catering and cleaning providers and engagement with local businesses to provide timely and economical Covid-related emergency supplies.

Parental engagement is a key priority for all schools in the trust. This can be an area of challenge for the trust in relation to the geographical area it serves and during the period was made more challenging by Covid restrictions. Pleasingly, some of the systems introduced during the pandemic have improved parental engagement and elements of these will continue, e.g. video briefings and online parents' evening appointments. Returning to face to face events and opportunities for parental engagement, including more face to face parent meetings in schools is welcomed and prepared for.

Executive, senior and middle leaders contribute confidently to local, regional and national networks mutually benefitting from relationships with other educational establishments in order to further the trust's objectives. Executive leaders have established and strong relationships with RSC, DfE, ESFA, PixL, CST and other relevant bodies.

## Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Trust is presently made up of two academies and does not work with any other organisation, but is developing links with other schools, academies, colleges and other businesses where these partnerships assist the Trust's objectives.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Objectives and activities

## Objects and aims

The principal objective and activity of the charitable company, in accordance with the Articles of association is to advance education in the United Kingdom for the public benefit, offering a broad and balanced curriculum education for children of differing ages 5-16.

## Objectives, strategies and activities

## Objectives:

- · To maintain existing academies being recognised as at least good or outstanding by Ofsted.
- To ensure that all academies achieve excellent standards and statutory outcomes (above national average).
- To maintain outstanding financial management and ensure compliance with all relevant law and guidance and accounting policies and frameworks as appropriate.
- To ensure that the Trust is a going concern through the implementation of the TLLT financial leadership model, particularly the efficient and effective application of Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning (ICFP) and sound model of funding forecasting and multi-year budget planning.
- To focus on all areas of school improvement planning for existing academies in the trust to deliver strong learner outcomes in all areas, including reducing learner absence and persistent absence, improving outcomes for disadvantaged learners and reducing the behaviours which lead to learner fixed term exclusions.
- To continue to progress on the journey to deliver a strong school improvement model to schools beyond
  the Trust, in order to positively influence the lives and success of more young people, including through
  measured and steady Trust growth, bringing more academies into our family of schools if and when
  appropriate.

The Legacy Learning Trust (TLLT) is founded on firmly held beliefs that education and learning are about high expectation, high aspirations and opportunity regardless of background, where learners should be supported to achieve their very best in the classroom and are encouraged to develop as well rounded individuals who are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

The co-founders of TLLT are the schools of Acklam Grange School and Linthorpe Community Primary School. These are two highly successful schools, who individually and more recently in collaboration, have improved outcomes for children, demonstrated financial efficiencies and provided exceptional professional development of staff.

We want to be known for "Placing learners and learning at the heart of all that we do".

## Guiding Principles of the Trust

- · Care for the individual
- · Striving for excellence
- · Celebration of difference
- · Development leaders at all levels
- . Upholding the Nolan Principles

### Strategic Aims of the Trust

- Develop and nurture outstanding leadership and management in and across The Legacy Learning Trust (KPI3)
- Secure good or better teaching, learning and assessment (KPI2)
- Foster excellent personal development, behaviour and welfare (KPI2)
- Promote excellent spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding (KPI2)
- Improve and achieve excellent outcomes across each phase (KPI1)
- Be a highly effective MAT with academies which run efficiently, which are well organised and value for money. (KPI4)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## Strategies

Our trust recognises that in order to be successful we need to maintain:

- · Shared and clear vision and values
- · A strong model of school improvement within and beyond our Trust
- · A curriculum which is fit for purpose academically and financially
- · A recognition and understanding of the accountability frameworks we work in:
  - Academies Financial Handbook (AFH)
  - National Schools Commissioner (NSC)/Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC)
  - Ofsted
  - Department for Education (DfE)
  - · Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)
  - · Nolan principles for public life
- · A Scheme of Delegation which enables responsibility to sit with those who are accountable
- A strong, stable and talented workforce with staff well-being at the forefront of all activities.

## Activities

The Trust underwent a restructure of executive leadership in 2020/21 in preparation for the 2021/22 year. Secondary and primary phase expertise continues to be prevalent across the team with strong leadership structures in the academies within the Trust.

Development of an associate membership model began, expected to bring opportunities for future growth as and when appropriate.

School improvement work continued beyond the Trust with several other schools, in order to share specialist expertise in leadership and management, teaching and learning and financial management, promoting system leadership and positively impacting on the lives of young people in the North East region.

## Public benefit

The trust provides effective school to school support and extensive CPD opportunities locally and nationally. The Executive Headteacher/CEO is also a National Leader of Education and schools within the Trust have a number of Specialist Leaders of Education.

Both schools have a strong community presence. Acklam Grange School offers a sport and leisure provision to its local community on evenings, weekends and during school holidays.

Executive leaders and senior leaders hold designated positions in the wider sector both locally, regionally and nationally (e.g. DfE Primary Headteacher Reference Group, Middlesbrough SMF Chair, Pixl Associate, School Financial Success partner, Schools North East board membership)

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

## Strategic report

## Achievements and performance Summary of Trust Performance

At the Primary Phase, SATs and other assessments were suspended due to Covid 19 and at the Secondary Phase, GCSE exams were cancelled so results were awarded using Centre Assessment Grades for the second year running.

Much planning, preparation, strategic and operational focus and resources – human and financial have been directed towards ensuring that staff and pupils/students across the Trust are safe, guidelines have been followed and that both schools have opened to the required groups of children in the timescales set by government and are offering a broad and balanced curriculum within limitations on delivery, wider opportunities and type of activity in school and after school. Risk assessments for the welfare and safety of all learners, staff and visitors were regularly updated and effectively communicated, including with Unions.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## September to December 2020

Both schools remained open to all this term, both schools aiming to return to the normality of face to face teaching, within a much restricted environment. As the term progressed and reports of positive Covid cases grew, both in the schools and locally and nationally, further challenges presented themselves in terms of staffing and managing bubble/cohort closures across all phases. Any learners unable to attend the school due to a bubble/cohort closure and/or isolation received a robust home learning offer, where safeguarding was prioritised and a broad and balanced curriculum was delivered remotely.

#### January to March 2021

A full national lockdown was instigated on 4 January. Both schools remained open to the children of key workers and vulnerable children throughout this time, with varying numbers attending, increasing as the term progressed. Both schools had a comprehensive rota system in place to ensure that the appropriate staff were in school, and were supported in terms of Child Protection, first aid and referral. Again, those leaners unable to attend school due to the national lockdown had a comprehensive home learning offer in place.

## Wider opening - 8 March onwards

Both schools undertook a thorough risk assessment using the TLLT Risk Assessment template, which was shared with trustees, with staff at each school, a copy sent to locally based unions and published on the TLLT website. Both schools worked in a clear, planned and focused manner to prepare the site, staff, parents and ultimately the learners for wider opening in a safe manner, following government guidance. A recovery curriculum was put in place to ensure that learners began to build up learning that they had missed and both schools placed physical and emotional wellbeing at the heart of these strategies.

#### Year 11 GCSE Certification 2021

The GCSE Exam series being cancelled this summer led to a significant amount of extra work for all staff involved.

Following release of guidance from JCQ all GCSE and vocational courses the school undertook the following actions:

- A thorough audit of all curriculum areas was conducted to identify aspects of the curriculum that had been taught, which had been taught and assessed and which had either not been taught or very lightly covered.
- An assessment programme taking into account what had been taught and also any access arrangements which students may need had to be created and shared.
- Undertook standardisation of marking training to promote greater consistency between staff marking of exam scripts.
- Staff were not allowed to mark papers from their own students wherever possible to avoid unconscious bias
- A strategic PD day took place on Friday 21st May. This gave staff time to collate and moderate the evidence required for student grades.
- Faculty Leaders had until Friday 28th May to moderate subject grade distributions and submit their grades centrally after conducting meetings with all teaching.
- SLT undertook whole school moderation ensuring that any deviations might be considered historically typical were thoroughly evidenced and checked.
- Centre Assessment Policy was submitted and successfully passed stage 1 and 2 of JCQ's quality assurance process with no recommendations.
- Final student grades (3000+) were entered to the exam boards on 18th June 2021.
- · All standardised work record sheets were stored centrally in readiness for the appeals process.
- The academy was notified in July that all grades and policies had been accepted without a single grade change or recommendation from the exam boards or JCQ.
- · Results day was held on August 12th 2021.
- The school received 11 stage 1 appeals from students (50% from core subjects) that challenged an administrative error or maladministration of the certification process. All appeals were unsuccessful as no evidence of either was found.
- 2 appeals are currently at stage 2 which is a centre challenge with the exam boards with the school's
  evidence.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Key performance indicators
September 2021

## Primary Phase:

## Linthorpe Community Primary School

All primary pupils returned to school at the beginning of September 2021 and have responded well to the return to more normality in school. Attendance at primary in September was 96.8% which is strong and above national average.

Linthorpe was an early adopter of the new Early Years framework following significant reforms. This led to extensive work across 2021 in building a new EYFS curriculum which addressed the differing needs of 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

The new EYFS curriculum:

- · builds upon the characteristics of effective teaching and learning
- · prioritises the Prime areas of learning
- places high emphasis on communication, language and vocabulary development ensuring that children can communicate effectively
- In Reception, provides a secure knowledge of phonics, which gives children the foundations for future learning, especially in preparation for them to become confident and fluent readers.
- · provides a strong basis for mathematical learning
- provides a rich, stimulating environment that sparks a natural curiosity and promotes independence and resilience
- · develops Cultural Capital; using and enhancing the experiences and opportunities available to children
- ensures a balance of focused teacher directed learning, uninterrupted play and scaffolded learning opportunities

Although the statutory reporting and accountability of the Phonics Screening Check (PSC) was removed 20-21, the check still took place but in autumn term 2020 for the Y2 cohort, instead of in June 2020. LCPS achieved 90% at the standard which is above national and is further evidence of the effectiveness of our curriculum and quality of teaching both in school and remotely across the pandemic. The current Y2 cohort will also sit their PSC a term later in autumn 2021 but their checks at Y1 showed a significant gap to national due to the proportion of teaching missed by this year group. Phonics teaching and early reading remains a relentless focus for KS1 teams

All Phase leaders have created mini action plans for each year group to address any cohort gaps to national and resources have been directed to the groups, subjects, classes in most need of additionality. Data for Y3 is showing the most challenging gap currently although all groups will be challenged to return to national standards and beyond.

## Secondary Phase:

## Acklam Grange School

A staggered return at the beginning of September 2021 was undertaken by the SLT to allow all students to complete two on site LFT before commencing their learning. Over 1084 students consented (73%) but just over 700 students completed both tests (50%) with 4 students testing positive. Year 7 students returned for two student PD days from the 7th September to allow for the disruption caused to their transition and to allow other staff to support the 10 bay test centre. The remainder of the school returned to on-site education on the 9th September with a mixture of Student PD day activities and normal curriculum lessons.

The Attendance up until 25th September was 94.1% which is in line with our September 2020 figure 94.2% for the same time period. This does highlight that there is still a significant amount of disruption to students learning due to COVID related issues coupled with a high number of LOA forms for re-arranged holidays and students unable to return from outside the country. DfE figures showed that on 14th September 2021 the average attendance on that day across all secondary schools was 90.2% and Acklam Grange was 94.4%.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Within the first two weeks Faculty and Year reviews have been completed by the Headteacher and all faculties have continued to review their Schemes of Learning, Progress and Assessments in order to ensure the structure of the learning activities take into account essential topics, content and skills that may have not been secured by all students over the past 18 months. These SoLPs have been quality assured and scrutinised by leaders to ensure there is a rapid recovery in any gaps in students' knowledge. Staff training and an audit of need has also been completed.

A consultation is out at present to determine if and how the GCSE examinations will be conducted in summer 2022 series. Some subjects will see a reduction in the number of papers students are required to sit or the method of assessment will be modified. However, this is not across all subjects and still remains a real pressure point on both staff and students. The government are also considering a contingency plan in case the GCSE exams are not able to be conducted. Hopefully this will be released much earlier than last year.

## Remote Education and Catch-Up Funding

Both schools have focused on ensuring that there is a good quality remote education for learners that require this access. Both schools have evaluated their use of catch-up funding that was made available across the 20-21 year. Further plans are in place for the use of the additional recovery funding announced by DFE in September 2021.

#### Local Lockdown Plans

Both schools within the trust have put into place a Coronavirus Outbreak Management Plan, alongside their current risk assessment based on current guidance. The impact of a potential local lockdown would see a return to many of the previous measures to mitigate the spread of the virus if cases spike, with the need to ensure that remote learning is planned and implemented for both phases.

### Primary Phase:

#### Headlines 2021:

Although no statutory data can be used for accountability purposes, 3 external expert reviews were held following the return to all pupils to validate the work of the teams across the following areas:

## EYFS Curriculum and provision review

Review carried out by the LA lead officer responsible for Early Years Development who is an Ofsted inspector. This was incredibly positive and affirming and left no areas for development across the whole review. Practice and leadership was described as skilful, dedicated and demonstrating high expectations.

## External Supervision for Designated Safeguarding Leads

This visit scrutinised caseloads and reviewed outcomes for children and progress against plans. This was again incredibly positive and there were no recommendations regarding our regular practice but some suggestions for progression of cases were given. This will be implemented in secondary Phase next academic year as best practice for safeguarding teams.

### Review of Provision across Pandemic

This was carried out by a colleague headteacher who had undergone a similar external review in his own school. Issues reviewed were:

- Quality of Remote Education
- · Safeguarding during school closure period
- · Wellbeing of staff and school leaders

Again, LCPS performed highly across all areas and some useful suggestions were provided as to how better to evidence some aspects of the school's work if these questions were raised in an inspection.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## Secondary Phase:

#### Headlines 2021 with Centre Assessed Grades with no GCSE examinations:

Year	Progress 8	Attainment 8 % En & Ma % Ebacc (All Stud			II Students)	
		1 1	9-4	9-5	9-4	9-5
2021	+0.5	5.48	76%	52%	26%	21%
2020	+0.44	5.35	76%	50%	33%	24%
2019	+0.34	5.06	70%	45%	33%	22%
	Nat -0.03	Nat 4.65	Nat 64%	Nat 43%	Nat 25%	Nat 17%

Acklam Grange GCSE outcomes remain extremely strong. Due to the different assessment methods it is not possible to compare 2019, 2020 or 2021 results against each like for like, however the key highlights are:

- The Progress 8 score remains in the top 20% of the country according to invalidated data comparisons.
- Attainment 8 score remains very strong above 5.0 for the third year running and significantly above nationals.
- 76% of students achieved a pass and 52% achieved a strong pass in English and Maths which remains in line with last academic year and significantly above national figures.
- The % of students achieving a good pass in the EBACC dropped from 33% to 26% but this was due to
  the number for students who were eligible for the measure. Only 26% of the year group could have
  achieved this making it a 100% conversion rate. The strong EBACC measure has remained above
  national again and is broadly in line with previous years.
- Overall all subjects performed extremely well and coped with a very difficult year.
- No subject or attainment measure has significantly increased demonstrating good leadership and management of the process and ensuring the students that deserved their grades received them.
- 99% of all students received the grades to move onto a Post-16 route with the 2 students who have not receiving continued support from the school.

## Performance against Targets for 2021:

Whole School	2021 Actual Outcomes	2021 Target	
Attainment 8	5.48	5.00	
Progress 8	0.5	0.4	
English & Maths 9-5	52%	46	
English & Maths 9-4	76%	70%	
Ebacc 9-4	26%	23%	
Ebacc 9-5	21%	20%	

Exceeded target
Met target
Below target
Significantly below target

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Going concern

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

In arriving at this position the Trustees have considered the impact of Covid-19, which has been fully reported to Trustees at individual academy and whole Trust level. Whilst Covid-19 is likely to continue to increase operational costs in 2021/22 and beyond, the certainty of some Covid-19 related grants means that the resulting net effect of the Covid-19 financial impact, and the known information about future funding, is not expected to materially impact the judgement of going concern.

#### Protecting the success of the academy trust

The objects of the Trust are to advance education in the United Kingdom, for the public benefit, offering a broad and balanced curriculum education for children of differing ages 5-16. Members and Trustees always seek to promote the success of TLLT, including in the following ways:

- A robust risk management system which includes identifying pertinent risks and implementing mitigating
  actions to reduce risks to an acceptable level. This is described in more detail in the Governance
  Statement.
- Care for the interests of employees through the application of the Teachers' Pay and Conditions and National Joint Council pay and conditions to all teachers and support staff. Monitor the gender pay gap report to ensure the gap remains small and in line with or better than the national picture, acting as appropriate if this is not the case. The Trust remains committed to reducing workload and investing in technology to help to achieve this aim.
- Strong values shared across the trust with an emphasis on respect for all.
- Develop strategic relationships with suppliers to support the business community, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic in line with DfE guidelines, PPN 02/20 and PPN 04/20.
- Maintain strong relationships with TLLT families through excellent communications and effective engagement strategies, including but not exclusive to use of technology and social media and in-school events.
- Continuing to be at the heart of the TLLT community through improved educational outcomes for children and the provision of community use facilities, particularly through the Acorn Centre at AGS.
- Strong reputation for high expectations and high standards in relation to educational outcomes, sound governance, financial performance and robust systems of internal control.
- Strong reputation as a provider for professional learning beyond the trust and effective school to school support when needed.
- Fair and consistent implementation of robust policies to support the Trust's approach to pay, staff benefits, whistleblowing, grievances, admissions staff and student well-being and mental health.

## Financial review

The grants received form the ESFA and associated expenditure from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

All of the expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities is in furtherance of the Trust's objectives.

During the twelve month period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021, expenditure amounting to £13,436,563 was incurred or accrued. This was offset entirely by grants receivable from the ESFA and other funds.

The restricted fixed asset fund balance has been reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned. These assets are used primarily for providing the Trust's educational operations and associated support to students.

Student numbers across the Trust continue to increase. Trustees expect student numbers to increase further linked to the growing reputation of our academies in the local community based on successful outcomes across all areas. Increased student numbers will secure increased funding in future years, but with an increasing pressure on expenditure, particularly in relation to pay budgets and the financial impact of Covid, Trustees prioritise strategic financial planning and multi-year budget planning across the Trust.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Covid-19 brought additional revenue costs during the year. These were mainly focused on ensuring the academies continued to be Covid-secure and IT costs to support effective remote learning. In addition, there were costs associated with catch up and recovery when the academies were able to be fully open. These costs were in part offset by operational savings made during periods of partial school closure and in some cases specific grant funding as detailed in the financial statements.

The Trust prides itself on offering a value for money educational provision, with all financial decisions made being based on this principle. Financial leadership at all levels is strong across the Trust. Trustees, local councils, executive and senior leadership teams, finance staff and budget holders all have a sound understanding of the value for money principles and how this translates to their role in school and their financial behaviour. There is a strong emphasis on the impact of spending on student outcomes through the Trust's reporting and accountability mechanisms and through strategic development planning and action planning. The Trust's Pupil Premium reports clearly demonstrate the impact of spending in this area on the outcomes of that specific cohort of students.

The pension liability on the balance sheet is unlikely to crystallise and trustees monitor the risk associated with being members of the LGPS.

#### Free school meal support

In 2020-21 the trust participated in the national voucher scheme for free school meals acting only as a facilitator/ distributor. This has no bearing on the financial disclosures in the accounts.

### Reserves policy

Trustees review the level of Trust reserves termly and annually and have agreed that the Trust should aim to hold a prudent level of reserves designed to provide:

- sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants
- a contingency fund for unexpected emergencies
- funding capacity for future estate maintenance and planned capital investment subject to conditions as set out by ESFA
- funding to cover any future liabilities as outlined in the Financial Statements.

Trustees agree that expenditure of Trust reserves is in line with the short and medium term Trust Development Plans that support academies in the Trust in raising standards.

As of 31 August 2021, the level of Trust reserves are £1,101,041, including restricted general reserves of £316,308 and unrestricted reserves of £784,733. Net current assets as at 31 August 2021 was £1,101,040.

The Trustees believe that the level of reserves held by the Trust as at 31 August 2021 is sufficient to meet the Reserves Policy.

## Investment policy

The Trust investment powers are governed by the Articles of Association, which permits the Charitable Company to deposit or invest any funds not immediately required for the furtherance of its objectives. Trustees agreed a policy for investment in which decisions on how much to invest and how long to invest for, will be based on operational requirements, demonstrated by cash flow forecasts produced by the CFO and taking into account a contingency fund which ensures that extra funds are available on a regular timely basis to deal with any unforeseen emergencies. The cash flow forecasts will take account of the annual budget and spending plans approved by the Governing Body and updated on a monthly basis.

Trustees have agreed to invest when they feel it is prudent to do so, based on the financial performance of each individual academy within the Trust and medium term financial plans. When an investment is made and funds come to maturity Trustees will then make the decision whether to re-invest or whether the funds will be required for urgent necessities or contingencies.

The Trust will not take out any long term deposits until reliable cash flow patterns have been established and medium term budget planning gives ongoing confidence in relation to cash flow and future funding. Monies will only be paid into term deposits not exceeding six months. Trustees have an approved investment policy.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees regularly assess the major risks to which the Trust is exposed. The principal risks are as follows:

- 1a) Success/outcome rates drop
- 1b) Ofsted Inspection result of a school/academy in TLLT less than Grade 2. Good
- 2a) Quality of teaching and learning decreases
- 2b) Attendance decreases
- 2c) Exclusions increase
- 3a) TLLT does not have sufficient staff capacity and capability.
- 3b) Leadership/staff capacity compromised e.g. absence.
- 3c) Key management roles remain vacant
- 3d) TLLT unable to recruit sufficient trustees
- 4a) Deficit budget
- 4b) Serious safeguarding issue which is not dealt with effectively.
- 4c) Increase in accidents
- 4d) Compliance issues GDPR, complaints
- 5a) Covid-19 pandemic risk of transmission
- 5b) Covid-19 pandemic severity of symptoms
- 5c) Covid-19 pandemic risk of serious disease and death
- 5d) Covid-19 pandemic financial risk

The Trust risk register is supplemented by individual academy risk registers. Additionally, individual academies maintain risk documentation in relation to Covid-19 that is routinely reviewed and updated as new guidance, and, or operational requirements, become relevant.

In addition, the Trust has a Financial Handbook in place which ensures that systems of internal control are in place to enable sound financial management across the Trust. The Trust will have three internal assurance visits during the year carried out by an externally appointed internal auditor, independent from the Trust.

There are systems in place across the Trust to minimise risks including operating procedures and internal financial controls. As part of its risk management strategy the Trust uses the 'Risk Protection Arrangements' (RPA) which is specifically designed for academies as an alternative to commercial insurance. This has been of particular benefit during the Covid-19 pandemic where the RPA covered a wide ranges of risks in more generous terms than typically found with commercial insurers.

## **Fundraising**

The Legacy Learning Trust approaches fundraising under the following categories:

- · Student/pupil fundraising
- · External grant finding
- Support/donations from local partners/ businesses/suppliers

Student/pupil fundraising is undertaken under the supervision of staff members. The beneficiary of the fundraising is always known in advance and is clearly communicated to those people who may contribute donations to raise funds. Fundraising activities are not intrusive or persistent and do not put any person under undue pressure to donate.

External grant finding is undertaken by selected staff who have appropriate training. Grant applications are completed according to the specifications and rules of the grant and are quality assured by the CFO or CEO. A log of applications made, their status and the result is kept for internal management purposes to ensure a coordinated and coherent approach to fundraising across the Trust. Applications for grants related to Covid-19 are co-ordinated by the Trust.

Support/donations from local partners/businesses/suppliers is considered on a case by case basis. Any offers of donations or support are viewed alongside the Trust's gifts and hospitality policy before acceptance and appropriate records are maintained. Where the Trust has approached these groups for donations for specific projects, full details have been maintained and all appropriate interests are recorded.

## Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Energy consumption Aggregate of energy consumption in the year	2021 kWh	2020 kWh
- Gas combustion	2,295,923	-
- Fuel consumed for transport	1,066,116	-
- Electricity purchased	2,028	-
	3,364,067	-
	2021	2020
Emissions of CO2 equivalent	metric tonnes me	etric tonnes
Scope 1 - direct emissions		
- Gas combustion	421.00	-
- Fuel consumed for owned transport	1.00	-
	422.00	
Scope 2 - indirect emissions		
- Electricity purchased Scope 3 - other indirect emissions	226.00	-
- Fuel consumed for transport not owned by the academy trust	1.00	-
Total gross emissions	649.00	-
1.15.119.110		
Intensity ratio	0.00	
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.32	-
Quantification and reporting methodology	*	-

Intensity measurement

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

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

## Plans for future periods

In line with our aims and key objectives our plans for future periods are to:

- · Continue to provide high quality, value for money education for all our students across the Trust
- Continually improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment through for example, curriculum review and outstanding professional development
- Give high priority to PDBW and SMSC ensuring personal development for our students as well as academic achievement.
- Continue to offer exceptional school to school support sharing our expertise in the interests of system leadership
- · Action growth plans for the Trust as and when appropriate in the local and regional context.
- Re-align and refine growth plans in the national context, including the Covid-19 pandemic, which may slow progress in this area due to financial and human resource capacity.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

With a newly established Executive Leadership Team in position the Trust will continue to develop its associate membership model, seeking opportunities to grow its family of schools if and when appropriate.

School improvement beyond the Trust will remain an important focus to better the life chances of more young people in our area.

Covid-19 has had an unprecedented impact on all schools, not just financially but socially, culturally, academically and on mental health and well-being of staff and students. Covid recovery in our existing academies in the Trust remains our key priority to maintain the excellent standards achieved so far and sustain improvement into the future.

#### Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Trust holds no funds as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

#### Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

A resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services Limited be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 09 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

C Jones

Chair

S Lymer

**Accounting Officer** 

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## Scope of responsibility

As trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that The Legacy Learning Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

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

## Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 4 times during the twelve-month period. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Meetings attended	Out of possible
4	4
4	4
4	4
2	4
3	4
2	4
3	4
3	4
	4 4 4 2

The REF Committee has formally met 3 times during the twelve-month period. Attendance during the year at REF Committee meetings was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
A Crawshaw (Resigned 4 October 2021)	3	3
C Jones (Chair)	3	3
L Longstaff	3	3
M J Pout	1	3
S J Sarwar	2	3
N Worth	0	3
J A Park	2	3
H U Rashid	3	3

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Standards Committee has formally met 3 times during the twelve-month period. Attendance during the year at Standards Committee meetings was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
A Crawshaw (Resigned 4 October 2021)	2	3
C Jones (Chair)	2	3
L Longstaff	3	3
M J Pout	1	3
S J Sarwar	1	3
N Worth	2	3
J A Park	2	3
H U Rashid	3	3

<sup>\*</sup> In accordance with Government direction on restrictions imposed to manage Covid all meetings were held remotely using the Zoom platform.

The Trust Board has established a number of committees including the Resources, Employment and Finance Committee. The board of Trustees has reviewed and agreed key policies and documentation critical to the effective establishment of a Trust in the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 including:

- · Articles of association
- · Scheme of Delegation
- Terms of Reference for Trust Committees and the Local Councils
- · Due diligence process and procedure
- · Review of individual school progress and results
- · Review and monitoring of the Trust strategic planning, including vision and growth planning
- Finance Procedures for the Trust
- · Approval of the 2021-22 annual budget

The Trust Board was established on 1 July 2018 and its major challenge, during the 2018-19 period, was to ensure that all processes and procedures were fully embedded, compliant and effective. During 2019-20 challenges included response to Covid-19. This continued in 2020-21 with the major focus being on response to Covid and Covid recovery.

Trustees have already undertaken training, and continue to work with the CEO, Deputy CEO and CFO to further develop and enhance quality of data and understanding of data.

A second review of governance was carried out in 2019/20, the impact and outcomes of which are that governors undertook a self and team review of their skills against the governance competency framework. This resulted in Trustees and Local Councils compiling their own development plan, which is reviewed regularly. In 2020-21 the trust continued to recruit, induct and train governors at local council level to ensure a complete and effective governance system at all levels across the Trust.

## Review of value for money

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

The challenge from the Covid-19 pandemic continued in this period with ongoing additional and unplanned spending to ensure that the academies in the Trust can provide a safe environment for staff and students at the various stages throughout the pandemic. In this period costs were also incurred in relation to testing and vaccinations, again unplanned at the time of budget setting. At all times, best endeavours to ensure value for money have been sought and detailed records have been maintained.

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

This has involved claiming for additional funding where eligible and ensuring economy in resource provision, efficiency in resource deployment and an evaluation of effectiveness to inform future practice. The Trust continues to seek external funding where appropriate to minimise the negative financial effect of additional costs although this is not fully within the Trust's control and is reliant on national policy.

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

- · Sharing staffing skills and resources
- Improving the trust wide contracts register to support the re-negotiating a number of contracts on a trust wide basis
- An ongoing and timely review of contracts and service level agreements
- Continued development of central services to serve the whole Trust improving service quality and reducing cost.
- Extending the central services to replace some previously outsourced support across the Trust (IT Central Service now trust wide)
- Trust wide consideration and implementation of Covid secure measures.

The impact on educational outcomes has been:

- Savings made have been reinvested into strategies to support covid recovery and to improve student outcomes
- Established strategies, which are having a positive impact on student outcomes, can be continued, despite rising costs and funding challenges

## The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Legacy Learning Trust for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

## Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- to appoint Clive Owen LLP as internal auditor to carry out termly internal assurance reviews.
- The external auditor's role includes performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems as one of the options under the Academies Financial Handbook.

The auditor reports to the board of trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of trustees in the December meeting each year.

An internal assurance review was undertaken in spring 2021 (2 days) and summer 2021 (1 day), which considered the following areas:

- · Key financial controls
- Census
- HR and Staffing
- · Staff Absence
- · Risk management
- · Business Continuity Planning
- Education Visits
- Payroll and Expenses
- · Review of previous audit action plans and updates

Only minor recommendations were identified which have since been implemented by the Trust.

An annual report summarised the internal audit activity for the year, along with recommendations for improvement and was reported to the trustees.

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Review of effectiveness

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

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

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 09 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

C Jones

Chair

S Lymer

**Accounting Officer** 

Sagne.

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

As accounting officer of The Legacy Learning Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

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

S Lymer

**Accounting Officer** 

09 December 2021

## STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Legacy 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 2020 to 2021 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 2020 to 2021;
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the 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 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

C Jones Chair

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## Opinion

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

In our opinion the accounts:

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

## Basis for opinion

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

## Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

## Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

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

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

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 2020 to 2021 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 for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

## Use of our report

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

Graham Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Azet Ardit Services

for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services

**Statutory Auditor** 

17/12/2021

Wynyard Park House Wynyard Avenue Wynyard Billingham United Kingdom TS22 5TB

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 October 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Legacy Learning Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to The Legacy 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 The Legacy 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 The Legacy Learning Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Legacy Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 March 2018 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

## Approach

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

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

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

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

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- · completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer
- · discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team
- · review of Internal Assurance report
- · 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 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant
Azets Audit Services

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Dated: 17/12/2021

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

		Unrestricted funds		cted funds: Fixed asset	Total 2021	Total 2020
	Notes	£	General £	fixed asset	2021 £	2020 £
Income and endowments from:		_		_	~	_
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	23,743	3,000	620,135	646,878	39,739
- Funding for educational operations	4	37,106	13,559,669	-	13,596,775	12,820,975
- Funding for teaching schools	25	-	_	-		123,700
Other trading activities	5	134,593	-	-	134,593	179,235
Investments	6	292	-	-	292	1,789
Total		195,734	13,562,669	620,135	14,378,538	13,165,438
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds Charitable activities:	7	135,341	-	-	135,341	220,592
- Educational operations	9	36,356	14,137,866	764,923	14,939,145	14,163,076
- Teaching schools	Ū	-	-	-	-	123,700
Total	7	171,697	14,137,866	764,923	15,074,486	14,507,368
Net income/(expenditure)		24,037	(575,197)	(144,788)	(695,948)	(1,341,930)
Transfers between funds	17	-	(43,670)	43,670	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	19		(347,000)		(347,000)	(3,615,000)
		~				
Net movement in funds		24,037	(965,867)	(101,118)	(1,042,948)	(4,956,930)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		760,696	(5,608,825)	37,129,470	32,281,341	37,238,271
Total funds carried forward		784,733	(6,574,692)	37,028,352	31,238,393	32,281,341

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

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information	Unrestricted		Restricted funds:		Total
Year ended 31 August 2020		funds	General	Fixed asset	2020
<b>U</b>	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	-	-	39,739	39,739
- Funding for educational operations	4	53,457	12,767,518		12,820,975
- Funding for teaching schools	25	-	123,700	-	123,700
Other trading activities	5	179,235	-	-	179,235
Investments	6	1,789	_		1,789
Total		234,481	12,891,218	39,739	13,165,438
		=====		:	
Expenditure on: Raising funds	7	220,592	-	-	220,592
Charitable activities:	•	52.040	40.004.400	745.004	4.4.4.00.07.0
<ul><li>Educational operations</li><li>Teaching schools</li></ul>	9	53,910	13,364,102 123,700	745,064 -	14,163,076 123,700
Total	7	274,502	13,487,802	745,064	14,507,368
Net expenditure		(40,021)	(596,584)	(705,325)	(1,341,930)
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension	40		(2.045.000)		(2.045.000)
schemes	19	-	(3,615,000)	-	(3,615,000)
Net movement in funds		(40,021)	(4,211,584)	(705,325)	(4,956,930)
December of funds					
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward		800,717	(1,397,241)	37,834,795	37,238,271
Total funds carried forward		760,696	(5,608,825)	37,129,470	32,281,341
		====	=		

## **BALANCE SHEET**

## AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
Fixed assets	Notes	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets	13		37,028,353		37,058,657
Current assets					
Debtors	14	737,320		1,012,206	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,130,722		578,264	
		1,868,042		1 500 470	
Current liabilities		1,000,042		1,590,470	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one					
year	15	(767,002)		(696,786)	
Net current assets		<del></del>	1,101,040	·	893,684
Net assets excluding pension liability			38,129,393		37,952,341
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	19		(6,891,000)		(5,671,000)
Total net assets			31,238,393		32,281,341
					=======================================
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	17				
- Fixed asset funds			37,028,352		37,129,470
- Restricted income funds			316,308		62,175
- Pension reserve			(6,891,000)		(5,671,000)
Total restricted funds			30,453,660		31,520,645
Unrestricted income funds	17		784,733		760,696
Total funds			31,238,393		32,281,341

The accounts on pages 31 to 55 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 09 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

C Jones Chair

Company Number 11281425

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	20		666,650		240,242
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investme	ents	292		1,789	
Capital grants from DfE Group		40,135		39,739	
Capital funding received from sponsors and	dothers	580,000			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(734,619)		(105,966)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(114,192)	5	(64,438)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalen reporting period	its in the		552,458		175,804
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of	the year		578,264		402,460
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the	year		1,130,722		578,264

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 1 Accounting policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

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

#### 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.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### Other income

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

#### Donated goods, facilities and services

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the 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 £3,000 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 2021

#### 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:

Land and buildings50 yearsComputer equipment3 yearsFixtures, fittings & equipment10 yearsMotor vehicles3 years

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. Land and buildings have been valued by trustees on a depreciated replacement cost basis based on previous values provided by the local authority. Other assets transferred on conversion have been valued based on an estimated book value based on their original purchase cost.

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.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 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.

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.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

#### 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 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

#### Critical areas of judgement

#### Land and buildings

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 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Capital grants	-	40,135	40,135	39,739
Other donations	23,743	583,000	606,743	-
	23,743	623,135	646,878	39,739

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
OfE / ESFA grants General annual grant (GAG) Other DfE / ESFA grants:	-	10,765,933	10,765,933	10,406,807
UIFSM	_	107,858	107,858	84,437
Pupil premium	_	894,005	894,005	887,309
Teachers pay grants	-	522,737	522,737	519,617
PE and sports premium	-	-	-	21,220
Rates	-	88,331	88,331	207,057
Others		125,659	125,659	27,737
	-	12,504,523	12,504,523	12,154,184
	======		2	
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	841,243	841,243	487,823
Special educational projects	_	9,662	9,662	
	-	850,905	850,905	487,823
Exceptional government funding				
Coronavirus job retention scheme grant Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)	-	1,117	1,117	14,189
Coronavirus exceptional support	_	43,091	43,091	111,322
Covid catch up premium	-	160,033	160,033	-
		204,241	204,241	125,511
Other funding				
Teaching schools	-	-	-	123,700
Catering	36,356	•	36,356	35,569
Other incoming resources	750		750	17,888
	37,106	-	37,106	177,157
		====		
Total funding	37,106	13,559,669	13,596,775	12,944,675
	<del></del>			

The academy trust has been eligible to claim additional funding in year from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above.

The academy trust furloughed some of its other staff under the government's CJRS. The funding received of £1k relates to staff costs in respect of staff which are included within note 10 below as appropriate.

The academy trust received £160k of funding for catch-up premium, all of which was utilised in the year with none carried forward to be spent in 2021/22.

5	Other trading activities			D. state to al	*	
			Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
			£	£	£ 2021	2020 £
	Hire of facilities		11,951	-	11,951	19,029
	Catering income		267	-	267	285
	Parental contributions		12,303	-	12,303	34,208
	Other income		110,072		110,072	125,713
			134,593	•	134,593	179,235
6	Investment income					
			Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			funds	funds	2021	2020
			£	£	£	£
	Short term deposits		292	_	292	1,789
7	Expenditure					
				expenditure	Total	Total
		Staff costs	Premises	Other	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£	£
	Expenditure on raising funds					
	- Direct costs	132,975		2,366	135,341	220,592
	Academy's educational operations			,	, ,	
	- Direct costs	8,923,103	-	473,289	9,396,392	8,797,876
	- Allocated support costs	2,844,587	1,613,182	1,084,984	5,542,753	5,365,200
	Teaching schools		, ,	, .	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	-,,
	- Direct costs	-	-	-	-	123,700
		11,900,665	1,613,182	1,560,639	15,074,486	14,507,368
					=======================================	(======================================
	Net income/(expenditure) for the	e year includ	es:		2021	2020
		•			£	£
	Fees payable to auditor for:				0.005	0.005
	- Audit				8,225	8,225
	- Other services				2,950	7,150
	Operating lease rentals	. 4 -			44,124	44,119
	Depreciation of tangible fixed asse				764,923	745,064
	Net interest on defined benefit per	ision liability			93,000	24,000
						=====

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 8 Central services

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

- leadership
- human resources:
- · financial services;
- · admissions appeals;
- · marketing and design; and
- site team

Acklam Grange charges Linthorpe Community Primary School for these services as they are utilised. The charge in the year was £71,000.

			£	2020 £
Acklam Grange School Linthorpe Community Primary School			- 71,000	85,038
			71,000	85,038
Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Educational operations Teaching schools	-	9,396,392	9,396,392	8,797,876 123,700
Support costs				
Educational operations	36,356	5,506,397	5,542,753	5,365,200
	36,356	14,902,789	14,939,145	14,286,776
			2021	2020
Analysis of support socts			£	£
			2.844.587	2,709,507
Depreciation			764,923	745,064
Technology costs			127,754	80,453
Premises costs			848,259	946,612
Legal costs				1,723
				858,769
Governance costs			(3,989)	23,072
			5,542,753	5,365,200
	Charitable activities  Direct costs Educational operations Teaching schools  Support costs Educational operations  Charitable activities	Charitable activities  Unrestricted funds  £  Direct costs  Educational operations  Feaching schools  Support costs  Educational operations  36,356  36,356  Analysis of support costs  Support staff costs  Depreciation  Fechnology costs  Premises costs  Legal costs  Other support costs	Charitable activities  Unrestricted funds £ £ Charitable activities  Unrestricted funds £ £ £ Charitable activities  Direct costs Educational operations Feaching schools Feachi	Charitable activities

10	Staff		
	Staff costs		
	Staff costs during the year were:	2024	
		2021 £	2020 £
	Wages and salaries	8,263,047	8,166,743
	Social security costs	817,995	777,513
	Pension costs	2,703,606	2,272,618
	Staff costs - employees	11,784,648	11,216,874
	Agency staff costs	112,719	112,669
	Staff restructuring costs	3,298	14,605
		11,900,665	11,344,148
	Staff development and other staff costs	10,085	11,932
	Total staff expenditure	11,910,750	11,356,080
	Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
	Redundancy payments	3,298	14,605
	Redundancy payments  Staff numbers  The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year	r was as follow 2021 Number	s: 2020 Number
	Redundancy payments  Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year.  Teachers	r was as follow 2021 Number	s: <b>2020</b> Number 133
	Redundancy payments  Staff numbers  The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year	r was as follow 2021 Number	s: 2020 Number
	Redundancy payments  Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year  Teachers Administration and support	r was as follow 2021 Number 129 169	s: <b>2020</b> <b>Number</b> 133 161
	Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year  Teachers Administration and support Management  Higher paid staff The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer	2021 Number 129 169 17 315	s:  2020 Number  133 161 19 313
	Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year  Teachers Administration and support Management  Higher paid staff	2021 Number 129 169 17 315	s:  2020 Number  133 161 19 313
	Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year  Teachers Administration and support Management  Higher paid staff The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer £60,000 was:	129 169 17 315 pension cost	s:  2020 Number  133 161 19 313  s) exceeded 2020
	Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year Teachers Administration and support Management  Higher paid staff The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer £60,000 was:  £60,001 - £70,000 £70,001 - £80,000	nr was as follow 2021 Number  129 169 17 315  pension cost 2021 Number  6	s:  2020 Number  133 161 19 313  s) exceeded  2020 Number
	Redundancy payments  Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year defense Administration and support Management  Higher paid staff The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer £60,000 was:  £60,001 - £70,000 £70,001 - £80,000 £80,001 - £90,000	nr was as follow 2021 Number  129 169 17 315  pension cost 2021 Number  6 - 2	s:  2020 Number  133 161 19 313  s) exceeded  2020 Number
	Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academy trust during the year Teachers Administration and support Management  Higher paid staff The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer £60,000 was:  £60,001 - £70,000 £70,001 - £80,000	nr was as follow 2021 Number  129 169 17 315  pension cost 2021 Number  6	s:  2020 Number  133 161 19 313  s) exceeded  2020 Number

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Staff (Continued)

#### 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 and national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £341,164 (2020: £347,302).

#### 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:

Mrs A Crawshaw (Accounting Officer)

Remuneration £105,001 - £110,000 (2020: £120,001 - £125,000) Employer's pension contributions £25,001 - £30,000 (2020: £25,001 - £30,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £28 (2020: £397) were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 trustees (2020: 1 trustees).

The prior year figures relate to a two month period

#### 12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

13	Tangible fixed assets					
		Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
	Cost					
	At 1 September 2020	38,517,527	60,474	62,640	22,714	38,663,355
	Additions	686,755	24,851	23,013	-	734,619
	At 31 August 2021	39,204,282	85,325	85,653	22,714	39,397,974
	Depreciation					
	At 1 September 2020	1,542,820	35,123	11,225	15,530	1,604,698
	Charge for the year	724,740	24,991	8,568	6,624	764,923
	At 31 August 2021	2,267,560	60,114	19,793	22,154	2,369,621
	Net book value		-			
	At 31 August 2021	36,936,722	25,211	65,860	560	37,028,353
	At 31 August 2020	36,974,707	25,351	51,415	7,184	37,058,657
14	Debtors					
					2021	2020
					£	£
	Trade debtors				34,206	34,551
	VAT recoverable				421,639	573,294
	Prepayments and accrued income				281,475	404,361
					737,320	1,012,206
4.5				2		-
15	Creditors: amounts falling due within	n one year			2021	2020
					£	£
	Trade creditors				-	223,488
	Other taxation and social security				193,284	188,625
	Other creditors				53,307	89
	Accruals and deferred income				520,411	284,584
				,	767,002	696,786
				3	====	

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16	Deferred income		
		2021	2020
		£	£
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	203,123	41,756
	Deferred income at 1 September 2020	41,756	76,248
	Released from previous years	(41,756)	(76,248)
	Resources deferred in the year	203,123	41,756
	Deferred income at 31 August 2021	203,123	41,756

Deferred income consists of universal infant free school meals received in advance of the 2020/21 academic year.

17	Funds					
		Balance at 1 September			Gains, losses and	Balance at 31 August
		2020	Income	Expenditure	transfers	2021
		£	£	£	£	£
	Restricted general funds					
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	62,175	10,765,933	(10,497,947)	(33,853)	296,308
	UIFSM		107,858	(107,858)	-	-
	Pupil premium	-	894,005	(894,005)	-	-
	Teachers pay and pension					
	grants	-	522,737	(522,737)	-	-
	Rates	-	88,331	(88,331)	-	-
	Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	125,659	(125,659)	-	-
	Covid-19 funding (DfE/ESFA)	-	203,124	(203,124)	-	-
	Other government grants	-	852,022	(822,205)	(9,817)	20,000
	Other restricted funds	-	3,000	(3,000)	_	-
	Pension reserve	(5,671,000)		(873,000)	(347,000)	(6,891,000)
		(5,608,825)	13,562,669	(14,137,866)	(390,670)	(6,574,692)
	Restricted fixed asset funds	=======================================		=======================================		8
	Inherited on conversion	36,933,579		(700 677)		20 040 000
		171,366	40 125	(722,677)	-	36,210,902
	DfE group capital grants Capital expenditure from GAG		40,135	(5,656)	22.052	205,845
	Other LA income	24,525	-	(23,159)	33,853	35,219
	Donated assets	-	-	(1,831)	9,817	7,986
	Donated assets	-	580,000	(11,600)	-	568,400
		37,129,470	620,135	(764,923)	43,670	37,028,352
	Total restricted funds	31,520,645	14,182,804	(14,902,789)	(347,000)	30,453,660
	I love of rioto d from do				-	
	Unrestricted funds	700.000	405.704	(474.007)		704700
	General funds	760,696	195,734	(171,697) ======	-	784,733
	Total funds	32,281,341	14,378,538	(15,074,486)	(347,000)	31,238,393

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 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 subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

Other DfE/ESFA grants include phonics, teachers pay and pension grants, year 7 catch up grant, pupil premium, PE grant and universal infant free school meals grants received.

Additional Covid-19 funding has also been received and utilised in the year. £20,000 of Tees Valley Covid-19 funding has been carried forward.

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

Teaching school income and expenditure is generated as a result of the academy trust's status as a teaching school.

The pension reserve reflects the LGPS transactions. The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension scheme have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund, including contributions to the LGPS, and the pension liability has therefore been aligned with these funds.

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

Capital grants are reflected in the restricted fixed asset fund, the trust has carried forward no capital funds into 2021/22.

Unrestricted funds can be used for any purpose, at the discretion of the trustees, within the objects of the academy trust.

At 31 August 2021 the academy had restricted general and unrestricted funds of £1,101,041.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

### 17 Funds (Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September			Gains, losses and	Balance at 31 August
	2019	Income		transfers	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted general funds		40.400.00	(40.044.000)		
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	10,406,807	(10,344,632)	•	62,175
UIFSM	-	84,437	(84,437)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	887,309	(887,309)	-	-
Teachers pay and pension grants	_	519,617	(519,617)	_	_
PE and sports premium	-	21,220	(21,220)	_	_
Rates	_	207,057	(207,057)	_	_
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	207,037	(27,737)	_	-
Other government grants	_	613,334	(613,334)	_	_
Teaching schools	_	123,700	(123,700)	_	_
Other restricted funds	54,759	120,700	(54,759)	_	_
Pension reserve	(1,452,000)	_	(604,000)	(3,615,000)	(5,671,000)
1 0.10,011 1000110	(1,402,000)		(004,000)	(0,010,000)	(5,571,555)
	(1,397,241)	12,891,218	(13,487,802)	(3,615,000)	(5,608,825)
Restricted fixed asset funds					=====
Transfer on conversion	37,658,598	_	(725,019)	_	36,933,579
DfE group capital grants	137,040	39,739	(5,413)	_	171,366
Capital expenditure from GAG	39,157	-	(14,632)	-	24,525
	37,834,795	39,739	(745,064)		37,129,470
		8=====8			
Total restricted funds	36,437,554	12,930,957	(14,232,866)	(3,615,000)	31,520,645
Unrestricted funds		(	====		
General funds	800,717	234,481	(274,502)	_	760,696
General funds		234,401	=======================================		
Total funds	37,238,271	13,165,438	(14,507,368)	(3,615,000)	32,281,341

17	Funds						(Continued)
	Total funds analysis by a	ıcademy					
	Fried balances at 24 Array	-4.0004	t  <i>f</i> -	U		2021	2020
	Fund balances at 31 Augu	st 2021 were al	located as fol	llows:		£	£
	Acklam Grange School Linthorpe Community Prim	narv School				564,908 536,133	534,216 288,655
		-					
	Total before fixed assets for	and pension	n reserve			1,101,041	822,871
	Restricted fixed asset fund	I				37,028,352	37,129,470
	Pension reserve					(6,891,000)	(5,671,000)
	Total funds					31,238,393	32,281,341
	Total cost analysis by ac	ademy					
	Expenditure incurred by ea	ach academy du	uring the year	was as fo	llows:		
		Teaching and educational support staff	Other support staff costs	Educatio suppl		ing Total	2020
	Acklam Grange School	6,519,405	1,693,433	366,7	96 1,415, <sup>2</sup>	63 9,994,797	9,851,514
	Linthorpe Community Primary School	2,536,673	371,154	96,4	08 437,5	3,441,766	3,306,790
		9,056,078	2,064,587	463,2	04 1,852,6	94 13,436,563	13,158,304
18	Analysis of net assets be	etween funds	Hnros	tricted	Ros	tricted funds:	Total
				Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	Fund balances at 31 Aug	just 2021 are		£	£	£	£
	Tangible fixed assets			-	-	37,028,353	37,028,353
	Current assets Creditors falling due withir	one vear		42,372 57,639)	925,670 (609,363)	•	1,868,042 (767,002)
	Defined benefit pension lia	•		-	(6,891,000)		(6,891,000)
	Total net assets		7	84,733	(6,574,693)	37,028,353	31,238,393

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

В	Analysis of net assets between funds				(Continued)
		Unrestricted Restricted funds:		Total	
		Funds	General	General Fixed asset	
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	37,058,657	37,058,657
	Current assets	760,696	758,961	70,813	1,590,470
	Creditors falling due within one year	-	(696,786)	-	(696,786)
	Defined benefit pension liability	-	(5,671,000)	-	(5,671,000)
	Total net assets	760,696	(5,608,825)	37,129,470	32,281,341
		=====			

#### 19 Pension and similar obligations

18

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 Middlesbrough Borough Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

#### Introduction

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

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

#### 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.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### 19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £1,423,735 (2020: £1,251,673).

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 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 17.5% for employers and 5.5-12.5% 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	2021	2020
	£	£
Employer's contributions	457,000	434,000
Employees' contributions		146,000
Total contributions	457,000	580,000
Principal actuarial assumptions	2021	2020
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6	3.2
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.6	2.2
rate of frorease for perisions in payment initiation	2.0	
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7
· ·		

19	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)	
	The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:			
		2021	2020	
		Years	Years	
	Retiring today	Tours	icais	
	- Males	21.9	21,8	
	- Females	23.6	23.5	
	Retiring in 20 years	20.0	25.5	
	- Males	23.3	23.2	
	- Females	25.3 25.4	25.2	
	- Terriales	25,4	25.3	
	Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:	ows:		
		2021	2020	
		£	£	
	Discount rate + 0.1%	13,990,000	11,006,000	
	Discount rate - 0.1%	14,840,000	11,675,000	
	Mortality assumption + 1 year	13,860,000	10,927,000	
	Mortality assumption - 1 year	14,956,000	11,743,000	
	CPI rate + 0.1%	14,754,000	11,607,000	
	CPI rate - 0.1%	14,734,000	11,007,000	
	OFFICE - 0.176	14,077,000	=======================================	
	The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2021	2020	
	The assassing a dot o share of the assets in the solitime	Fair value	Fair value	
		£	£	
	Equities	5,945,947	4,304,640	
	Cash	623,911	657,024	
	Property	548,741	453,120	
	Other assets	·		
	Other assets	398,401	249,216	
	Total market value of assets	7,517,000	5,664,000	
		====		
	The actual return on scheme assets was £1,271,000 (2020: £(2,469,000)).			
	Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2021 £	2020 £	
	Current service cost	1,237,000	1,014,000	
	Interest income	(101,000)	(149,000)	
	Interest income			
	Interest cost	194,000	173,000	
	Total operating charge	1,330,000	1,038,000	

19	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021 £	2020 £
	At 1 September 2020	11,335,000	9,021,000
	Current service cost	1,237,000	1,014,000
	Interest cost	194,000	173,000
	Employee contributions	155,000	146,000
	Actuarial loss	1,517,000	997,000
	Benefits paid	(30,000)	(16,000
	At 31 August 2021	14,408,000	11,335,000
	Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets		
	Thange in an rand of the addading traces offers of softening assess	2021	2020
		3	£
	At 1 September 2020	5,664,000	7,569,000
	Interest income	101,000	149,000
	Actuarial (gain)/loss	1,170,000	(2,618,000
	Employer contributions	457,000	434,000
	Employee contributions	_	146,000
	Benefits paid	(30,000)	(16,000
	Effect of non-routine settlements	155,000	_
	At 31 August 2021	7,517,000	5,664,000
20	Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities		-
20	Reconcination of het expenditure to het cash now from operating activities	2021	2020
		£	£
	Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial		
	activities)	(695,948)	(1,341,930
	Adjusted for:		
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(620,135)	(39,739
	Investment income receivable	(292)	•
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	780,000	580,000
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	93,000	24,000
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	764,923	745,064
	Decrease in debtors	274,886	268,304
	Increase in creditors	70,216	6,332
	Net cash provided by operating activities	666,650	240,242

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

21	Analysis of changes in net funds	1 September 2020 £	Cash flows	31 August 2021 £
	Cash	578,264	552,458	1,130,722

#### 22 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	31,034	28,742
Amounts due in two and five years	22,781	37,186
	53,815	65,928

#### 23 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.

#### 24 Members' liability

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

#### 25 Teaching schools trading account

	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Direct income				
External funding		-		123,700
Direct costs				
Direct staff costs	-		123,700	
Total expenditure		-		(123,700)
Surplus from all sources		-		-
To achieve acheeds had accepted 4 Comtambre 2020				
Teaching schools balances at 1 September 2020				
Teaching schools balances at 31 August 2021		-		-

