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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**

(A company limited by guarantee)

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**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

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<b>Members</b>	D Allchin K Freed E Godfrey A Henshall
<b>Trustees</b>	P S Abraham (resigned 28 September 2021) <sup>1</sup> K V Belinis (resigned 25 November 2021) <sup>1</sup> O Bishi (resigned 28 September 2021) <sup>1</sup> N J Burridge (appointed 29 September 2021) N B Denison <sup>1</sup> P J Dougherty (resigned 7 July 2021) <sup>1</sup> H L Freed J Y J Harvey, Chair G R Hayter A Hobson (appointed 2 December 2020) <sup>1</sup> M A Robinson <sup>1</sup> J Salter M A Waller

<sup>1</sup> Member of the Resources Committee

<b>Company registered number</b>	07990029
<b>Company name</b>	Presdales School Academy Trust
<b>Principal and registered office</b>	Hoe Lane , Ware, Herts, SG12 9NX

<b>Senior management team</b>	Mr M L Warren, Headteacher Ms K Chandler, Assistant Headteacher Mrs S Inwood, Assistant Headteacher Miss S Jennings, Assistant Headteacher Mrs S Miller, Deputy Headteacher Mrs J Stephenson, Deputy Headteacher Mrs A Caira, Business Manager Mrs E Sykes, Assistant Headteacher Mr M Payne, Associate Assistant Headteacher
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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**Independent auditor**      Hillier Hopkins LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Radius House  
51 Clarendon Road  
Watford  
Herts  
WD17 1HP

**Bankers**                      Lloyds PLC  
5-6 Market Place  
Hertford  
SG14 1DS

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Presdales School Academy Trust (the Academy) for the period 01 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and Financial Statements of the Academy comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Academy's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

Presdales School is an academy for girls aged 11-18, with boys welcome in the sixth form, serving a catchment area in Ware, Hertford and surrounding areas. The Pupil Admission Number (PAN) was increased to 180 giving a total capacity of 900 at Key Stages 3 and 4 with 872 students on roll in the school census in January 2020, plus 242 students at Key Stage 5.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### **a. Constitution**

The Academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity which was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 14 March 2012.

The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy. The Articles of Association were revised in October 2018 to reflect the size and structure preferred by ESFA, separating the roles of members and trustees. Members of staff no longer serve as Trustees.

The Trustees of Presdales School Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is also known as Presdales School.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

#### **b. Members' Liability**

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

#### **c. Trustees' Indemnities**

The Academy subscribes to the Risk Protection Arrangement to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent act, errors or omissions whilst on academy business.

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

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**Structure, Governance and Management (continued)**

**d. Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees**

The management of the Academy is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

There are a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 Trustees who are elected onto the Board by parents. They are elected by parents of students registered at the Academy through a formal process following notification of vacancies and invitation of nominations. All parents and carers of students at the academy are eligible to stand.

Members appoint up to 3 Trustees and 6 Trustees may be co-opted by the Trust Board. Potential new Trustees are requested to submit a CV and meet with the Chair and Vice Chair of Trustees and the Headteacher. When appropriate, the Chair, Vice Chair and Headteacher will make a recommendation to the Board for an appointment. Care is taken to ensure a balance and mix of skills required for the proper running of the academy and this will be given weight when assessing a new appointment. New Trustees are often drawn from the local community and recruitment is through a combination of approaches to individuals with known skills, the use of School Trustees One Stop Shop and other agencies and by contacts received at the academy from interested parties.

**e. Policies Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees**

New Trustees meet with the Chair of the Board to discuss their role. They are strongly encouraged to attend induction training through Herts for Learning, with whom the academy contracts for school improvement training and services. All new Trustees are given a mentor for their first year on the Board. The mentor is an existing member of the Board who can offer support and guidance where appropriate.

Ongoing training is available for all Trustees and specific in-house training events have been arranged throughout the year. An annual Governor Performance Review was introduced in June 2013 to analyse training and activity undertaken with a view to identifying skill/training gaps which can be filled through appropriate training or mentoring.

**f. Organisational Structure**

The Trustees have responsibility for setting and monitoring the overall strategic direction and objectives of the charitable company. The Trust Board meets six times each year.

The work of the Trust Board is shared amongst two committees:

- Students
- Resources (including the function of the Audit Committee)

Committees meet five or six times each year to consider detailed matters and recommend decisions to the full board. A nominated Assistant Head/Senior Leader attends all committee meetings to provide information and to aid liaison with the Senior Leadership Team.

In addition, a committee designated the Chairs Group comprising the Chair of Trustees, Vice Chair, Chairs of the two committees and the Headteacher meets at least termly, and as required, to organise business, make recommendations to the Trust Board and to consider strategic matters.

A scheme of financial delegation is in place that allows budgetary responsibility to be delegated through the Headteacher to the lowest level.

Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, approving the School Improvement Plan, approving the

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

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**Structure, Governance and Management (continued)**

annual budget and making major decisions about the direction of the school. Decisions are taken at meetings of the Trust Board following consideration of reports and recommendations from Trustees' committees and the Headteacher.

Responsibility for managing the school on a day-to-day basis is delegated to the Headteacher, who also acts as the Accounting Officer. The Headteacher will implement the policies approved by Trustees and report to Trustees through the various sub committees and at full Board meetings.

A committee of Trustees with the participation of an external adviser undertakes the annual performance review of the Headteacher and monitors performance and achievements against targets.

Individual Trustees assume responsibility for particular areas such as Health and Safety, DPO, Careers, SEND, Pupil Premium and Safeguarding.

Trustees are encouraged to, and do, participate fully in the work of the committees and the Trust Board.

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

The Trust Board gives due consideration to national guidance for the setting of staff salaries and will ensure that all key management personnel receive a salary review as part of the annual performance management process. On completion of this process, any pay awards, if due, will be made in accordance with the school pay policy.

**h. Trade union facility time**

**Relevant union officials**

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	-
Full-time equivalent employee number	<b>107</b>

**Percentage of time spent on facility time**

<b>Percentage of time</b>	<b>Number of employees</b>
0%	-
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-

**Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time** **£**

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	<b>5,583,080</b>
Percentage of 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	- %
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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**Objectives and Activities**

**a. Objects and Aims**

Presdales School is a six form entry all ability school which became an Academy on 1st April 2012 for girls aged eleven to eighteen, with boys welcome in the sixth form. The Academy's principal activity is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum. The Academy will also support the provision of recreational facilities for the local community. The Trust was incorporated on 14 March 2012 and converted to an Academy School under the Trust on 1 April 2012.

**b. Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

Presdales School aims to provide an outstanding education that enables all students, regardless of their background and starting point, to achieve and surpass their academic potential. We are committed to the development of independent minded young women who have active and creative minds. We expect our students to acquire a sense of understanding and compassion for one another and to have courage to act on their beliefs.

We will equip our students with the skills and attributes to empower them to lead happy and successful lives, enabling them to make a meaningful contribution to our global society.

Our vision is of a school which values pupils of all ages and abilities and helps them to exceed expectations through high quality teaching and learning and access to a wide variety of activities which enrich their education and personal development beyond the classroom.

The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum which exceeds the basic requirements of the National Curriculum by offering increased opportunities to all students.

Our objectives for the school focus on six main strands:

1. To ensure the highest achievement for all students
2. To further improve the quality of Teaching and Learning at Presdales School
3. To further improve the quality of pastoral care in the school
4. To ensure the highest quality of Leadership and Management
5. To develop an outstanding sixth form for all
6. To ensure the highest quality resources and environment

**c. Public Benefit**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Trustees are satisfied that the academy has complied with its requirement for the public benefit for the education of girls in the Ware, Hertford and surrounding areas in accordance with its charitable purpose, which can be demonstrated by the continued excellent examination results achieved by students of this academy.

In addition, the school maintains links with a number of local primary schools by providing curricular support in Physical Education and sports and recreational facilities are made available for public use. In 2019 the school was accepted by the DfE as one of 9 Language Hubs in the country and continues to share our wealth of expertise with four other schools in the local area

The academy follows the coordinated admissions arrangements for single sex schools previously designed by Hertfordshire County Council.

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

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**Objectives and Activities (continued)**

**Strategic Report**

**Achievements and Performance**

**a. Key Performance Indicators**

- **Ofsted Inspections**

The school was rated 'outstanding' at the last four inspections and confirmed as such by letter in 2011.

**Admissions/Pupil numbers**

The school's excellent reputation ensures that it remains very popular in the local area and is consistently over subscribed for admissions into Year 7. There were 550 applications for September 2020, with 180 places offered.

**Attendance**

The academy's attendance rate for 2020/21 was 95.2% which is above average for secondary schools.

**Financial Performance Indicators**

The academy spent 69% of its total income on staff costs. Of the total salary spend, teachers' salaries account for 78% and support staff account for 22%.

**Recruitment and Retention of Staff**

Despite difficulties in the local area the school remains fully staffed and has been able to recruit high quality teaching staff. The turnover of staff is in line with expectations.

**Teaching and Learning**

The Academy follows the National Curriculum at KS3 and KS4. Students have the opportunity to study 2 languages in Year 7, including Russian and Italian. The average Pupil/Teacher ratio is 16.3 against a benchmark figure of 15 and teaching staff costs account for approximately 77% of the Academy's GAG income.

**Covid 19**

In line with the Government's Covid requirements, the school reopened in September 2020. Again in line with these requirements, the school closed from 5th January 2021, returning on 8th March 2021. Comprehensive measures were in place for students to be taught remotely, with work being set via Edulink and Google Classroom and some lessons and meetings delivered via Googlemeet. This ensured the delivery of a balanced and comprehensive curriculum to all Year groups. Arrangements were also in place for students from Key Worker families to complete the same work in school, supervised by a combination of teaching and support staff.

We are very proud of the way students embraced the changes to their familiar way of learning and grateful to staff for their dedication and commitment to ensuring that students were well taught and supported throughout lockdown.

Regular contact was maintained with all students by telephone to check on their wellbeing, with particular attention given to vulnerable students.

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

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**Strategic Report (continued)**

**Achievements and Performance (continued)**

Assistance was provided for those students without access to suitable IT facilities at home.

The school was unable to continue with some of its business activities which resulted in loss of revenue income, mainly from catering and lettings, some of which was set off against savings on business expenditure. Savings were made in other areas such as overtime payments, supply costs, training and travel expense.

The school was unable to continue with enrichment activities such as concerts and productions. A number of trips have been deferred to 2021/22 in the hope that they may be able to go ahead.

Additional expenditure was incurred on cleaning and maintenance products, including hand sanitiser in all areas of the school.

We were able to furlough catering staff directly employed by the school.

The school's ability to raise funds from business income was restricted as the majority of lettings were slow to resume and a restricted catering service was provided, both resulting in loss of revenue, however this was partly offset by a reduction in catering costs.

There was naturally some anxiety amongst students, staff and parents about the return to school in September 2020 and every possible arrangement was considered to make people feel as safe as possible.

Students were expected to remain in Year group bubbles each with a designated suite of classrooms, separate entrance and outdoor space. Students remained in their designated areas and staff went to the appropriate room to deliver lessons. Classrooms were set up so that all students face the front where possible and staff were encouraged to observe a social distance of 2 metres. Specialist rooms were reserved for Key stages 4 and 5 and were cleaned in between lessons if they were used by different bubbles.

**Rigorous cleaning procedures have been kept in place**

Year group bubbles used the dining room at lunch time at specific times on a rota basis, taking meals either back to their designated classrooms or outdoor space. Additional lunchtime supervisory staff were put in place.

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

**Strategic Report (continued)**

**Achievements and Performance (continued)**

**Examination results**

As a result of the Covid lockdown all public examinations in the summer of 2021 were cancelled and results were based on teacher assessment.

<b>GCSE</b>	<b>August 2017 (DfE)</b>	<b>August 2018 (DfE)</b>	<b>August 2019 (DfE)</b>	<b>August 2020 (FFT)</b>	<b>August 2021 (FFT)</b>
Attainment 8	54.8	58.2	60.0	62.3	64.96
Progress 8	+0.14	+0.54	+0.43	+0.5	n/a
Achieving 5+ in both English and Maths	60%	69%	72%	76%	79%
Achieving 4+ in both English and Maths	85%	92%	93%	94%	94%
Entered for the EBacc	88%	81%	86%	80%	87%
<b>A level</b>	<b>August 2017 (DfE)</b>	<b>August 2018 (DfE)</b>	<b>August 2019 (DfE)</b>	<b>August 2020 (School)</b>	<b>August 2021 (School)</b>
Average points per entry	37.38 (B)	38.48 (B)	36.59 (B)	42.32 (B)	44.07 (B)

**Destination of Year 13 Leavers**

	<b>August 2018</b>	<b>August 2019</b>	<b>August 2020</b>	<b>August 2021</b>
Total number of students in year	115	130	115	105
Percentage in Higher Education	78%	77%	87%	87%
Percentage in Further Education and Higher Apprenticeships	15%	5%	8.7%	5%
Percentage in any other category (eg gap year students, Year 14, employment)	7%	18%	4.3%	9%

**Other Achievements**

During the period under review the following objectives have been achieved:

- Improved GCSE and A level results, based on teacher assessment
- Improvements made to the school site, including new flat roofs, refurbishment of a number of classrooms and corridors.
- Installation of floodlights on the netball courts

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

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**Strategic Report (continued)**

**Achievements and Performance (continued)**

**b. Going Concern**

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

**Financial Review**

Funding was provided by the Educational and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and the main funding was from the General Annual Grant (GAG). Additional funding was received from pupil premium, lettings and catering. Expenditure has been used to support the key objectives of the academy, focussing on Teaching and Learning. The academy continues to recruit excellent teaching staff and appropriate levels of staffing have been maintained.

**a. Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have operated on the basis that, whilst efforts will be made to allocate funds to be spent on the education of those students who have generated the income, it is prudent to set a reasonable contingency to allow for unforeseen and emergency expenditure and to plan for future projects. The contingency sum for 2020/21 was £174,723. At 31 August 2021 the value of unrestricted general reserves was £205,041.

The Academy held net assets as at 31st August 2021 of £11,307,107, which included a surplus in general funds of £205,041 and a deficit in the local government pension scheme of £2,634,000 and fixed assets totalling £13,555,668.

**b. Investment Policy**

The Trust Board has investigated the transfer of surplus funds to a higher interest account whilst ensuring that sufficient funds are readily available for the academy's monthly expenditure. It was concluded that as interest rates were generally very low and a small amount of interest was already generated on the school's current accounts, at this stage, this would not be beneficial to the school. Sums of £200,000 each have been transferred to a 32-day notice account and a fixed term deposit account to protect against any fraudulent activity on the bank account

**c. Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Trust Board is responsible for overseeing the risks faced by the school. A Risk Management Policy and Risk Register are maintained by the Resources Committee and reviewed annually. The academy has identified and assessed other major risks to which the school is exposed and ensured that policies and procedures are in place to mitigate such risks. These include strategic and reputational risks, compliancy risks, operational and financial risks including the following:

- A reduction in and uncertainty over ESFA funding due to a change in the funding formula or a reduction in student numbers.
- Reduction in the ability to raise additional income as a result of the pandemic
- reduced numbers of students in the sixth form
- Insufficient funds in a flat cash budget allocation to honour staff pay rises and increased NI employer's

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

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contributions

- Extensive staff absence
- Difficulty in recruiting appropriate staff.
- Damage to buildings or failure of plant and equipment
- LGPS pension deficit (currently calculated at £2,634,000)

Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary, although it is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

### **Fundraising**

The Academy does not use any external fundraisers. Any fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees

### **Plans for Future Periods**

For the coming financial year, the Academy plans to focus on the following key objectives as highlighted in the School Improvement Plan:

- Quality of education – update the curriculum content, continue to develop digital technology in the classroom and as a way of reducing staff workload, ensure students are not behind due to COVID.
- Quality of Education - Approval was given by trustees to pass the cost of buying a device onto parents and carers (unless the student qualifies for pupil premium funding).
- Quality of Education - Hegarty has continued to be implemented well, with students in key stages 3 and 4 engaging well. Staff are currently developing a Hegarty Maths best practice guide and will be issuing this in September 2021 to ensure consistency across the team in terms of how it is used and promoted with students.
- Quality of Education - Science has embedded Educake into its curriculum intent. Discussion with other departments to look at a trial during summer term to start using in September 2021.
- Behaviour and attitudes – proactive behaviour programme, review lunchtime arrangements
- Quality of Education - Reward and consequence points continued to be used throughout the period of lockdown. Reward points issued to every student by the Pastoral team for continued attendance at every google meet lesson (each fortnight).
- Personal Development – Promoting good mental health, prepare for the introduction of the new Relationships and Health education programme, acquire the Quality in Careers Standard.
- Personal development - To ensure the emotional wellbeing of all students is a priority. To identify and intervene with those students who have struggled because of Covid-19 or are struggling to return to school and normal routines.
- Leadership and management – Move our safeguarding systems to be electronically held, reduce staff workload, develop our role as a Language Hub school.
- Leadership and Management - 16-19 programme of Study – Further development, enrichment programmes, provide more opportunities for student leadership.
- Resources and environment – Improve the fabric of the buildings and produce a master plan to support long term planning.

In addition, the academy plans to re-submit a bid to the Academies Capital Improvement Fund for the fire safety bid and possibly replacement window walling as identified in the School Asset Plan

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

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**Funds held as custodian on behalf of others**

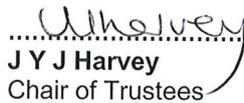
None.

**Disclosure of Information to Auditors**

Each of the persons who are Trustees at the time when this Trustee's report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as that the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Trust Board, as the company directors, on 08/12/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
**J Y J Harvey**  
Chair of Trustees

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

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**Scope of responsibility**

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

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

The Trust Board has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 Presdales School Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Trust Board any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

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**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the statement of trustees' responsibilities and in the Statement of Trustee's responsibilities. The Trust Board has formally met 6 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
P S Abraham	6	6
K V Belinis	5	6
O Bishi	5	6
N B Denison	6	6
P J Dougherty	6	6
H L Freed	5	6
J Y J Harvey, Chair	5	6
G R Hayter	6	6
A Hobson	5	6
M A Robinson	5	6
J Salter	6	6
M A Waller	5	6

Following the approval of revised Articles of Association, the Board has reduced in size and there is a clear distinction between Members and Trustees.

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trust Board. Its purpose is to closely review the Trust's financial position, financial policies and procedures, to provide strategic financial direction and to ensure that the academy's premises and health and safety obligations are fulfilled.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
P Abrahams	3	5
K Belinis	4	5
O Bishi	5	5
N Denison	5	5
P Dougherty	4	5
A Hobson	4	5
M A Robinson	5	5

The Resources Committee also acts as the Audit Committee. The audits committee's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy's financial systems, including the review of internal audit reports, ensuring efficient and robust systems of control are in place and the appropriate discharge of the Trust Boards' financial responsibilities.

The school contracts with Hertfordshire County Council Shared Internal Audit Systems to carry out termly audits, and produce formal reports on the school's internal financial controls for consideration by the Audit Committee

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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

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**Review of value for money**

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year and reports to the Trust Board 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 by considering the following areas:

**Raising Student Attainment**

The school was rated 'outstanding' at the last four Ofsted inspections and confirmed as such by letter in 2011. The school continues to achieve results well above the national average and this is demonstrated by the excellent examination results for 2020/21:

Full details are available on the Academy website <http://www.presdales.herts.sch.uk>.

- **Targeted Improvement**

The Headteacher carries out an annual review of teaching staff to ensure best value in terms of quality of teaching and learning, pupil-teacher ratio, and curriculum management.

- **Focus on Individual Students**

The Academy focuses on the wide range of needs of our students, arranging one-to-one tuition where applicable and providing mentoring and counselling when appropriate. Pupil Premium funding has primarily been used for interventions to close gaps in core subjects. The Academy has focused on initiatives identified by the Education Endowment Foundation as having the best educational gain for financial outlay. The impact of interventions in Presdales' context is evaluated and strategies are extended, modified or changes altogether in light of student outcomes.

- **Collaboration**

The Academy works collaboratively with local secondary schools for the provision of some Sixth Form courses and with local primary schools in Physical Education. We also jointly lead training sessions for middle leaders, working with another local school. The Headteacher is also the Hertford and Ware Headteachers representative on the Hertfordshire Association of Secondary School Headteachers group.

**Financial Governance and Oversight**

The Trust Board has a strong oversight of the financial management of the budget and is mindful of the need to balance expenditure against income to ensure the academy remains a 'going concern'. The Board approves the annual school budget and the Annual Accounts and responds to issues raised in the External Audit Management Reports on the financial statements and on regularity.

The Resources Committee considers the annual budget before recommending it for approval by the Board of Trustees, alongside the School Improvement Plan. The Committee receives termly budget monitoring information and reviews performance in line with budget.

The Academy has engaged an internal audit service from Hertfordshire County Council to review key financial policies, systems and procedures. Reports on compliance are considered by the Responsible Officer and Audit Committee.

**Effective Purchasing**

The Academy has procedures and controls for assessing need and procuring goods and services which provide

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

---

**Effective Purchasing (continued)**

"best value" in terms of suitability, efficiency, time and cost.

**Improved Income Generation**

The Academy's excellent reputation ensures that it remains popular in the local area and is consistently oversubscribed for admissions into Year 7. The Academy attracts good numbers of students into the sixth form and is continuing its drive to recruit across a wide local area in order to ensure the viability of the varied curriculum and increase income.

School facilities are made available for hire by the local community and organisations which generates additional income for the school in terms of lettings.

**Reviewing Controls and Managing Risks**

- The Academy has prepared a Risk Register and Risk Management Policy to identify potential financial and business risks and put measures in place to minimise the implications of these risks.
- The Resources Committee regularly reviews the Medium Term Financial Plan to ensure that any future financial risks are identified as soon as possible.
- Monthly management accounts are produced and reviewed by the Headteacher, Chair of the Board, School Business Manager/Finance Manager and any necessary remedial actions taken to address significant variances that may have an impact on the budget outturn.

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Hertfordshire County Council.

**Monitoring**

The Academy will continue to use the following strategies to be able to maintain and improve student attainment and to achieve best value:

- In-house monitoring by the Senior Leadership Team, Heads of Department and Heads of Year, including classroom observation, work scrutiny
- Annual programme of Performance Appraisal for all staff
- Annual Budget Planning including medium term 3 to 5 year plan
- Review of progress in achieving School Improvement Plan objectives
- Termly internal audit reviews
- Analysis of bench mark data for all schools
- Analysis of DfE student performance data
- Trustees' meetings (full and committee).
- Annual achievement meetings with subject leaders

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

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**Effective Purchasing (continued)**

**The Purpose of the System of Internal Control**

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

**Capacity to Handle Risk**

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

**The Risk and Control Framework**

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Trust Board;
- regular reviews 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 Trust Board has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to contract with Hertfordshire County Council Shared Audit Services to carry out a range of internal checks of the academy trust's financial systems including:

- Effectiveness of Governance
- Budget preparation and controls
- Financial controls
- Purchasing and payment systems and contracting
- Payroll systems
- Income controls

The results of these each inspection are reported immediately to the Responsible Officer, Headteacher and Chair of Resources and followed up with an end-of-year report which concluded with substantial assurance of financial controls and no major recommendations to implement

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

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**Review of Effectiveness**

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher 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 who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer is aware of the necessity for efficient systems of internal controls and plans to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the systems are in place.

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

  
.....  
**J Y J Harvey**  
Chair of Trustees  
Date: 08/12/2021

  
.....  
**M L Warren**  
Accounting Officer

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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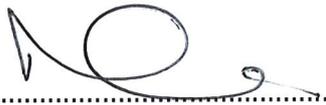
**STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

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As Accounting Officer of Presdales School Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board 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, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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



.....  
**M L Warren**  
Accounting Officer  
Date: 08/12/2021

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

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

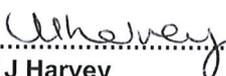
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in 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 financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from 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 financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the Trust Board and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....

**J Y J Harvey**  
Chair of Trustees  
Date: 08/12/2021

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**

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**Opinion**

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy'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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy'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.

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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**Other information**

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

**Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report.

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

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

**Responsibilities of trustees**

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

- the control environment and performance of the Academy, including the remuneration incentives and pressures of key management;
- the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management. We consider the results about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
  - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
  - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
  - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override, including testing journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the Trustees that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the academy operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We focused on laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements, including, but not limited to, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 and relevant tax legislation.

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.

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the Academy's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Academy'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 Academy and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Alexander Bottom ACA (senior statutory auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**Hillier Hopkins LLP**

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Radius House

51 Clarendon Road

Watford

Herts

WD17 1HP

Date: *9th December 2021*

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO  
PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 November 2015 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Presdales School Academy Trust during the year 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 Presdales School Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Presdales School Academy Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Presdales School Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Presdales School Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Presdales School Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 15 March 2012 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 year 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.

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

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**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's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material misstatement and irregularity across the Academy Trust's activities;
- Testing and review of areas identified through risk assessment including enquiry, observation, inspection and review of supporting evidence;
- Review of system controls, policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the regularity regime;
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work performed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

**Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 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.

*Hillier Hopkins LLP*

**Hillier Hopkins LLP**  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Radius House  
51 Clarendon Road  
Watford  
Herts  
WD17 1HP

Date: *9th December 2021*

**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Note					
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	4	34,693	-	303,525	338,218
Charitable activities		394,478	6,315,253	-	6,709,731
Other trading activities		81,306	-	-	81,306
Investments	7	312	-	-	312
<b>Total income</b>		<b>510,789</b>	<b>6,315,253</b>	<b>303,525</b>	<b>7,129,567</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds		52,495	-	-	52,495
Charitable activities	9	427,976	6,362,619	331,736	7,122,331
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>480,471</b>	<b>6,362,619</b>	<b>331,736</b>	<b>7,174,826</b>

**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		30,318	(47,366)	(28,211)	(45,259)	405,627
Transfers between funds	20	-	(127,131)	127,131	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)</b>		<u>30,318</u>	<u>(174,497)</u>	<u>98,920</u>	<u>(45,259)</u>	<u>405,627</u>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	27	-	(341,000)	-	(341,000)	(162,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>30,318</u>	<u>(515,497)</u>	<u>98,920</u>	<u>(386,259)</u>	<u>243,627</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		174,723	(1,975,825)	13,494,468	11,693,366	11,449,739
Net movement in funds		30,318	(515,497)	98,920	(386,259)	243,627
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>205,041</u>	<u>(2,491,322)</u>	<u>13,593,388</u>	<u>11,307,107</u>	<u>11,693,366</u>

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 31 to 59 form part of these financial statements.

**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 07990029**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021**

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	15	13,555,668	12,865,749
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	16	58,259	2,569
Debtors	17	175,965	727,155
Cash at bank and in hand		852,935	786,882
		1,087,159	1,516,606
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(684,226)	(572,788)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>402,933</b>	<b>943,818</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>13,958,601</b>	<b>13,809,567</b>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19	(17,494)	(41,201)
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>		<b>13,941,107</b>	<b>13,768,366</b>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	27	(2,634,000)	(2,075,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<b>11,307,107</b>	<b>11,693,366</b>
<b>Funds of the Academy</b>			
<b>Restricted funds:</b>			
Fixed asset funds	20	13,593,388	13,494,468
Restricted income funds	20	142,678	99,175
Pension reserve	20	(2,634,000)	(2,075,000)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	20	<b>11,102,066</b>	<b>11,518,643</b>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	20	<b>205,041</b>	<b>174,723</b>
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>11,307,107</b>	<b>11,693,366</b>

The financial statements on pages 27 to 59 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

.....*J Y J Harvey*.....  
**J Y J Harvey**  
 Chair of Trustees  
 Date: 08/12/2021

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

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	<b>Note</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	22	<b>807,579</b>	35,555
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	24	<b>(717,819)</b>	386,221
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>	23	<b>(23,707)</b>	(23,727)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>66,053</b>	398,049
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<b>786,882</b>	388,833
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	25, 26	<b>852,935</b>	786,882

The notes on pages 31 to 59 form part of these financial statements

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**PRESDALES SCHOOL ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

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**1. Accounting policies**

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

**1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements of the Academy, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 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 i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.3 Income**

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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

• **Donations**

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

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.3 Income (continued)**

- **Other income**

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

**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 allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

- **Charitable activities**

Expenditure on charitable activities are costs incurred on academy's educational operations, including support costs and those costs relating to the governance of the academy appointed to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**1.5 Interest receivable**

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

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

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

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets (continued)**

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

Long-term leasehold property	- 2% on property, 125 years on land
Furniture and equipment	- 10% - 20%
Computer equipment	- 20% - 33.33%

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

**1.7 Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

**1.8 Debtors**

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

**1.9 Cash at bank and in hand**

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

**1.10 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 anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

**1.11 Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Academy has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.12 Operating leases**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

**1.13 Pensions**

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS"). These are defined benefit schemes.

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

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

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.13 Pensions (continued)**

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

**1.14 Agency arrangements**

The Academy Trust acts as the agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 31.

**1.15 Fund accounting**

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

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

**2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy 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 27, 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.

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**3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 27, 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.

**4. Income from donations and capital grants**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Donations	34,693	-	279,365	<b>314,058</b>
Government grants	-	-	24,160	<b>24,160</b>
	<u>34,693</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>303,525</u>	<u><b>338,218</b></u>

	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Donations	6,457	-	6,457
Government grants	-	813,635	813,635
	<u>6,457</u>	<u>813,635</u>	<u>820,092</u>

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**5. Funding for the Academy's educational activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,633,602	<b>5,633,602</b>
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Rates Funding	-	21,965	<b>21,965</b>
Teachers Pay & Pension grants	-	305,615	<b>305,615</b>
Summer School	-	40,781	<b>40,781</b>
Pupil Premium	-	81,759	<b>81,759</b>
	-	6,083,722	<b>6,083,722</b>
<b>Other Government grants</b>			
SEN Income	-	20,186	<b>20,186</b>
Other DfE Grants	-	4,133	<b>4,133</b>
Low Carbon	-	25,600	<b>25,600</b>
Languages Hub	-	39,225	<b>39,225</b>
	-	89,144	<b>89,144</b>
<b>Other income from the Academy's educational activities</b>	394,478	17,587	<b>412,065</b>
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)</b>			
Catch-up Premium	-	70,400	<b>70,400</b>
Mass Testing	-	40,730	<b>40,730</b>
	-	111,130	<b>111,130</b>
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)</b>			
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	-	13,670	<b>13,670</b>
	-	13,670	<b>13,670</b>
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>394,478</b>	<b>6,315,253</b>	<b>6,709,731</b>

The academy received £70,400 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £70,400.

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**5. Funding for the Academy's educational activities (continued)**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,401,390	5,401,390
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Rates Funding	-	20,090	20,090
Teachers Pay & Pension grants	-	306,096	306,096
Pupil Premium	-	96,609	96,609
	-	5,824,185	5,824,185
<b>Other Government grants</b>			
Other DfE Grants	-	35,989	35,989
	-	35,989	35,989
<b>Other income from the Academy's educational activities</b>	<b>736,434</b>	<b>12,349</b>	<b>748,783</b>
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)</b>			
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	-	37,494	37,494
	-	37,494	37,494
	<b>736,434</b>	<b>5,910,017</b>	<b>6,646,451</b>

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

The academy furloughed some of its staff in 2020 under the government's CJRS. The funding received of £37,494 relates to staff costs in respect of staff included within note 12 below as appropriate.

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**6. Income from other trading activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Lettings income	36,002	<b>36,002</b>
Fund income	45,304	<b>45,304</b>
	81,306	<b>81,306</b>
	81,306	<b>81,306</b>

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Lettings income	21,624	21,624
Fund income	34,776	34,776
	56,400	56,400
	56,400	56,400

**7. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Investment income	312	<b>312</b>
	312	<b>312</b>

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Investment income	436	436
	436	436

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**8. Expenditure**

	<b>Staff Costs 2021 £</b>	<b>Premises 2021 £</b>	<b>Other 2021 £</b>	<b>Total 2021 £</b>
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Allocated support costs	-	-	52,495	<b>52,495</b>
Educational activities:				
Direct costs	4,457,797	-	544,836	<b>5,002,633</b>
Allocated support costs	1,166,415	615,617	337,666	<b>2,119,698</b>
<b>Total 2021</b>	<u>5,624,212</u>	<u>615,617</u>	<u>934,997</u>	<u><b>7,174,826</b></u>
	<i>Staff Costs 2020 £</i>	<i>Premises 2020 £</i>	<i>Other 2020 £</i>	<i>Total 2020 £</i>
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Allocated support costs	-	-	30,511	30,511
Educational activities:				
Direct costs	4,321,392	-	760,592	5,081,984
Allocated support costs	1,131,857	557,953	315,447	2,005,257
<i>Total 2020</i>	<u>5,453,249</u>	<u>557,953</u>	<u>1,106,550</u>	<u>7,117,752</u>

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**9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Educational activities	427,976	6,694,355	<b>7,122,331</b>

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Educational activities	746,867	6,340,374	7,087,241

**10. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2021 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Educational activities	5,002,633	2,119,698	<b>7,122,331</b>

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2020 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Educational activities	5,081,984	2,005,257	7,087,241

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**10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Educational activities 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Pension finance costs	37,000	<b>37,000</b>
Staff costs	4,453,665	<b>4,453,665</b>
Teaching and educational supplies	170,795	<b>170,795</b>
Examination fees	86,135	<b>86,135</b>
Trip expenditure	150,612	<b>150,612</b>
Other direct costs	100,294	<b>100,294</b>
Agency costs	4,132	<b>4,132</b>
	<u>5,002,633</u>	<u><b>5,002,633</b></u>
	<u><u>5,002,633</u></u>	<u><u><b>5,002,633</b></u></u>
	<i>Educational activities 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Pension finance costs	32,000	32,000
Staff costs	4,320,048	4,320,048
Teaching and educational supplies	123,012	123,012
Examination fees	82,693	82,693
Trip expenditure	447,892	447,892
Other direct costs	74,995	74,995
Support staff costs	1,344	1,344
	<u>5,081,984</u>	<u>5,081,984</u>
	<u><u>5,081,984</u></u>	<u><u>5,081,984</u></u>

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**10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Educational activities 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Staff costs	1,129,415	<b>1,129,415</b>
Depreciation	331,737	<b>331,737</b>
Support staff costs	17,352	<b>17,352</b>
Recruitment	15,648	<b>15,648</b>
Premises costs	283,880	<b>283,880</b>
Catering costs	58,626	<b>58,626</b>
Technology costs	86,284	<b>86,284</b>
Governance costs	11,413	<b>11,413</b>
Other support costs	185,343	<b>185,343</b>
	<u>2,119,698</u>	<u><b>2,119,698</b></u>
	<u><u>2,119,698</u></u>	<u><u><b>2,119,698</b></u></u>
	<i>Educational activities 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Staff costs	1,099,857	1,099,857
Depreciation	322,175	322,175
Support staff costs	12,178	12,178
Recruitment	18,560	18,560
Premises costs	306,871	306,871
Catering costs	93,437	93,437
Technology costs	9,050	9,050
Governance costs	10,425	10,425
Other support costs	132,704	132,704
	<u>2,005,257</u>	<u>2,005,257</u>
	<u><u>2,005,257</u></u>	<u><u>2,005,257</u></u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**11. Net income/(expenditure)**

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £	2020 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	331,737	322,174
Fees paid to auditor for:		
- audit	8,550	8,150
- other services	3,550	3,550
	343,837	333,374

**12. Staff**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	4,084,864	4,020,620
Social security costs	384,182	338,156
Pension costs	1,114,034	1,061,129
	5,583,080	5,419,905
Agency staff costs	4,132	1,344
Pension Expense	37,000	32,000
	5,624,212	5,453,249

**b. Staff numbers**

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

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Teachers	87	89
Support/Administration	77	74
Management	8	9
	172	172

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**12. Staff (continued)**

**c. Higher paid staff**

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

	<b>2021</b>	2020
	<b>No.</b>	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	<b>4</b>	6
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	<b>2</b>	-
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	<b>1</b>	-

**d. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £828,354 (2020 - £736,727).

**13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2020 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2021, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2020 - £NIL).

**14. Trustees' and Officers' insurance**

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £978 (2020 - £978). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

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**15. Tangible fixed assets**

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 September 2020	14,544,773	651,251	500,898	15,696,922
Additions	749,980	235,760	35,916	1,021,656
At 31 August 2021	<u>15,294,753</u>	<u>887,011</u>	<u>536,814</u>	<u>16,718,578</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2020	1,958,094	427,808	445,271	2,831,173
Charge for the year	257,134	48,639	25,964	331,737
At 31 August 2021	<u>2,215,228</u>	<u>476,447</u>	<u>471,235</u>	<u>3,162,910</u>
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2021	<u><u>13,079,525</u></u>	<u><u>410,564</u></u>	<u><u>65,579</u></u>	<u><u>13,555,668</u></u>
<i>At 31 August 2020</i>	<u><u>12,586,679</u></u>	<u><u>223,443</u></u>	<u><u>55,627</u></u>	<u><u>12,865,749</u></u>

Included in Long-term leasehold property is leasehold land at valuation of £2,318,750 (2020 - £2,318,750), which is held over a period of 125 years.

The Academy's additions relating to land and buildings included Roof replacement and Floodlights.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**16. Stocks**

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Stock	<b>58,259</b>	<i>2,569</i>

**17. Debtors**

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	<b>1,905</b>	<i>590</i>
Other debtors	<b>156,366</b>	<i>624,565</i>
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>17,694</b>	<i>102,000</i>
	<b>175,965</b>	<i>727,155</i>

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**18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2021 £	2020 £
Other loans	23,727	23,727
Trade creditors	123,789	2,096
Other taxation and social security	205,447	191,893
Other creditors	-	8,161
Accruals and deferred income	331,263	346,911
	<b>684,226</b>	<b>572,788</b>
	<b>684,226</b>	<b>572,788</b>
	2021 £	2020 £
<b>Deferred Income</b>		
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	165,954	238,844
Resources deferred during the year	70,830	165,954
Amounts released from previous periods	(165,954)	(238,844)
	<b>70,830</b>	<b>165,954</b>
<b>Deferred Income at 31 August 2020</b>	<b>70,830</b>	<b>165,954</b>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for trips being held in the school year 2021/2022.

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Other loans	17,494	41,201
	<b>17,494</b>	<b>41,201</b>

The loan balances relate to SALIX loans to fund the Boiler project and Window Walling project. Repayments for Boiler loan of £10,000 commenced in March 2015 and will be made twice a year until 2022. Repayments for Window Walling loan of £1,864 commenced in September 2016 and will be made twice a year until 2023.

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**20. Statement of funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Unrestricted funds	102,763	465,485	(427,976)	-	-	140,272
School fund	71,960	45,304	(52,495)	-	-	64,769
	<u>174,723</u>	<u>510,789</u>	<u>(480,471)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,041</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	99,175	5,633,602	(5,462,968)	(127,131)	-	142,678
Teachers Pay Grant	-	305,615	(305,615)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	81,759	(81,759)	-	-	-
Summer School	-	40,781	(40,781)	-	-	-
Rates Funding	-	21,965	(21,965)	-	-	-
Donations	-	17,587	(17,587)	-	-	-
Covid Catch-up Premium	-	70,400	(70,400)	-	-	-
Covid Mass Testing	-	40,730	(40,730)	-	-	-
SEN Income	-	20,186	(20,186)	-	-	-
Other DfE	-	4,133	(4,133)	-	-	-
Low Carbon	-	25,600	(25,600)	-	-	-
Languages Hub	-	39,225	(39,225)	-	-	-
CJRS	-	13,670	(13,670)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,075,000)	-	(218,000)	-	(341,000)	(2,634,000)
	<u>(1,975,825)</u>	<u>6,315,253</u>	<u>(6,362,619)</u>	<u>(127,131)</u>	<u>(341,000)</u>	<u>(2,491,322)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Fixed Asset fund	12,865,748	-	(331,736)	1,021,656	-	13,555,668
ESFA capital grants	628,720	24,160	-	(615,160)	-	37,720

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**20. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Donation	-	279,365	-	(279,365)	-	-
	<u>13,494,468</u>	<u>303,525</u>	<u>(331,736)</u>	<u>127,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,593,388</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>11,518,643</u>	<u>6,618,778</u>	<u>(6,694,355)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(341,000)</u>	<u>11,102,066</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>11,693,366</u></u>	<u><u>7,129,567</u></u>	<u><u>(7,174,826)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(341,000)</u></u>	<u><u>11,307,107</u></u>

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the school that has been provided to the Academy via the Education and Skills Funding Agency by the DfE. The General Annual Grant Fund has been set up because the GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

The other material restricted general funds represent incoming resources for the following specific purposes:

- a) ESFA grant funding for part of the staff costs of the school's sports co-ordinator
- b) ESFA capital grant to maintain and improve school buildings
- c) Pupil premium grant allocated to schools with pupils that are known to be eligible for free school meals to raise attainment for pupils from low income families.

School fund income is derived largely from contributions from parents for school trips and also funds raised from charity events at the school.

The pension reserve represents the net deficit on the LGPS defined benefit pension scheme. The deficit arose because of the pension scheme deficit inherited on conversion and future GAG funding agreed by the ESFA is expected to be sufficient to take the fund back into surplus.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

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**20. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2019 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2020 £</i>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Unrestricted funds	115,639	765,991	(778,867)	-	-	102,763
School fund	75,192	27,279	(30,511)	-	-	71,960
	<u>190,831</u>	<u>793,270</u>	<u>(809,378)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>174,723</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,371,342	(5,258,067)	(14,100)	-	99,175
Teachers Pay Grant	-	326,186	(326,186)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	96,609	(96,609)	-	-	-
Summer School	-	72,082	(72,082)	-	-	-
Rates Funding	-	6,304	(6,304)	-	-	-
Donations	-	6,457	(6,457)	-	-	-
Covid Catch-up Premium	-	37,494	(37,494)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,730,000)	-	(183,000)	-	(162,000)	(2,075,000)
	<u>(1,730,000)</u>	<u>5,916,474</u>	<u>(5,986,199)</u>	<u>(14,100)</u>	<u>(162,000)</u>	<u>(1,975,825)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Fixed Asset fund	12,760,073	-	(322,175)	427,850	-	12,865,748
ESFA capital grants	228,835	813,635	-	(413,750)	-	628,720
	<u>12,988,908</u>	<u>813,635</u>	<u>(322,175)</u>	<u>14,100</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,494,468</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>11,258,908</u>	<u>6,730,109</u>	<u>(6,308,374)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(162,000)</u>	<u>11,518,643</u>

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**20. Statement of funds (continued)**

<b>Total funds</b>	<u>11,449,739</u>	<u>7,523,379</u>	<u>(7,117,752)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(162,000)</u>	<u>11,693,366</u>
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**21. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,555,668	<b>13,555,668</b>
Current assets	660,093	389,346	37,720	<b>1,087,159</b>
Creditors due within one year	(455,052)	(229,174)	-	<b>(684,226)</b>
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(17,494)	-	<b>(17,494)</b>
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(2,634,000)	-	<b>(2,634,000)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<u>205,041</u>	<u>(2,491,322)</u>	<u>13,593,388</u>	<u><b>11,307,107</b></u>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2020 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	12,865,749	12,865,749
Current assets	325,884	562,003	628,719	1,516,606
Creditors due within one year	(151,161)	(421,627)	-	(572,788)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(41,201)	-	(41,201)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(2,075,000)	-	(2,075,000)
<b>Total</b>	<u>174,723</u>	<u>(1,975,825)</u>	<u>13,494,468</u>	<u>11,693,366</u>

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**22. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2021 £	2020 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per statement of financial activities)	<b>(45,259)</b>	405,627
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	<b>331,737</b>	322,175
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	<b>(303,525)</b>	(813,635)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	<b>181,000</b>	151,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	<b>37,000</b>	32,000
Increase in stocks	<b>(55,690)</b>	(603)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	<b>551,190</b>	(49,660)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<b>111,438</b>	(10,913)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	<b>(312)</b>	(436)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>807,579</b>	35,555

**23. Cash flows from financing activities**

	2021 £	2020 £
Repayments of borrowing	<b>(23,707)</b>	(23,727)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(23,707)</b>	(23,727)

**24. Cash flows from investing activities**

	2021 £	2020 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	<b>312</b>	436
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<b>(1,021,656)</b>	(427,850)
Capital grants from DfE Group	<b>303,525</b>	813,635
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(717,819)</b>	386,221

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**25. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>852,935</u>	<u>786,882</u>

**26. Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 September 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 August 2021 £
Cash at bank and in hand	786,882	66,053	-	852,935
Debt due within 1 year	(23,727)	23,707	(23,707)	(23,727)
Debt due after 1 year	(41,201)	-	23,707	(17,494)
	<u>721,954</u>	<u>89,760</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>811,714</u>

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**27. Pension commitments**

The Academy'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 Hertfordshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £107,741 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020 - £101,316) and are included within creditors.

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

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

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**27. Pension commitments (continued)**

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £753,830 (2020 - £730,950).

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

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

**Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £225,700 (2020 - £226,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £181,000 (2020 - £178,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 44,700 (2020 - £48,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.3 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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

**Principal actuarial assumptions**

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	<b>3.3</b>	<i>2.7</i>
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	<b>2.9</b>	<i>2.3</i>
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<b>1.7</b>	<i>1.7</i>

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

	<b>2021</b>	<i>2020</i>
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	<b>22.1</b>	<i>21.9</i>
Females	<b>24.5</b>	<i>24.1</i>
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	<b>23.2</b>	<i>22.8</i>
Females	<b>26.2</b>	<i>25.5</i>

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**27. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Share of scheme assets**

The Academy's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	2021 £	2020 £
Equities	1,924,400	1,630,280
Corporate bonds	1,053,000	1,076,600
Property	399,400	276,840
Cash and other liquid assets	254,200	92,280
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>3,631,000</b>	<b>3,076,000</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £414,000 (2020 - £347,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	(362,000)	(329,000)
Interest cost	(37,000)	(32,000)
<b>Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities</b>	<b>(399,000)</b>	<b>(361,000)</b>

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

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>5,151,000</b>	<b>4,386,000</b>
Current service cost	362,000	329,000
Interest cost	90,000	81,000
Employee contributions	48,000	48,000
Actuarial losses	702,000	460,000
Benefits paid	(88,000)	(153,000)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>6,265,000</b>	<b>5,151,000</b>

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**27. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>3,076,000</b>	2,656,000
Interest income	53,000	49,000
Actuarial gains	361,000	298,000
Employer contributions	181,000	178,000
Employee contributions	48,000	48,000
Benefits paid	(88,000)	(153,000)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>3,631,000</b>	3,076,000

**28. Operating lease commitments**

At 31 August 2021 the Academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Not later than 1 year	9,350	9,932
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	25,354	870
	<b>34,704</b>	10,802

**29. Members' liability**

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

**30. Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the Academy and the composition of the Trust Board being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

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**31. Agency arrangements**

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the trust received £8,731 (2020: £11,641) and disbursed £2,508 (2020: £9,082) from the fund. An amount of £nil (2020: £4,864) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.